



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS 19-019: MOUNT ST HELENS WILDLIFE AREA  
MANAGEMENT PLAN

**Description of Proposal:**

This is a new management plan for the Mount St Helens Wildlife Area. Over the next 10 years the plan will direct management activities on the following wildlife area units:

1. Mud Flow (2,773 acres)
2. Hoffstadt (3,816 acres)
3. Merrill Lake (1,453 acres)
4. Gardner (43 acres)
5. Hall Road (132 acres)
6. Canal Road (141 acres)
7. Carnine (37 acres)
8. Fisher Island (259 acres)
9. Abernathy Creek (101 acres)
10. White Island Natural Area Preserve (186 acres)
11. Altoona (177 acres)
12. Nelson (55 acres)
13. Cedar Creek (139 acres)
14. Eagle Island (279 acres)
15. Jenny Creek (20 acres)
16. Two Forks (49 acres)
17. Duck Lake (39 acres)
18. Nellie Corser (58 acres)

Proposed uses include recreation and wildlife conservation; protection and restoration of forest, aquatic and riparian habitat. Examples of management activities under this plan include: weed management, riparian and wetland restoration (e.g. stabilization of the river bank along the North Fork Toutle River), acquiring lands, rare plant surveys, forest management, Columbian white-tailed deer protection and management, develop and implement habitat management measures for game species, amphibian surveys, and coordinating with partners on salmon recovery projects.

Recreational projects include: participate in recreational planning and development projects with partners, create ADA access opportunities, maintain annual lake fishing at Merrill, Silver and Kress lakes, address Oneida county road issues by 2020, improve recreational signage for the public, and explore opportunities to provide camping on the wildlife area.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
Contact: Lauri Vigue  
PO Box 43141  
Olympia, WA 98504  
(360) 902-2549  
[Lauri.Vigue@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Lauri.Vigue@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** The 18 units listed above within the WDFW Mt. St. Helens Wildlife Area in southwest Washington; Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties; Washington: Multiple Townships and Ranges.

**Lead Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law<sup>1</sup> does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.<sup>2</sup> **We will not act on this proposal for 32 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 32 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on April 8, 2019**.

**Method of Comment:**

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to [SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov)
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946
- Mail to the address below.

**Responsible Official:** Lisa Wood

**Position/Title:** SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

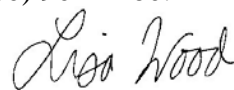
**Address:** P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.<sup>1</sup>

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** March 7, 2019

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).