



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 21-009: CHEWUCH RIVER MILE 4.2 FISH ENHANCEMENT

Description of Proposal:

The Chewuch River Mile 4.2 Fish Habitat Enhancement Project is located on the Chewuch River between River Mile 4.2 and 4.6 in Okanogan County north of Winthrop WA. The project study area is located on state land (WDFW) and access is through private property. The goal of this project is to incorporate instream roughness and complexity by constructing engineer log structures within the mainstem and creating a 1,300 foot side channel into its floodplain. The work performed is for ESA-listed endangered Upper Columbia Spring Chinook salmon and threatened summer steelhead in accordance with the 2017 Biological Strategy. The two engineered large wood structures will be built within the main stem along rivers bank edge. These structures will provide complexity and roughness for salmonid survival. The side channel will be created and remain connected year round. The side channel will intersect ground water and incorporate pools with cover habitat which provides for young of year salmonid survival.

Proponent/Applicant: Yakama Nation Fisheries
Contact: Chris Butler
2 Johnson Lane
Winthrop, WA 98856
(509) 996-5005

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Between River Mile 4.2 and 4.6 of the Chewuch River, off Eastside Chewuch Road, approximately 3 miles north of Winthrop, Okanogan County, Washington: Township 35N, Range 21E, Section 23.

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 law¹ 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.² **We will not act on this proposal for 14 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 14 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on March 24, 2021.**

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
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>
- 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: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/closed-final>. 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.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address above or email SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: March 10, 2021

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 21-009.dns

Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format or language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email (Title6@dfw.wa.gov).