



State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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**ADDENDUM 22-022 TO DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) 13-068  
DATED: AUGUST 30, 2013**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS 13-068: INVASIVE CATTAIL CONTROL PROJECT - SKAGIT WILDLIFE AREA

**Description of Addendum 22-022:**

Invasive cattail management on the Skagit Wildlife Area received a WDFW SEPA DNS 13-068 in 2013 and was initiated in 2014. As noted in A.7 of the original SEPA Environmental Checklist, the potential for the project to expand and the timeline to be extended has now occurred. Specifically, additional infestations have been identified for control and, through adaptive management, slight changes to control have been developed to improve efficiency and effectiveness. These changes are being added to the original SEPA determination as an addendum.

The original project and other elements of the proposed work have been modified as indicated below in underlined red font. Also see map of additional area.

**Description of Previous Addendum 17-035:**

This addendum changed the ending year to 2018.

**Description of Original Proposal:**

The project involves controlling invasive cattail (*Typha angustifolia* and *T. x glauca*) on approximately 650 747 acres of intertidal salt marsh at the Skagit Wildlife Area. Invasive cattail colonizes native marsh and mudflats and quickly forms stands which are not good habitat for fish, waterfowl, and other wildlife. Control will be accomplished through using mechanical methods such as using Marshmasters, underwater weed cutters, airboats, and brush cutters to crush and cut invasive cattail. Repeated cutting over three years has been shown to be effective at reducing cattail and allowing native marsh plants to recolonize the site. In addition, aquatic herbicides (i.e. imazpyr, glyphosate) will be used to treat invasive cattail under WSDA's Aquatic Noxious Weed NPDES (WAG993000) where mechanical treatments are impractical, or unfeasible. Applications will be made using the airboat, Marshmaster and by foot. Additional tools that may be used include aerial surveys and herbicide applications using helicopters, or drones and burning (would require an additional burn plan).

**Project timing:**

~~June 1st - November 15th of each year starting in 2013 with a tentative end date of 2016.~~  
June 1 – November 30 annually.

**Other Changes to the Proposal by SEPA Environmental Checklist Section:**

B.3.a.1. Steamboat Slough and Tom Moore Slough are added as other major sloughs in the project area.

B.3.a.4. Approximately 20,000 gallons of water could be withdrawn annually using a small, pump fitted with a screen and panty-hose over the intake to exclude silt and other organisms.

B.3.a.6. Approximately 20,000 gallons of spray mix could be applied during the treatment season (June-November). The mix would contain a small amount of herbicide (0.5%-1.0%) which would dry on the plants during low tide. The amplitude of high tides are insufficient to be a significant factor in washing the herbicide off plants.

B.3.b.1. Some of the 20,000 gallons of water required for spraying may be drawn from wells on the Skagit Wildlife Area.

B.3.d. The annual NPDES permit will primarily be utilized between June 1-November 30.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
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**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** WDFW Skagit Wildlife Area, Washington, Skagit County; Sections 25, 26, 35, 36, Township 33 North, Range 03 East WM.

The project area will be expanded to include Fir Island Farm, Island, Milltown Island and Skagit Estuary Units:

| County    | Township | Range | Section(s) |
|-----------|----------|-------|------------|
| Skagit    | 33N      | 03E   | 22, 27     |
| Skagit    | 33N      | 04E   | 30, 31     |
| Snohomish | 32N      | 03E   | 1, 11, 12  |

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

This addendum is being distributed pursuant to WACs 197-11-600 and 197-11-625. The updated information provided above does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing environmental checklist. Based on the original DNS and the updated information provided in this addendum, we have determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted. There is no comment period associated with this SEPA addendum.

**Responsible Official:** Lisa Wood


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

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Applicants may view the supporting documents for this addendum on the WDFW SEPA website: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/closed-final>.

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at [SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov).

**DATE OF ISSUE:** April 29, 2022

**SIGNATURE:** 

SEPA Log Number: ADD 22-022 to DNS 13-068

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