



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

Eastern Region Office

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March 21, 2024

Lisa Wood  
SEPA Responsible Official/HPA Appeals Coordinator  
Habitat Program, Protection Division  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
PO Box 43200  
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River  
File: 24-010

Dear Lisa Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Determination of Nonsignificance regarding the Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River Project (Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife). After reviewing the documents, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) submits the following comments:

**Hazardous Waste and Toxics Reduction Program**

Please keep in mind that during the construction activities associated with the Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River Project, some construction-related wastes produced may qualify as dangerous wastes in Washington State. Some of these wastes include:

- Absorbent material
- Aerosol cans
- Asbestos-containing materials
- Lead-containing materials
- PCB-containing light ballasts
- Waste paint
- Waste paint thinner
- Sanding dust
- Treated wood

The Construction and demolition website has a more comprehensive list and a link to help identifying and designating your wastes. Please visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Guidance-technical-assistance/Dangerous-waste-guidance/Common-dangerous-waste/Construction-and-demolition>.

The applicant, as the facility generating the waste, bears the responsibility for all construction waste. The waste generator is the person who owns the site. Even if you hire a contractor to conduct the demolition or a waste service provider to designate your waste, the site owner is ultimately liable. This is why it is important to research reputable and reliable contractors.

In order to adequately identify some of your construction and remodel debris, you may need to sample and test the wastes generated to determine whether they are dangerous waste.

For more information and technical assistance, contact Alex Bergh at (509) 385-5539 or via email at [Alexandra.Bergh@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Alexandra.Bergh@ecy.wa.gov).

#### **Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program-Floodplains**

According to the SEPA Checklist, there appears to be an understanding that the FEMA maps are inaccurate or outdated; however, without a formal map amendment authorized by FEMA, the effective FIRMs are the only source for making a formal floodplain determination. As such, many elements of the Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River project fall within the boundaries of the effective floodplain and are subject to the Asotin County Flood Damage Prevention Regulations and permitting requirements. Development, as defined by FEMA, includes any manmade change to improved or unimproved real estate. The applicant is responsible for receiving all necessary Floodplain Development Permits from Asotin County prior to commencing with development activities.

For more information of technical assistance, please contact Meagan Hayes, CFM at (509) 220-2983 or via email at [Meagan.Hayes@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Meagan.Hayes@ecy.wa.gov).

#### **Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program-Compliance**

The proposed Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River project must be consistent with all applicable goals, policies and use regulations of the Shoreline Management Act (RCW 90.58) and the Asotin County (SWWA Coalition) Shoreline Master Program. This includes, but is not limited to, those master program provisions pertaining to recreational development, buffer modifications, and mitigation requirements.

Please contact Tess Cooper, Shoreline Compliance Specialist at 509-934-7013 or by email at [tess.cooper@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:tess.cooper@ecy.wa.gov) for further information.

#### **Water Quality Program**

A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River project site may be required and should be developed by a qualified person(s). Erosion and sediment control measures in the plan must be implemented prior to any clearing, grading, or construction. These control measures must be effective to prevent soil from being carried into surface water by stormwater runoff. Sand, silt, and soil can damage aquatic habitat and are considered pollutants. The plan must be updated as necessary during the construction period.

Proper disposal of construction debris must be in such a manner that debris cannot enter the natural stormwater drainage system or cause water quality degradation of surface waters.

Dumpsters and refuse collection containers shall be durable, corrosion resistant, nonabsorbent, nonleaking, and have close fitting covers. If spillage or leakage does occur, the waste shall be picked up immediately and returned to the container and the area properly cleaned.

For more information or technical assistance, please contact Suman Paudel at (509) 601- 2124 or via email at [suman.paudel@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:suman.paudel@ecy.wa.gov).

**State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)**

Ecology bases comments upon information submitted for review. As such, comments made do not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations you may need to obtain, nor legal requirements you may need to fulfill in order to carry out the proposed action. Applicants should remain in touch with their Local Responsible Officials or Planners for additional guidance.

For information on the SEPA Process, please contact Cindy Anderson at (509) 655-1541 or via email at [Cindy.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Cindy.Anderson@ecy.wa.gov).

For more guidance on, or to respond to the comments made by Ecology, please contact the appropriate staff listed above at the phone number or email provided.

Department of Ecology  
Eastern Regional Office  
(Ecology File: 202401086)

Ec: Katrina Simmons, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife