



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT)

Name of Proposal: DNS/Adoption 24-009: INTERAGENCY NORTHERN PIKE RAPID RESPONSE PLAN

Description of Proposal:

The purpose of this Interagency Northern Pike Rapid Response Plan (Plan) is to provide a coordination document and technical resource to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of Northern Pike prevention efforts, detection, early response, and long-term management activities. These efforts are necessary to minimize environmental, economic, and cultural resource impacts of Northern Pike where they are currently established and prevent further invasion of waterbodies within Washington state to protect native and important fish species. Gill netting is a common practice described in the plan for Northern Pike control.

1. Minimize the probability of further Northern Pike invasion.
2. Minimize the impact of Northern Pike on native and important fish species.

The Northern Pike *Esox lucius* is a non-native fish species classified as an aquatic invasive species (AIS) in the state of Washington that has invaded multiple habitats within the state. Illegal stocking in the 1950s in Montana rivers¹ outside its native range led to establishment of Northern Pike in the upper Columbia River Basin. By the 1970s, they had expanded their range into the Flathead River system and a separate illegal introduction also occurred in the Coeur d'Alene River system. Since that time, Northern Pike have steadily expanded their distribution downstream to include the Pend Oreille River, Spokane River, and the Columbia River upstream of Grand Coulee Dam. Northern Pike have also been introduced in Lake Washington with the first confirmed capture of a Northern Pike specimen occurring in 2017 and several more Northern Pike captured since.

WDFW has made a Determination of Non-Significance and is adopting a SEPA Final Environmental Impact Statement under SEPA rules.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Jesse.Schultz@dfw.wa.gov

¹ <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive>

Location of Proposal: The plan applies to all freshwaters of the state. Specific locations depend upon new detections of Northern Pike.

Title and Date of Document being Adopted: Aquatic Invasive Species Control Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), dated April 2011.

Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted: Washington Department of Ecology.

Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted: The parts of the FEIS that apply to removal and control of non-native fish.

If the Document Being Adopted has been Challenged, Please Describe: N/A

Name of Agency Adopting the Document: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

The Documents are Available to be Read at:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Natural Resources Building,
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

These documents are also available for review online at:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>

We issued this Determination of Nonsignificance/Adoption Notice under WAC 197-11-340(2), WAC 197-11-610, and WAC 197-11-630. Agencies, tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this determination. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this determination. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on March 19, 2024**.

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 through one of the following ways:

- Online at the Public Input comment portal for this proposal:
<https://publicinput.com/NPikePlan>
- Email to: NPikePlan@PublicInput.com

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

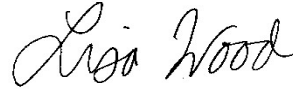
Position/Title: SEPA Responsible Official and SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Director's Office

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/Adoption or the details of the proposal, or have difficulty with the Public Input comment portal, contact Lisa Wood at: SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: March 5, 2024 **SIGNATURE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)

SEPA Log Number: 24-009 dns/adpt

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).