

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 24-027: SCATTER CREEK WILDLIFE AREA OAK RELEASE

AND PRAIRIE RESTORATION – NORTH UNIT

Description of Proposal:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) proposes to restore 18 acres of oak woodland and 32 acres of complex prairie/conifer transition zones by:

- Commercially harvest excess invading trees (primarily Douglas fir) from 50 acres.
- Minor vegetation clearing and grading along 0.5 miles of existing access road.
- Construction and abandonment of 0.5 miles of temporary roads.
- Clearing brush.
- Piling and burning slash.
- Seeding cleared areas with native prairie and oak woodland species.
- Brush mowing as needed for two years to control invasive Scotch broom.

Similar work was conducted in 2018, mostly in the South Unit.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Contact: Richard Tveten 1111 Washington St SE Olympia, WA 98501 (360) 902-2367

Richard.Tveten@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: North Unit of WDFW Scatter Creek Wildlife Area, 16801 Case Road SW, Rochester, Thurston County, Washington: Township 16N, Range 3W, Section 36.

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 determination according to state rules.² 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 document. The comment period will end at 5:00 pm on August 2, 2024.

Method of Comment:

SEPA documents related to this proposal can be reviewed at the WDFW SEPA website at: <u>SEPA</u> documents available for public comment | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA determinations. 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: <u>Scatter Creek Oak North</u>

• Email to: ScatterCreekOakNorth@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 determination on the WDFW SEPA website: Final SEPA documents | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife. 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 determination or the details of the proposal, or have difficulty with the Public Input comment portal, contact Lisa Wood at: <u>SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov</u>.

DATE OF ISSUE: July 19, 2024 SIGNATURE: How

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 24-027.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 (<u>Title6@dfw.wa.gov</u>).