



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS/Adoption 24-029: ROZA DAM FISH LADDER SEDIMENT REMOVAL

**Description of Proposal:**

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) proposes to excavate up to 600 cubic yards of accumulated sediment adjacent to the low-flow fish ladder attraction flow intake and trashrack within the Roza Pool (Yakima River) at the Roza Diversion Dam. The proposed work would occur from October 18, 2024, to November 1, 2024, and October 17, 2025, to November 1, 2025, during the annual Roza Pool drawdown period, when the majority of the project area would be dry.

The low-flow fish ladder is used on a temporary basis each year to provide upstream passage for steelhead trout and coho salmon that may be migrating during the October to November maintenance period. Reclamation is responsible for ensuring that the fish ladder is open and functioning properly during the maintenance period. Sediment accumulates near the fish ladder as a result of slowing water velocities within the Roza Pool due to the impoundment. If the ladder is blocked or becomes impassable due to low flows or accumulation of sediments in front of the ladder exit, upstream passage will be delayed or impeded for those adult salmon and steelhead that are attempting to migrate upstream coincident with routine maintenance operations at the Roza facility. Reclamation previously conducted sediment removal within the project area from 2018-2021, and from 2006-2009.

WDFW adopted Reclamation's original 2018 NEPA Categorical Exclusion in DNS/Adoption 18-059: Roza Dam Sediment Removal. Reclamation issued a new Categorical Exclusion in 2024 with several changes to the project. WDFW has made a new Determination of Non-Significance and is adopting the new Categorical Exclusion.

**Proponent/Applicant:** U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Columbia-Cascades Area Office  
Contact: Rafael Orozco  
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Yakima, WA 98901-2058  
(509) 573-8027  
[rorozco@usbr.gov](mailto:rorozco@usbr.gov)

**Location of Proposal:** Roza Dam on the Yakima River, approximately 12 miles north of Yakima, Kittitas County, Washington: Township 15N, Range 19E, Sections 28 and 33.

**Title and Date of Document being Adopted:** "Categorical Exclusion/Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal" cover letter and Categorical Exclusion Checklist

dated July 8, 2024, for “Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal,” which together make up the Categorical Exclusion.

**Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted:** U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation.

**Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted:** The entire contents of the “Categorical Exclusion/Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal” cover letter and Categorical Exclusion Checklist for “Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal,” which together make up the Categorical Exclusion.

**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: [SEPA documents available for public comment | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.](#)

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 August 14, 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: [Roza Dam Sediment Removal](#)
- Email to: [RozaDamSedimentRemoval@PublicInput.com](mailto:RozaDamSedimentRemoval@PublicInput.com)

**Responsible Official:** Lisa Wood

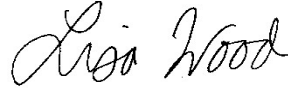
**Position/Title:** SEPA Responsible Official and SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Director’s Office

**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: [Final SEPA documents | Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife.](#) After 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.<sup>1</sup>

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](mailto:SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov).

**DATE OF ISSUE:** July 31, 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: 24-029 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](mailto:Title6@dfw.wa.gov)).*