



DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

ENVIRONMENTAL & LEGAL AFFAIRS –
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MEMORANDUM

March 5, 2024

File No. 24-030502

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Tracy Cooper, SEPA Center

SUBJECT: **SEPA LEAD AGENCY & DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

This is to advise you that pursuant to WAC 197-11-900 (922 through 948), the Department of Natural Resources has determined that it is Lead Agency for the following:

Tire Pile Removal Project: This project will entail the removal of all sunken derelict tires and tire features from the subtidal benthic floor at four proposed sites. Initially installed as artificial reef habitat, these failed structures are at risk of becoming a point source for microplastics and rubber degradation, having the potential of migrating into critical habitats and disrupting native vegetation and marine communities. Each site will be addressed individually, with Site 1, Tolmie Park Tire Pile, addressed first as a pilot site to better understand best management practices for subtidal tire removal. Upon successful removal of tires and tire features from Site 1, the additional three proposed sites will be addressed thereafter. Located in Section 23, Township 19 North, Range 01 West, Sections 20, 39, Township 19 North, Range 02 West, and Section 36, Township 21 North, Range 02 West, W.M., in Thurston and Mason Counties.

Information about this proposal including the Threshold Determination and SEPA Checklist can be accessed through DNR's website at:

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/current-aquatic-resources>

Pursuant to WAC 332-41-504, this proposal was filed in the department's SEPA Center at the Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, P.O. Box 47015, Olympia, Washington, on **March 5, 2024**. We will consider comments on this proposed DNS received by 4:30 p.m. on **March 19, 2024**. Comments should be submitted to the SEPA Center at, sepacenter@dnr.wa.gov or P.O. Box 47015, Olympia, Washington 98504-7015 for distribution to the responsible official. Please include the file number listed above on all comments.