



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
OLYMPIC REGION**
Forest Practices
411 TILlicum LANE
FORKS WA 98331
360.374.2800
FP_OLY@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

October 25, 2024

**Notice of Final Determination
SEPA File No. 24-100802
FPA No. 2618519 & 2618524
Agreement No. 30-104800
Timber Sale: Alley Cat**

The Department of Natural Resources issued a Determination of Non-significance (DNS), Mitigated Determination of Non-significance (MDNS), Modified DNS/MDNS on 10/8/2024 for this proposal under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and WAC 197-11-340(2).

This threshold determination is hereby:

Retained.

Modified. Modifications to this threshold determination include the following:

Withdrawn. This threshold determination has been withdrawn due to the following:

Delayed. A final threshold determination has been delayed due to the following:

Summary of Comments and Responses (if applicable):

Comment- Multiple auto-generated template comments specific to the Alley Cat timber sale were received from the public via actionnetwork.org. Additional comments referencing multiple timber sales, including Alley Cat, were received in a similar but modified template format. The comments generally oppose the harvest proposal based on ecological, wildlife habitat, recreation, and climate impacts.

Response- The Alley Cat Timber Sale is located within State trust lands. As such, the DNR manages these lands under the State's extensive Habitat Conservation Plan, the Policy for Sustainable Forests, RCW 76.09 Forest Practices Law, and WAC 222 Forest Practices rules. The Forest Practices laws in Washington are designed to protect public resources such as water quality and fish habitat while maintaining a viable timber industry. The State's Habitat Conservation plan further restricts timber harvest beyond the Forest Practices rules. Additional information regarding the HCP, Policies & laws is available on the Department's website at www.dnr.wa.gov.

Comment- Earth Law Center, Legacy Forest Defense Coalition, and the Center for Responsible Forestry submitted comments regarding climate impacts, carbon storage, wildlife habitat, hydrology, logging impacts in the Elwha River watershed, and potential discovery of cultural resources.

Response- During review of this proposal, no known cultural resources were identified. However, if during the course of operations, cultural resources are discovered, DNR State Lands will follow the Inadvertent discovery guidance in the FPA. Additional comments have been addressed in a response letter that will be sent to the commenters and filed with the SEPA Center.



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Comment- A second comment from the Legacy Forest Defense Coalition regarding the potential occurrence of *Whipplea modesta* within the harvest boundaries was also received.

Response- This comment has been addressed in a response letter from DNR State Lands that will be sent to the commenter and filed with the SEPA Center.

Comment- City of Port Angeles commented concerning the City's water supply and the lack of an Elwha watershed analysis form.

Response- Per WAC 222-22-070 (3)(e), forest and fish riparian rules supersede watershed analysis riparian prescriptions effective July 1, 2001. Appendix I, Watershed Analysis Worksheet is not required as a part of this proposal.

Comment- Glen Wade of North Shore Geo submitted a comment regarding slope stability concerns.

Response- The comment was reviewed by Forest Practices staff. A Forest Practices forester and geologist have reviewed the proposal in the field and determined that the potentially unstable slopes are appropriately protected in this timber harvest proposal.

All comments received during the SEPA review period of October 8, 2024, through October 22, 2024, were considered. DNR State Lands staff have addressed specific concerns in a response letter that will be sent to commenters and filed with the SEPA Center. The review of the Alley Cat timber sale was conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and agency policies and no new information has been provided to alter the determination of non-significance for this proposal.

Responsible official: Jordan Hamrick

Position/title: Assistant Region Manager, Olympic Region

Address: 411 Tillicum Lane Forks, WA 98331

Phone: (360)-374-2800

Date: 10/25/2024

Signature: Jordan Hamrick

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.

10/10/04