



DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

SOUTHEAST REGION  
713 BOWERS ROAD  
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-9301

509-925-8510  
[www.dnr.wa.gov](http://www.dnr.wa.gov)

## MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**Description of proposal:** Q PHELPS CREEK Timber Sale, Application No. 30-088241 and FPA No. 2706685 is a 348 acre uneven-aged harvest of approximately 3,366 MBF of merchantable timber. The site will be harvested with ground-based equipment. There are 4 Np and 1 Ns typed watercourses adjacent to the proposal and bounded out. Primarily existing forest roads will be used with 4,281 feet of prehaul maintenance, 722 feet of reconstruction, and 722 feet abandoned following the harvest. There will be 1,688 feet of new construction also associated with this proposal.

### **Description of mitigation:**

In order to mitigate for the Northern spotted owl, the objectives of this timber sale are geared to meeting the HCP goals of putting NSO non-habitat stands on a trajectory towards becoming habitat. The prescription will reduce the relative density of the stand by 40% with a proportional thinning, while retaining large snags, downed wood, and legacy trees. This will increase and preserve the structural complexity and NRF habitat features to improve the likelihood of sustaining a NRF condition in the future.

Trees over approximately 22 inches dbh in Units 1 and 2, and trees over approximately 24 inches dbh in Unit 3 will be retained.

Two un-harvested skips totaling 5 acres are tagged out with SMZ tags to protect old growth structure in Unit 1.

All typed waters have been bound out of the sale in riparian management zones.

Existing snags and snag recruitment trees will be left for wildlife, and will only be felled if they pose a safety hazard as defined by Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.

In the event that any unknown archaeological resources are discovered during operations, ground disturbing activities will be halted and the Department of Natural Resources Archaeologist will be contacted to develop a site protection plan.

**Proponent:** Washington State Department of Natural Resources

**Location of proposal, including street address, if any:** Parts of Sections 27, 28, 33, and 34 of Township 5 North, Range 10 East, W.M. and parts of Sections 2 and 3 of Township 4 North, Range 10 East, W.M in Klickitat County, approximately 2 miles north of BZ Corner, Washington.



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**Lead agency:** Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

**This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from May 14, 2019. Comments must be submitted by May 28, 2019.**

**Responsible official:** TODD WELKER

**Position/title:** SOUTHEAST REGION MANAGER      **Phone:** 509.925.8510

**Address:** 713 Bowers Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926

**Date:** 5/9/19

**Signature:** Todd Welker  
TW

**There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.**

PC