



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

SOUTH PUGET SOUND REGION
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DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Welchers VRH and RMZ Thin Timber Sale #30-095916 and associated Forest Practice Application No.2420315; more than 260 acres considered for harvest was reduced to 235.5 net acres consisting of four variable retention harvest units, one riparian management zone (RMZ) thinning unit, and one pit development unit, removing approximately 4,155 MBF of merchantable timber. Road work associated with this proposal consists of 1,300 feet of required reconstruction, 47,823 feet of pre haul maintenance, 119,093 feet of post haul maintenance, and approximately 1,833 feet of new construction, 230 feet of optional pre-and post-haul maintenance, and 2665 feet of optional reconstruction.

The following Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) procedures apply:

Northern Spotted Owls – This proposal is not within a Northern Spotted Owl Management Unit, nor within any Owl Areas, PR 14-004-120,

Marbled Murrelet – This proposal is within the South Puget Planning Unit, which does not have a Marbled Murrelet Reclassified Habitat Model. This proposal follows the Interim Strategy for the Marbled Murrelet in the South Puget Planning Unit, in the Department’s HCP, and the July 16, 2009 concurrence letter with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). No potentially suitable or “newly identified” suitable Marbled Murrelet habitat was found in or within 300 feet of this proposal, PR 14-004-320,

Riparian Management Zones (RMZs) and Wetland Management Zones (WMZs) –This proposal includes two Type 3 streams protected by a 167 foot and a 171 foot no-harvest buffer, respectively. It also includes thirteen Type 4 streams protected by a 100 foot no-harvest buffer, and six Type 5 streams protected by leave tree areas and 30 foot equipment limitation zones. There is one wetland associated with this proposal that is less than 1 acre in size, but greater than 0.25 acre, and is protected by a 100 foot buffer. All buffers meet or exceed HCP commitments, PR 14-004-150,

Retention Trees – A minimum of 8 leave trees per acre will be retained in a combination of individual trees and leave tree clumps, PR 14-006-090,

Slope Stability – All areas of potential instability have been excluded from the harvest area, PR 14-004-050,

Roads – Rock for this proposal may be obtained from the existing State-owned Olsen Pit or Welchers Pit.

For specifics on all mitigation measures consult the SEPA document for this proposal.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources, State Lands

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: The harvest units of this proposal are located in Sections 15 and 17, Township 20 North, Range 9 East, W.M. This proposal is located approximately

16 miles southeast of Cumberland by way of Kuzak Road and the South Side Mainline, in King County. See the associated Forest Practices Application and driving map.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources, State Lands

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.

There is no comment period for this DNS

This DNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from July 10, 2018. Comments must be submitted by July 24, 2018.

Responsible official: Scott Sargent

Position/title: South Puget Sound Region Manager **Phone:** (360) 825-1631

Address: 950 Farman Avenue North, Enumclaw, WA 98022

Date: July 9/2018 **Signature:** 
AEM 6-19-18 DRA 7/05/18

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.