

**SKAGIT COUNTY
DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)
FOR A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION R20040211 RELATING TO
MONITORING AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT OF CRITICAL AREAS IN
CONJUNCTION WITH SKAGIT COUNTY CODE (SCC) 14.24.120 (CRITICAL AREAS
ON LANDS IN ONGOING AGRICULTURE) IN RESPONSE TO THE WESTERN
WASHINGTON GROWTH MANAGEMENT HEARINGS BOARD'S COMPLIANCE
ORDER NO. 02-2-0012C.**

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: A non-project legislative action to amend Resolution No. 20040211. Amendments are being proposed to keep the water quality and habitat monitoring requirements in the existing resolution consistent with changes to the Skagit County Code related to the establishment of a Salmon Heritage Program (SHP). The code amendments and the resolution establishing the SHP are non-project legislative actions addressed under separate SEPA determinations. Amendments to R20040211 would eliminate the current program of salmon habitat monitoring and associated adaptive management requirements because the SHP is implementing a program to acquire riparian buffers. The water quality monitoring program now found in R20040211 will continue but be focused more clearly on gathering information important for water quality trend analysis.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL: Lands associated with ongoing agriculture within unincorporated areas of Skagit County, WA that are either in or adjacent to lands zoned Agriculture-NRL and Rural Resource - NRL.

PROPONENT/LEAD AGENCY: Skagit County Planning & Development Services.

FINDINGS: 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). The 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 DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340 (2). The lead agency will not take final action on this proposal for 60 days from the date of public notice below.

A Public Hearing Notice for the proposal was published on March 22, 2007 in the Skagit Valley Herald. On March 22, 2007 the proposal documents will be available on the Skagit County website (www.skagitcounty.net).

COMMENT PERIOD: The comment period on this DNS is from March 23, 2007 to April 9, 2007. Written correspondence, including facsimile transmittal may be submitted to: Skagit County Planning and Development Services, c/o Tom Karsh, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, Washington, 98273 or by FAX (360) 336-9416. Written comments (faxed, mailed, or delivered) will be accepted. Comments on the proposal must be submitted on 8 ½" x 11" paper. Maps must be in black and white and also reduced to 8 ½" x 11" size for reproduction purposes. Submittals not meeting these requirements will, unfortunately, not be considered. Comments must be received at the Planning and Development Services Department by 4:30 p.m. Monday April 9, 2007. E-mails will not be accepted.

CONTACT PERSON: Tom Karsh, Special Projects Administrator - Phone (360) 419-3373 - Email (tomk@co.skagit.wa.us).

SEPA RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Gary R. Christensen, Director/Administrative Official, Skagit County Planning and Development Services.

ADDRESS: 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon WA 98273.

PHONE: (360) 336-9410

Date: March 20, 2007

Signature _____

Gary Christensen
Director

Cc: Washington State Dept. of Ecology, attached mailing list

Transmitted to Skagit Valley Herald on March 20, 2007

Publish on March 22 and March 29, 2007

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