DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

NORTHWEST REGION
919 NORTH TOWNSHIP STREET
SEDRO-WOOLLEY, WA 98284-9384

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MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal: Uncle Walt Timber Sale, App. No. 93940 and Forest Practice Application No. 2815499 Variable retention harvest (VRH) of 2,100 MBF of timber from 125 (124.8) acres. Proposal includes 2,086 feet of road construction, up to 3,347 feet of temporary road construction to be abandoned, after completion of use, if built and 42,956 feet of pre-haul maitenance.

Description of mitigation: See attached sheet.

Proponent: Department of Natural Resources.

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: Sections 28, 29, 31, 32 and 33 of Township 40 North, Range 6 East, Sections 1, 2, 10, 11 and 15 of Township 39 North, Range 5 East, and Section 6 of Township 39 North, Range 6 East, W.M. Proposal is located 2 miles east of Maple Falls, in Whatcom County, off of S.R. 542, Mosquito Lake Road and the NF-ML forest road.

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.

[] There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

[X] This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from November 8, 2016. Comments must be submitted by November 22, 2016.

Responsible official: Jean Fike

Position/title: Northwest Region Manager Phone: 360-856-3500

Address: 919 North Township Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284

Date: 11-3-16 Signature:

There is no agency SEPA appeal.

11/09/00

MITIGATED MEASURES

Uncle Walt Timber Sale, App. No. 93940

Streams:

1 type 1 stream with a 200-foot, no-harvest buffer.
1 type 3 stream with a 189-foot, no-harvest buffer.
5 type 4 streams with a 100-foot, no-harvest buffer.

Wetlands:

6 forested wetlands, greater than 0.25 acre but less than 1.0 acre in size, with a 100-foot buffer.

Slope Stability:

Potentially unstable areas were bounded out of this proposal.

A Licensed Engineering Geologist (Forest Practices "qualified expert") made an onsite visit and identified unstable features which were bounded out from the sale area. Part of the office screening process included a review of the Forest Practices Landslide Inventory via GIS.

Roads:

Exposed soils on cut and fill slopes will be revegetated to lessen sediment impact to streams. 3,347 feet of temporary road will be abandoned after completion of use.

Green tree retention and wildlife:

1,053 trees have been designated to be left uncut on this proposal. This represents an average of eight of the existing trees per acre. Trees are both scattered and clumped throughout the proposed harvest area.

Within the S-1100 rock pit, no explosives may be used within the 0.5 miles of the Bear Creek, Maple Falls and Hatchery Creek Communal Eagle Roost sites from November 15 to March 15.

Wildlife timing restrictions are: Operation of heavy machinery associated with road maintenance on the NF-ML Road (Station 178+96 to 215+16) and S-1100 rock pit activities shall be prohibited from one hour before official sunrise to two hours after official sunrise and one hour before official sunset to one hour after official sunset from April 1 to August 31.

Logging methods:

Proposal will be yarded by cable and ground-based systems. Leading end of logs will be suspended during yarding.