



MEMORANDUM

April 30, 2007

File No. 07-043001

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Rochelle Knust, SEPA Center Manager

SUBJECT: **SEPA LEAD AGENCY & DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

This is to advise you that pursuant to WAC 197-11-900 (922 through 948), the Department of Natural Resources has determined that it is Lead Agency for the following:

The proposal, entitled “Proposed Strategies for Management of Blanchard Forest State Trust Lands”, represents a set of strategies that will provide guidance to the Washington Department of Natural Resources for balancing environmental, social, and economic values in the management of Blanchard Forest. The proposal is based on a set of consensus recommendations made by a ten-person group, called the Blanchard Forest Strategies group, which was appointed by the Commissioner of Public Lands, Doug Sutherland. The proposal is intended to be implemented within the existing policy and regulatory framework that the Department of Natural Resources currently operates for all state forest trust lands. This framework includes all state and federal laws, including Washington State Forest Practices Rules and Regulations, Board of Natural Resources; adopted Policy for Sustainable Forests (1996), and DNR’s Habitat Conservation Plan (1997). Located in Sections 02, 03, 04, 05, 06, 09, 10, 11, 14, 15 and 16, Township 36 North, Range 03 East, W.M., Skagit County.

Information about this proposal including the Threshold Determination, SEPA Checklist and Forest Practice Application can be viewed on DNR’s website at:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sepa>

Pursuant to WAC 332-41-504, this proposal was filed in the department’s SEPA Center at the Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, P.O. Box 47015, Olympia, Washington, on April 30, 2007. We will consider comments on this proposed DNS received by 4:30 p.m. on May 16, 2007. **Comments should be submitted to the SEPA Center at, dnrmisepacenter@dnr.wa.gov or P.O. Box 47015, Olympia, Washington 98504-7015 for distribution to the responsible official. Please include the file number listed above on all comments.**