



**MEMORANDUM**

May 16, 2013

File No. 12-042001

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Elizabeth L O'Neal, SEPA Center

SUBJECT: **SEPA LEAD AGENCY & REQUEST FOR COMMENTS ON SCOPE OF EIS – PHASE II**

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:

**Long-term Conservation Strategy for the Marbled Murrelet.** The proposal is to amend the Department of Natural Resources 1997 State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan (State Trust Lands HCP) to include a long-term conservation strategy for the marbled murrelet. This proposal was not included at the time of adoption of the State Trust Lands HCP because the plan provided only an interim conservation strategy for the marbled murrelet. The interim strategy was to remain in place until more scientific information could be collected on habitat on state lands and the marbled murrelet's biological needs to make the development of a long-term conservation strategy possible. At this stage in planning, the proposal for a long-term conservation strategy is described as a set of alternative concepts, including a no-action concept, which can be found in the attached document "Conceptual Alternatives." The concepts include three distinct conservation approaches to a long-term marbled murrelet conservation strategy, each of which must be consistent with the need, purpose and objectives approved by the Board of Natural Resources (the Board) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), which can be found in the attached document, "Need, Purpose and Objectives for the Marbled Murrelet Conservation Strategy." The no-action concept reflects what would occur if DNR did not adopt a long-term marbled murrelet conservation strategy. The location for this proposal is in the six Westside Planning Units (land in range of the marbled murrelet in Clallam, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Wahkiakum, and Whatcom Counties) of DNR's Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan.

**Public meetings for the current phase will be held at the following locations and dates:**

**June 05, 2013 – Olympia**

Natural Resources Building  
1111 Washington Street SE, Room 175  
5:00 – 7:00 pm

**June 10, 2013 – Sedro Woolley**

DNR Northwest Region Office  
919 N. Township Street  
5:00 – 7:00 pm

**June 12, 2013 – Forks**

DNR Olympic Region Office  
411 Tillicum Lane  
5:00 – 7:00 pm

**June 19, 2013 – South Bend**

Pacific County Courthouse Annex  
1216 W. Robert Bush Drive  
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Information about this proposal can be viewed on DNR's website at:

[http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/SEPA/NonProject/Pages/amp\\_sepa\\_nonpro\\_mm.aspx](http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/SEPA/NonProject/Pages/amp_sepa_nonpro_mm.aspx)

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 May 16, 2013. Comments for this phase of scoping should be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on July 01, 2013. **Comments should be submitted to the SEPA Center at, [sepacenter@dnr.wa.gov](mailto:sepacenter@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.**