



**DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES**

**SOUTHEAST REGION**  
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July 10, 2024

**Notice of Final Determination  
Easement #50-106153  
SEPA File No. 24-052101**

The Department of Natural Resources issued a  Determination of Non-significance (DNS),  Mitigated Determination of Non-significance (MDNS),  Modified DNS/MDNS on May 21, 2024 for this proposal under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and WAC 197-11-340(2).

This threshold determination is hereby:

Retained.

Modified. Modifications to this threshold determination include the following:

Withdrawn. This threshold determination has been withdrawn due to the following:

Delayed. A final threshold determination has been delayed due to the following:

Summary of Comments and Responses (if applicable):

- The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation commented that they “concur with this easement as cultural resource concerns have been addressed by the Bureau of Reclamation to *their* satisfaction...”
- A comment was received from Washington Dept. of Ecology regarding the proposed easement’s location within the FEMA designated 100-year floodplain, requiring a Floodplain Development Permit from Adams County. Adams County is aware of this project.
- Comments were received from Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) regarding the likely existence of shrubsteppe habitat, potentially providing habitat for burrowing owls. WDFW noted that mitigations due to impacts to shrubsteppe habitat from the larger Odessa Groundwater Replacement Project would include consideration of habitat impacts in this project area, so DNR will leave any such impacts to be addressed through the larger project mitigation. WDFW recommended presence/absence surveys for burrowing owls. A DNR Biologist led such a survey on June 20<sup>th</sup>, returning for late evening and early morning surveys on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> respectively. No sign of burrowing owls was observed. A report of these survey findings has been provided to WDFW and East Columbia Basin Irrigation District. DNR plans no further action in this regard.

**Responsible official:** Larry Leach

**Position/Title:** Acting Southeast Region Manager

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**Address:** 713 Bowers Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926

**Date:** 07/11/2024

**Signature:** LARRY LEACH

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.