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DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

SOUTHEAST REGION
713 BOWERS ROAD
ELLENSBURG, WA 98926-9301

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MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:
The Q 99 Bees timber sale, agreement #30-110311 and associated Forest Practices application #SE-FPA-26-9041, is 598.5 gross acre proposal consisting of 8 harvest units. Of the gross acres 573.2 acres are planned for harvest, 13.7 acres have been differed from harvest, and 11.5 acres of existing roads.

Harvest acreage is comprised of 56.3 acres of variable retention harvest and 516.9 acres of uneven-aged harvest.

Acreage deferred from harvest are comprised of 9.2 acres of RMZ/WMZ and 4.5 acres of potentially unstable slopes.

Road work associated with this proposal includes 1,675 feet of construction, 9,370 feet of reconstruction, and 28,060 feet of maintenance to facilitate harvest operations. Post-harvest road work consist of 5,140 feet of road will be abandoned.

Description of mitigation:

- Skid trails will be water-barred to reduce channelization from runoff, and roads will have drainage structures (cross drains, ditch outs, etc.) to collect runoff and distribute it back to the forest floor.
- Slash generated from harvest operations will be placed on skid trails to reduce erosion.
- Selected roads will be abandoned post-harvest to reduce the potential for sedimentation and runoff.
- Potentially unstable slopes are excluded from the proposed boundary.
- A minimum six trees of the largest diameter classes per acre will be left in unit seven. It will be planted with preferred species that are expected to be more suitable for future site conditions. A minimum 21-24 trees of the largest diameter classes per acre will be left in the rest of the seven units as well as clumps of established natural regeneration where available and feasible.
- Snags that pose a hazard as defined by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries may be felled, but must be left in place.
- If a Gray Wolf den site is discovered or suspected within 1 mile of the timber sale, a no-harvest temporary seasonal timing restriction will be enforced immediately from March 15-July 30 unless permitted to do so granted in writing by the State.
- The proposal has been designed to avoid impacts to all known cultural resources. Any cultural resources identified during operations will be protected. Should archaeological materials or cultural items be discovered during operations, all work in the vicinity will be stopped and the associated tribes and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) will be contacted. DNR will comply with the April 2023 Cultural Resources Inadvertent Discovery Procedures outline in PR#14-004-010, available at the Southeast Region office located in Ellensburg, Washington.

Proponent: Washington State Department of Natural Resources: Southeast Region

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Location of proposal, including street address, if any:
This proposal is located approximately 18 miles from Cle Elum, WA and is accessed via Exit 93 off Interstate Highway 90, using West Taneum Road and Elk Heights Road in Kittitas County, Washington.

Sec. 14 Township 19N Range 16E
Sec. 15 Township 19N Range 16E
Sec. 16 Township 19N Range 16E
Sec. 22 Township 19N Range 16E
Sec. 23 Township 19N Range 16E
Sec. 29 Township 19N Range 16E

Lead agency:
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.

This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from September 11, 2026 **. Comments must be submitted by** September 25, 2026 **.**

Responsible official: Scott MacFarland

Position/Title: Southeast Region Manager **Phone:** 509-925-8510

Address: 713 Bowers Road,
Ellensburg, Washington 98926

Date: 9/5/2026

Signature: Signed by: Scott McFarland 75E587522A94449...

There is no DNR administrative SEPA appeal.

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