

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Federal Emergency Management Agency
Draft Environmental Assessment
North Fork (NF) Ahtanum (A3000) Road Relocation
Ahtanum State Forest, Yakima County, WA**

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide funding to Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for a road relocation project in the Ahtanum State Forest.

FEMA prepared a Draft environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and FEMA's implementing regulations found in 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 10. The Draft EA evaluates project alternatives and compliance with applicable environmental laws and Executive Orders #11990 (Protection of Wetlands), #11988 (Floodplain Management), and #12898 (Environmental Justice). The alternatives evaluated in the EA are the (1) No Action; and (2) the Proposed Action (or Preferred Alternative) toward which FEMA would contribute funding, and 3) Other Alternatives Considered but not carried forward in the analysis.

The proposed action would abandon the stream adjacent parallel (SAP) segment (approximately 3,720 feet in length) of NF Ahtanum (A3000) Road (west of Snow Cabins Campground to approximately the west section line of Section 14, T12N, R13E, W.M.), and re-route traffic to an existing road, A3600 Road, located south of a ridge from NF Ahtanum Creek. Analysis of the environmental impacts associated with the alternatives is further discussed in the EA.

The Draft EA is available for review online at the FEMA environmental website at: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments> under Region X. If no significant issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will finalize the EA, issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and fund the project. Unless substantive comments are received, FEMA will not publish another notice for this project. However, should a FONSI be issued, it will be available for public viewing at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments> under Region X.

The Draft EA is also available for review online at the DNR website: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/ForestryForestEcology/Pages/Home.aspx>. The Draft EA can be viewed in paper form at the DNR's Southeast Region office, 713 Bowers Road Ellensburg, WA 98926.

Written comments on the draft EA should be received no later than 5 pm on March 30, 2011 to Susan King, Environmental Specialist, FEMA Region 10, 130 228th Street SW, Bothell Washington 98021-9796 or by e-mail at susan.king@dhs.gov. Comments can also be faxed to 425-482-3777.