

PUBLIC NOTICE
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Draft Environmental Assessment
Midway Creek Fish Culvert and Road Abandonment Project
Washington Department of Natural Resources
Cowlitz County, Washington

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide partial funding to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for an alternate project to install a fish passable culvert in Midway Creek, remove existing culverts, and abandon a small segment of road in Cowlitz County, Washington.

FEMA prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and FEMA's implementing regulations. The EA evaluates project alternatives and compliance with applicable environmental laws and Executive Orders including the 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice). The alternatives evaluated in the EA are the (1) No Action, (2) Proposed Action (or Preferred Alternative) toward which FEMA would contribute funding for installation of a new fish passable culvert in Midway Creek for the E-4300 Road, abandonment of a 955-foot segment of the E-4310 Road, and removal of two culverts considered fish barriers on the E-4310 Road.

The DNR alternate project area is located on two segments of DNR forest roads E-4300 and E-4310 north of State Route (SR) 4, approximately 11.5 miles northeast of Cathlamet, Washington, in western Cowlitz County, Washington. The project area is in the NW 1/4 of Section 9, Township 9 North, and Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian.

The Draft EA is available for viewing at the following location:

City of Cathlamet Public Library
100 Main Street
Cathlamet, WA

FEMA website:
<http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region10.shtm>

DNR website:
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/RESEARCHSCIENCE/FORESTRYFORESTECOLOGY/Pages/Home.aspx>

If no substantive issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will finalize the EA, issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and fund the project. The Final EA and FONSI will be available for viewing at the FEMA website noted above. Unless substantive comments are received, FEMA will not publish another notice for this project. Please submit your written comments to FEMA Region X Environmental Officer, Mark Eberlein, no later than 5 p.m. on December 2, 2011. Comments can be:

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