



## KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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### State Environmental Policy Act DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**Description:** Kittitas County is seeking to obtain an approved Application for Change/Transfer of a Water Right to change the place and purpose of use under water right number S4-84509-J. The County proposes to change the purpose of use to instream flow and mitigation and change the places of use to Cooke Creek and the Yakima River. These water rights will be enrolled in the State Trust Water Right Program (TWRP). The County is requesting 1.2 cfs and 275.64 ac-ft/year be enrolled into the TWRP. As part of an agreement with the property owners (Treats) the County is purchasing this water for the proposed Trust Water Right, the County will temporary lease water back to them for a period of 20 years. The water use would be consistent with current uses, except that the water will be made available to the County for its use as “back mitigation” during drought years during the term of the Lease. There is a pending Mitigated Temporary Water Right Permit Application submitted to Ecology to facilitate the lease element of the agreement between Treats and the County.

**Proponent:** Kittitas County

**Location:** Primary Reach – Beginning at the historical point of diversion located at 600 feet south and 200 feet east from the north quarter corner of section 18, being within the NW1/4 NE1/4 NE ¼ of Section 19, T. 18 N., R. 20 E., W.M. and continuing down Cook Creek to its confluence with a side channel locally known as Trail Creek at a point approximately 900 feet south of the center of Section 19, T. 18 N., R. 20 E., W.M.

Secondary Reach – Beginning at the point where a side channel locally known as Trail Creek crosses the KRD canal at a point approximately 2,250 feet west and 1,000 feet north of the southeast corner of Section 18, T. 18 N., R. 20 E., W.M. and continues down Trail Creek to its confluence with Cooke Creek, down Cooke Creek it is intercepted by Cherry Creek, down Cherry Creek until it is intercepted by Wilson Creek, down Wilson Creek to its confluence with the Yakima River, and in the Yakima River from the confluence with Wilson Creek to the Parker Dam.

**Lead Agency:** Kittitas County

The responsible official finds this information reasonably sufficient to evaluate the environmental impact of this proposal. This information is available to the public on request.

The lead agency has determined mitigation measures are not necessary in order to issue a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) for this proposal under WAC 197-340. Pursuant to KCC Title 15 & WAC 197-11 the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days. Any person, affected tribe, or agency may submit comments to the lead agency within 15 days of the date of issuance of the DNS. The lead agency will then: retain, modify or withdraw the decision. The determination pertains to file SE-18-00001.

**Responsible Official:**   
Lindsey Ozbolt

**Title:** Planning Official, Community Development Services

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**Date:** February 5, 2018