



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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January 10, 2019

Dusty Pilkington  
Kittitas County Community Development  
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Re: SE-18-00010

Dear Dusty Pilkington:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the mitigated determination of nonsignificance for the Department of Natural Resources West Fork Teanaway Bridge Replacement project. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

#### WATER QUALITY

The proposed project is included in the Teanaway Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) water quality improvement program, which addresses water temperature impairments. The project area is also included in a separate sediment-reduction TMDL that covers the entire upper Yakima River watershed. Required best management practices for both TMDLs include prevention of sediment input into the Teanaway River and all its tributaries. This bridge replacement project will require considerable earthwork; while the project proposal includes some methods of preventing sediment delivery, we want to reiterate that it will be important to prevent sediment from entering the West Fork Teanaway during all phases of project work. Sudden intense summer rain storms can occur in the upper Teanaway (such as the August 2018 storm in the upper West Fork), and project engineers should be prepared to prevent sediment delivery during such an event. In general, all project planning, development, and future use of the site needs to include water quality protection.

Additionally, the Teanaway Temperature TMDL requires that protection and restoration of the riparian zone should occur wherever possible in the Teanaway watershed. The applicant should consider expanding the proposed riparian restoration area around the bridge replacement area.

Please contact **Jane Creech** ([jton461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jton461@ecy.wa.gov), 509-454-7860) if you have any questions about these TMDL programs.

Sincerely,

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