SEPA[1] Environmental Checklist

Purpose of checklist

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization, or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. **You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown.** You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in "Part B: Environmental Elements" that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

[1] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance

A.Background

Find help answering background questions[2]

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

   4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration

2. **Name of applicant:**

   Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

3. **Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

   Contact: Leland Lauffer

   Address: 1130 West University Way, Ellensburg, WA 98926

   Phone: 360-584-8180

4. **Date checklist prepared:**

   September 5th, 2024

5. **Agency requesting checklist:**

   Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. **Proposed timing of schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

   October 14th, 2024 through June 30th, 2025

   There may be down time for weather, fire shutdowns, and/or wildlife habitat considerations.

7. **Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

   Future phases will include similar treatment proposals to restore fire-dependent forests on the Chief Joseph Wildlife Area. These projects will likely occur within the next 10-20 years, and will undergo separate SEPA review as appropriate.

8. **List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

   - WDFW Priority Habitat and Species Management Recommendations
   - Maps showing: soil type, erosion potential, soil stability, and hydrologic maturity from NRCS
   - County Soil Survey data

9. **Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

   None known

[2] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

A. WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Practice Application (FPA)

B. State and Tribal cultural/archeological survey and protection plan approval

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The 4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration project is intended to improve ecological integrity ratings, habitat for multiple wildlife species, and forest health on the Chief Joseph Wildlife Area. Special emphasis for this project is placed on improving the fire-resiliency for mule deer habitat.

Approximately 422 acres of overstocked forest stands on 8 units will be commercially thinned to more closely resemble the historic range of variability found in fire-dependent forests on the west slopes of the Blue Mountains before 1880 CE. This will include a reduction in stocking levels to approximately 21 trees per acre on drier sites (e.g. south aspects, ridgetops) to 25 trees per acre in area with more available moisture (e.g. north aspects, protected draws). All the commercial thinning units will be marked with orange paint to denote retention trees.

Portions of the project area were burned with mixed severity wildfire within the Cougar Creek Fire 2024 footprint. Parts of the project area that had higher severity burns will see a post-wildfire restoration specific forest health prescription. In all units, the thinning prescription will use a combination of Individual, Clumps and Openings (ICO) techniques and stocking/spacing strategies. The following criteria will be used during the leave tree selection process:

- Species preference, in declining order: western larch, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir.
- Leave “unique” species that are limited to microsites within the stand.
- All hardwood species will be automatic leave trees.
- Retain trees with good growing characteristics (good crown ratios and relatively free of pathogens and/or insect damage).
- Retain defective trees with unique characteristics (trees with cat faces, “wolfy” crowns, large limbs, broken tops, etc.) for Wildlife Reserve Tree (WRT) recruitment.
- In general, attempt to leave a residual stand with post-treatment stocking levels of between 21 and 25 trees per acre. It is important to note that these guidelines are only intended as a spatial reference starting point. Residual tree density will adapt to account for changes in timber type and microsite conditions.
- Polygons ranging from 1 to 10 acres will be retained within each treatment unit and will not be harvested. The location of these leave clumps will scattered throughout

each unit and will provide a representative sample of stocking levels ranging from open meadows and dense stands of overstocked timber.

Additional elements of the proposal may include:

- Slash disposal where debris from timber harvest operations (limbs, tops, etc.) will be piled and trailed at landings in preparation for burning. Slash burning will be carried out after the timber harvest operation has been completed. All slash burning will be completed as per Department of Natural Resources and Department of Ecology regulations.
- Pre-commercial thinning/slashing: All units will be re-evaluated after harvest operations have been completed to assess the need for further reductions in stocking levels of seedling and/or sapling size timber.
- Close and/or abandon selected roads, at the discretion of the local Wildlife Area Manager, after project completion.
- Prescribed broadcast burning in selected units dependent upon management needs and available funding.

The goal of future treatments will be to continue restoring forest stand structure and species composition within the historic range of conditions found on these sites before 1880 CE, when natural disturbance regimes like frequent, low-severity wildfires were the primary ecological disturbance agents.

As part of this proposal, most roads used for access and timber hauling will be existing grades that were constructed when these stands were harvested in the past. New construction of spurs maybe necessary to access project areas. Some of these roads may be abandoned to Washington Forest Practice standards at the discretion of the local Wildlife Area Manager. This work will include installing undrivable water bars, spreading slash and debris over the road prism, and grass seeding with a mix of native species.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

This proposal is located on the 4-0 Ranch Unit of the Chief Joseph Wildlife Area in Asotin County. The units are located in parts of Sections 27, 34, 35 Township 7 North, Range 43

East, WM as well as in sections 2, 3, 10 Township 6 North, Range 43 East, WM. See attached project maps for the location of individual units.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

Find help answering earth questions[3]

a. General description of the site:

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

55 percent

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Soils found on these units are generally stony clay loam, gravelly clay loam, cobbly clay loam, and unweathered bedrock. These soils are well drained with a moderate potential for erosion. These soil types support ponderosa pine, Douglas-fir, quaking aspen, bitterbrush and bluebunch wheatgrass.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

None known

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

None

f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Minor erosion could occur from harvesting equipment and skidders operating in the project area. There may also be minor erosion from roads due to increased log truck traffic. If erosion does occur, mitigation measures including installation of straw bales, straw waddles, water bars, drain dips and grass seeding will be utilized as necessary. Additionally, logging operations and/or log hauling will be curtailed until mitigation measures are in place and the erosion threat has subsided.

[3] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.

- Ground based equipment will not be allowed on continuous slopes in excess of 45%. Any equipment on steeper sustained slopes will be tethered and/or cable assisted.
- Skid trails on steeper slopes will be water barred appropriately following skidding operations as per written instruction and approval of the completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- At the discretions of the WDFW Contract Administrator, exposed skid trails on steeper slopes will be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager recommendations and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- Exposed cut banks resulting from road building and/or maintenance activities will be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager recommendations and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- Drain dips and/or water bars will be installed on steeper roads post-harvest as per written instruction and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- Temporary roads necessary for log hauling operations will be abandoned at the discretion of the Wildlife Area Manager. Road abandonment must be approved in writing by the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- Haul operations will be suspended immediately, until mitigation is approved in writing by the WDFW Contract Administrator, if any sediment delivery into typed waters is observed.

2. Air

Find help answering air questions[4]

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

The proposal will result in a temporary increase in vehicle emissions from logging equipment and log trucks. There should be no significant impact to air quality. Slash burning and potential broadcast burning will be conducted in accordance with

[4] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air

provisions contained in the DNR burning permit as well as any smoke management, Department of Ecology and/or local fire district regulations.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

None

3. Water

Find help answering water questions[5]

a. Surface:

Find help answering surface water questions[6]

1. **Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.** Yes, Brushy Creek run from West to East along the Northern boundary of unit 1 and 5. Brushy Creek is a tributary of Menatchee Creek.

2. **Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

   None.

3. **Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

   None

4. **Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

   None

5. **Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

   No

[5] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water
[6] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water

6. **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

   No

b. Ground:

Find help answering ground water questions[7]

1. **Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

   No

2. **Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals…; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

   None

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

1. **Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

   Spring runoff from snow melt and rainfall could occur on the forest floor, skid roads, and landings. Water will be dispersed back into undisturbed forest areas for natural filtration through vegetation and soil. Runoff intercepted by roads and ditches will be diverted through existing culverts, water bars, drain dips and ditches to the forest floor. In the event of an extreme weather event, runoff could reach nearby streams.

2. **Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

   There is a remote chance that fuel or oil associated with logging equipment could be spilled and potentially enter ground and/or surface waters. The contractor will be contractually required to have and approved spill kit in each piece of equipment to contain and clean up spills, if they should occur. Fuel storage is only allowed in approved areas. The contractor will be required to contact the WDFW Contract Administrator and the appropriate Department of Ecology office immediately after a spill occurs.

3. **Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

   No

[7] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

- Limit ground based equipment operations to sustained slopes less than 45%
- Install water bars and drain dips at appropriate road locations
- Install water bars on skid trails where appropriate after skidding operations
- Minimize rutting of skid trails and remove those ruts at the completions of skidding operations
- Apply certified weed free grass seed on exposed road cut banks and steeper skid trails as necessary

4. Plants

Find help answering plants questions

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

☒ **deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other**

☒ **evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other**

☒ **shrubs**

☒ **grass**

☐ **pasture**

☐ **crop or grain**

☐ **orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.**

☐ **wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other**

☐ **water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other**

☐ **other types of vegetation**

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

A portion of overstory conifer trees greater than 6" diameter at breast height (dbh) will be removed, leaving approximately 21 to 15 trees per acre of 10" diameter at breast height after harvest. Approximately 3 to 4 thousand board feet (MBF) of timber per acre will be removed from the treatment areas.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.

None

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Knappweed, thistle, cheatgrass, and hounds tongue

5. Animals

Find help answering animal questions[8]

a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- **Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: woodpecker**
- **Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: cougar**
- **Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:**

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Mule deer and Elk migrate through this area with seasonal changes in snow depth, temperature, and the availability of browse.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.

- Protect snags and Wildlife Reserve Trees (WRT's) where feasible from a safety standpoint (both to the logging contractor and to the public)
- Leave scattered, untreated clumps ranging from 1 to 5 acres in size to ensure hiding and thermal cover for ungulates.
- Retain trees with unique characteristics suitable for WRT's (wolfy tops, fire scars, cat faces, etc.)
- Strategically leave individual or groups of trees with dwarf mistletoe to provide roosting habitat

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None

6. Energy and natural resources

Find help answering energy and natural resource questions[9]

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

[8] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals
[9] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou

None

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

None

7. Environmental health

Health Find help with answering environmental health questions[10]

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.

There could be fuel spills when refueling equipment or oil spills while performing equipment maintenance. There is always the risk of fire from equipment operation in the woods. However, equipment will be required to have spark arrestors to reduce the fire risk. In addition, the contractor will be required to monitor and adhere to the Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations as required by the Washington Department of Natural Resources. Burning slash piles, resulting in temporary smoke emissions, could occur after harvest operations are completed. Additional temporary smoke emissions could be possible if prescribed broadcast fire is used as a management tool after the thinning operations.

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

   None known

2. **Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

   None known

3. **Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

   None

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

   In the event of a fuel or oil spill, the contractor will be required to immediately contact the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology and the WDFW Contract Administrator. In the event of a wildfire, the contractor will be

[10] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health

required to immediately contact the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the WDFW Contract Administrator.

5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**

   The contractor will be required to have an emergency plan approved by the WDFW Contract Administrator prior to commencement of timber harvest activities. This plan will include:

   - Contact information for the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the WDFW Contract Administrator
   - Inspection of equipment for spill kits
   - A fire pump trailer and necessary fire tools on site during the closed season as required by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources
   - Requiring the contractor to keep up to date and in compliance with the latest Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations during the closed fire season

b. Noise

1. **What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

   Minimal noise from vehicle traffic and logging equipment

2. **What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site)?**

   During harvest activities there will be some noise associated with chainsaws, skidders, feller bunchers, log loaders, and log trucks. Typically this noise will occur during daylight hours only, and when conditions allow. Heavy equipment noise may exceed 100 decibels within close proximity.

3. **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

   The contractor will be required to maintain mufflers on equipment and wear appropriate ear protection.

8. Land and shoreline use

Find help answering land and shoreline use questions[11]

a. **What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

   This site is currently being used for wildlife habitat and recreational activities. Adjacent properties are managed as working forests, farms, and/or rural home sites.

[11] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

The project site has been used as working forest lands. This proposal will not result in any loss of agricultural and/or forest land.

1. **Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?**

   No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

Forest land

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

Maintaining forest land with an emphasis on wildlife habitat and providing recreational opportunities.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Not applicable

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

No

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

None

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

None

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any.

None

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

The proposal is consistent with the Chief Joseph Wildlife Area Management Plan and WDFW Forest Management Plan. This proposal will reduce the threat of disease and insect outbreaks that will in turn reduce the risk of high severity fire to WDFW and adjacent private landowners. The long-term goal is to restore the property to historic forest conditions and create fire resilient habitat for wildlife.

9. Housing

Find help answering housing questions[12]

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

None

10. Aesthetics

Find help answering aesthetics questions[13]

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Not applicable

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None

11. Light and glare

Find help answering light and glare questions[14]

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None

[12] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing
[13] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics
[14] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None

12. Recreation

Find help answering recreation questions

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

Hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and bird watching

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

The proposal could temporarily displace recreational users.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

Any impacts to recreational traffic will be temporary and will not infringe on opportunities in adjacent areas.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions[15]

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

WDFW staff archaeologists have completed a background review and field survey. No buildings, sites, or structures were identified in the project area.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

WDFW staff archaeologists have completed a professional study of the project area. No sites were identified in the project area.

[15] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

WDFW staff archaeologists have initiated consultation with DAHP and the locally affected tribes. WDFW archaeologists are completing a professional study which meets DAHP's reporting standards.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

As a result of the professional study, no sites or other historic resources were identified within the project area. No mitigation or permits are necessary.

14. Transportation

Find help with answering transportation questions[16]

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Log trucks and pickups will be using numerous county roads for the duration of the project. There will be a temporary increase in traffic from these vehicles.

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No

c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

None

d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of

[16] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation

the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

None

f. **Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**

No

g. **Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

None

15. Public services

Find help answering public service questions[17]

a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

No

b. **Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

None

16. Utilities

Find help answering utilities questions[18]

a. **Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:**

None

b. **Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

None

C.Signature

Find help about who should sign[19]

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

[17] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services
[18] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities
[19] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature

9/23/2024

X Leland Lauffer

Signed by: Lauffer, Leland C (DFW)

Type name of signee: Leland Lauffer

Position and agency/organization: Statewide Forester

Date submitted: **9/23/24**