

SEPA 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: [\[help\]](#)

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.

A. Background [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)
Shillapoo Wildlife Area Maintenance Project
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

Contact: Daren Hauswald
5525 South 11th Street
Vancouver, WA 98642
Phone: (360) 696-6211
Email: Daren.Hauswald@dfw.wa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)

January 2023

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)

WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)

Project construction is proposed for September 2023 and would occur during a one-month period.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

A wetland delineation / rating and cultural resources assessment of the project area and work areas, respectively, have been completed. Habitat and wildlife assessments of the wildlife area have previously been completed by WDFW.

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. [\[help\]](#)

No.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)

USACE CWA Section 404 permit; WDOE Water Quality Certification; Clark County land use permits.

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.) [\[help\]](#)

The 2,341-acre Shillapoo Wildlife Area Maintenance Project (project) is a maintenance project proposed to provide the landowner, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), with the ability to manage water levels more effectively within a seasonal wetland for the purposes of optimizing wildlife habitat and wildlife-dependent recreational uses. WDFW proposes to replace, install, and remove multiple water control structures (WCS) located within the project area to remedy damaged and poorly functioning structures. In addition to WCS work, project activities propose to install a low-berm spillway, fill a drainage ditch, and raise an existing farm road. Construction would take place within three work areas (Figure 1) within the Wildlife Area, including:

1. Shillapoo Lakebed
2. South Shillapoo
3. Vancouver Lake

These areas largely contain open space and agricultural land uses; WCSs support actively managed wetlands, agricultural activities, and recreational opportunities.

At Shillapoo Lakebed, four WCSs (WCS 2-WCS 5) would be replaced with new in-line WCSs with flash board risers (e.g., Agri-Drains) and inlet/outlet pipes. The replaced structures would be installed within drainage ditches at the same location as the existing structures and within reconfigured berms. In addition, one new WCS (WCS 1) would be installed in a location where the previous structure was destroyed / is no longer present. A spillway composed of soil and geojute would be installed adjacent to WCS 2 to help control water levels and protect the WCS. Approximately 1,800 linear feet (LF) of gravel farm road would be raised 6 inches and would be composed of the same material. Road work would occur within the existing road footprint and would not modify side slopes. This low section of road frequently floods during the wet season. Lastly, about 700 LF of the most southern drainage ditch (its entire length) would be filled for safety and management purposes.

WCS 6 would be removed at South Shillapoo and two structures (WCS 7 and WCS 8) would be replaced. The structure scheduled for removal is currently plugged and does not convey water; rather, water sheet flows across a farm road to a down-gradient channel.

Three WCSs (WCS 9, WCS 10, WCS 13) would be replaced at the Vancouver Lake work area. In addition, two structures (WCS 11 and WCS 12) would be removed as they are no longer needed to manage wetland areas.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The project area is located in Clark County, approximately 5 miles northwest of Vancouver, WA (T3N,R1E,S30; T3N,R1W,S36; T2N,R1E,S17). Three work areas would be located within the Shillapoo Wildlife Area (Figure 1) and span multiple parcels (152371000, 152372002, 153725000, 153513000, 183278000, 188457000, 191587000, 191690000).

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#)

5-10 percent (outside of existing intermittent drainages, where slopes may be up to 2:1 [50%]).

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Cove silty clay loam (0-3% slopes) (not prime farmland per NRCS Web Soil Survey); Hillsboro loam, moderately-well drained (0-3% slopes) (all areas are prime farmland); Pilchuck fine sand (0-8% slopes) (prime farmland if drained); rough broken land (not prime farmland); Sauvie silt loam (0-3% and 3-8% slopes) (prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season); and Sauvie silty clay loam (0-8% slopes) (prime farmland if drained and either protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season). None of the soils on site are classified as associated with agricultural land of long-term commercial significance.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

Erosion was observed at the outlet of WCS 2 at the Shillapoo Lakebed work area, necessitating the need for proposed spillway to limit the likelihood of slope failure.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Minor excavation would be required to replace, remove, and/or install WCSs. Fill material would be used to backfill around replaced structures and removed structures. Material would also be needed for spillway construction, ditch fill, and to raise the farm road. Except for gravel imported to raise the farm road, all fill material (i.e., native soil) would be sourced from onsite borrow areas located adjacent to structures. Excavation would affect approximately 3.39 acres (4,583 cubic yards [CY]) within the project areas; fill associated with project activities would affect an additional 1.31 acres (2,155 CY).

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Unlikely. All grading and excavation activities would be completed in the dry, with standard construction best management practices (BMP) implemented to minimize erosion potential. The site is largely flat, so erosion on steep slopes would not occur. Once constructed, WCSs and spillway would better regulate water levels and discharges from agricultural lands and between managed wetland units.

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

None.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

All construction would be completed during the summer when the work areas are dry. Construction BMPs, such as the use of silt fence or wetland mats, may be used as necessary to control erosion.

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Limited emissions would be associated with the use of heavy equipment (excavators, trucks) during construction. Trucks, maintenance vehicles, or mowers would also periodically access the project area – i.e., 1-2 times per month.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)

All heavy equipment would be outfitted with appropriate emission control measures and would not be allowed to idle for extended periods of time.

3. **Water** [\[help\]](#)

a. Surface Water:

- 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. [\[help\]](#)
Lake River is located immediately east of the Shillapoo Lakebed work area and Lake Vancouver is located immediately north of the Vancouver Lake work area. Both Shillapoo Lakebed and Shillapoo South work areas have surface water connections to Lake River or Vancouver Lake. In addition, portions of the Vancouver Lake work area are connected to the lake. All work areas are encompassed by one, large wetland complex hydrologically connected through the groundwater aquifer and located within the floodplain of the Columbia River. In addition, there are numerous drainage and irrigation ditches, seasonally and permanently inundated areas, and streams located within the project area.
- 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. [\[help\]](#)
All work would occur in the dry; however, work would occur within drainage ditches, wetlands, and streams as described under Section A.11 above.
- 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. [\[help\]](#)
Disturbance to surface waters and wetlands is described under B.1.e. and accounts for 6,296 CY of material and 2.44 acres of disturbance. The only work discussed under B.1.e that is proposed to occur outside of surface waters or wetlands is construction of the raised farm road, which accounts for 442 CY of material and 0.59-acre of disturbance to upland area.
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)
No. The project is not expected to require surface water withdrawals or diversions. At the Shillapoo Lakebed work area, temporary cofferdams may be required to install WCSs if the adjacent perimeter drainage ditch is not dry. If water needs to be pumped from the work area, it would be discharged into adjacent agricultural lands.
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)
Yes. The entire Shillapoo Wildlife Area is located within the historic floodplains of the Columbia River.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The project does not involve any discharge of waste materials to surface waters.

b. Ground Water:

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

No groundwater would be withdrawn under the project, and no water would be discharged to the groundwater aquifer (outside of natural percolation of water between the wetland and groundwater aquifer).

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: 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. [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

The project would replace damaged or poorly functioning WCSs, remove two WCSs, and install one new WCS, which would allow water levels within agricultural areas and managed wetland units to be managed as intended. By design, these improvement would affect drainage patterns onsite.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

4. **Plants** [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

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

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

X **shrubs**

X **grass**

X **pasture**

X 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? [\[help\]](#)

Reed canarygrass dominates the work areas, with limited woody vegetation cover. Disturbed areas would be reseeded with a native hydroseed mix or with straw for erosion control, if needed, but would likely revert to reed canarygrass monocultures. No trees or shrubs are expected to be removed; however, branch trimming may be necessary at a few WCSs work areas to facilitate equipment access.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

No threatened or endangered species are known to be on or near the site.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The top 6-inches of vegetation within disturbance areas would be stripped prior to work and replaced after construction is complete. Improved water management capabilities resulting from the project would allow WDFW to use varying water levels to promote establishment of native wetland vegetation.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Reed canary grass, Himalayan blackberry.

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
 mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
 fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

The project areas provide habitat for, and is managed by WDFW to support, a variety of bird species, including raptors (owls, hawks, eagle), shorebirds, and waterfowl, as well as small mammals. Portions of the project area has the potential to provide habitat for multiple fish species.

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

The project would have no effect on threatened or endangered species.

- Streaked horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*),
- Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*),
- Columbian white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus leucurus*),
- Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*),
- Steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)—Lower Columbia River DPS
- Chum salmon (*O. keta*)—Columbia River ESU
- Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)—Lower Columbia River ESU

- Chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*)—Lower Columbia River ESU

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Migrating waterfowl and shorebirds use the Wildlife Area as wintering and/or breeding habitat.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Construction would be completed outside of the nesting season to avoid impacts on birds. Construction would occur in the dry, so there is limited potential for turbidity or sediment delivery to streams. Improved management capabilities resulting from the project would improve foraging habitat for waterfowl and shorebirds, and may increase native wetland vegetation diversity and extent, which may benefit other native wildlife species.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

None.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

The project has no long-term energy needs.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

The project would have no effect on the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

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: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

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

If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

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

Past and present land uses in the project area include agricultural production, where fertilizers or other chemicals may have been used. No specific areas of contamination are known to occur.

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. [\[help\]](#)

There are no existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Petroleum products (fuel, lubricants) would be used to operate heavy machinery during

construction. No other toxic or hazardous chemical would be stored, used, or produced during project development, construction, or operation.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)

No special emergency services would be required.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Standard worker and environmental health protection measures would be employed during construction, including use of appropriate safety gear (hard hats, ear protection) and dust suppression (as required). No other environmental health hazards are anticipated.

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#)

Noise is limited to traffic on La Frambois Road and Lower River Road, uses on adjacent lands, such as the operation of farm equipment, and wildlife (e.g., flocks of Canada geese). Existing noise sources and levels would not affect the project.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Limited construction-related noise from use of heavy equipment would occur during construction. This noise would be short-term and would only occur during daylight hours.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Work would only be completed during daylight hours. In addition, there are few (if any) sensitive noise receptors located in the vicinity of the work areas.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

The areas surrounding the Shillapoo Lakebed and South Shillapoo work areas are actively used for crop production during the growing season and for waterfowl habitat during other times of the year. The Vancouver Lake work area is managed for wetland habitat that supports various species of birds and other wetland-dependent wildlife. South and southeast of the Vancouver Lake work area contains industrial and residential developments. All work areas provide for recreational hunting opportunities. The project is proposed to improve current land uses on site (i.e., wetland habitat and hunting opportunities).

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 as a result 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? [\[help\]](#)

Shillapoo Lakebed and South Shillapoo work areas are actively used for crop production during the growing season. The project would not convert agricultural land of long-term commercial significance to another use.

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: [\[help\]](#)

The project would not affect – or be affected by – surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations.

c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)

At the Shillapoo Lakebed work area, four dilapidated concrete culverts are located within the outlet of drainage ditches. Culverts measure about 10-15 feet long and approximately 24 inches in diameter. Several of the culverts are cracked or broken into shorter segments. The work area is also surrounded by a series of berms, and an existing gravel farm road runs north-south along the western boundary of the work area.

Water control structures located at the South Shillapoo work area are degraded corrugated metal culverts, with two of the three structures also made up of a half-round corrugated metal risers located at one end. Culverts extend 30-50 feet in length and are about 24 inches in diameter. Berms are also located throughout the work area.

At the Vancouver Lake work area, each work site contains one, degraded corrugated metal culvert with a half-round corrugated metal risers located at one end. Culverts measure approximately 60 feet in length and are about 24 inches diameter. In addition, the berms adjacent to the half-round risers are rock faced at four of the WCSs. Berms are also located throughout the work area.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)

At Shillapoo Lakebed, four WCSs would be replaced; at South Shillapoo, three WCS would be replaced; at Vancouver Lake, two WCS would be removed and three would be replaced. Concrete and corrugated metal pipes would be replaced with new in-line WCSs with flash board risers and inlet/outlet pipes.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Agricultural-Wildlife District (AG-WL) at Shillapoo Lakebed and Vancouver Lake; Park-Wildlife District (P/WL) at South Shillapoo.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

AG-WL at Shillapoo Lakebed and Pasture/Open Space (P/OS) at South Shillapoo and Vancouver Lake.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Rural Conservancy Resource Land (RCRL) at Shillapoo Lakebed, RCRL and Natural at South Shillapoo, and Urban Conservancy at Vancouver Lake.

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

Wetlands, riparian habitat or species area, and/or 100-year floodplain at all work areas.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

None.

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Not applicable.
- L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)
The projects would not change the current use of the wildlife area.
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Not applicable.

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)
None.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)
None.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Not applicable.

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [\[help\]](#)
The height of ditch plugs and WCS risers would vary; however, plugs would generally be three to seven feet higher than the bottom of drainage ditches and risers would be one to two feet higher than the plug. Ditch plug, composed of soil, would be sourced onsite.
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)
None. Views of the new, replaced, or removed WCSs would be comparable to the views of existing conditions. WCSs do not obstruct views of or from the area.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None.

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)
None.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)
No light or glare would be generated by the project.
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)
None.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Not applicable.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)
All work areas are available for recreational hunting (during the regulated hunting season) and wildlife viewing.
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
No.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)
The project would be constructed outside of the hunting season, over a short (one-month) period. Recreation would not be impacted. Improvements to habitat within the project area resulting from the project may improve hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities in the future.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The project area is within the Shoto Villages/Vancouver Lake Archaeological District (45DT101), which was nominated to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1982 and was formally listed on it in 1988. The district encompasses the entire Shillapoo Wildlife Area. Lands within the district have been studied by professional archaeologists since the 1950s and became the focus of investigations in the 1970s and early 1980s in conjunction with dike construction projects and the Vancouver Lake restoration project.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Several previous systematic surveys of the area resulted in the identification of over 80 prehistoric archaeological sites. Previous investigations in the project area and vicinity have documented a very high density for late prehistoric Native American sites. These include small surface scatters of lithic debitage, seasonal hunting camps, and winter village sites.

No historic properties, archaeological sites/isolates, traditional cultural properties, or human remains were found as part of the field survey conducted by Applied Archaeological Research (AAR), as documented in the report titled *Results of a Cultural Resources Study for the Shillapoo Wildlife Area Maintenance Project, Clark County, Washington* (2022). Therefore, AAR recommends a finding of no adverse effect to 45DT101, the Shoto Villages / Vancouver Lake Archaeological District.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data website (WISAARD), Shillapoo Wildlife Area Phase 1 Historic Property Management Plan (HPMP), and previous archaeological studies in the project area and vicinity were consulted to assess the potential

impacts to cultural and historic resources. Additionally, pedestrian surveys did not find artifacts or evidence of archaeological deposits on the ground surface. Three shovel test probes (STPs) were excavated by AAR in proximity to previously identified sites to determine if any of the sites extended into temporary disturbance areas; however, no artifacts or evidence of archaeological deposits were noted in any of the STPs.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)
Applied Archaeological Research recommends that the maintenance project be completed during summer months when the ground surface in the TDAs would be dry and not susceptible to surficial disturbance from the parking and movement of vehicles and pieces of heavy equipment and other project related activities.

Although considered very unlikely, there is always the possibility that historical or precontact archaeological materials may be encountered during project implementation. If archaeological material is exposed during project construction, all work in the vicinity of the finds would cease immediately and the USACE Seattle District Archaeologist and Washington DAHP would be contacted. Procedures outlined under 36 CFR 800.13 and WAC 25-48 would be followed and work would not resume until mitigation measures have been agreed upon.

14. **Transportation** [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)
La Frambois Road and unimproved access roads would be used to access the Vancouver Lake work area, while NW Lower River Road and unimproved access roads would be used to access the Shillapoo Lakebed and South Shillapoo work areas.
- 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? [\[help\]](#)
No. The C-Tran service area extends to Fruit Valley Road and La Frambois Road, approximately 1.5 miles south of the Vancouver Lake work area.
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)
No additional parking would be provided or eliminated by the project.
- d. 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). [\[help\]](#)
The project would not require any new or improvements to existing paved roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycles or state transportation facilities. Proposed improvements, including raising the gravel road, would maintain informal access for farm and maintenance vehicles to the Shillapoo Lakebed work area, but would not be open to public vehicle use.
- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
The project would not use water, rail, or air transportation.
- f. 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 the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? [\[help\]](#)

The completed project would not change the number of vehicle trips per day.

g. 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. [\[help\]](#)
No, the proposed road improvement would not coincide with crop harvest.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None. Trips would be few and largely along La Frambois Road and NW Lower River Road, which support limited vehicle access.

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)
The project would not result in an increased need for public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)
Not applicable.

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,
other _____
None. Not applicable.

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. [\[help\]](#)
No utilities are proposed as part of the project.

C. Signature [\[help\]](#)

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.

Signature: ss//Daren Hauswald

Name of signee **Daren Hauswald**

Position and Agency/Organization **Wildlife Area Manager, WDFW**

Date Submitted: 1/13/23