

SEPA¹ 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 questions²](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

WDFW - Recreational Fishing Access on the Grande Ronde River

2. Name of applicant:

Katrina Simmons, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

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

600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501

360-870-0694

katrina.simmons@dfw.wa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared:

1/29/2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Cabin demolition: Spring 2024. Other project elements: Summer 2024

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

Plans may include improvements at the Cougar Creek Access site in the future, which is located nearby.

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

JARPA for Asotin County permits and WDFW Cultural Resources survey.

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.

We are not aware of any other applications pending government approvals.

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

SEPA threshold determination, Asotin County Building Permit, Asotin County Septic Permit, Asotin County Shoreline Substantial Development Permit.

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

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.)

WDFW proposes to improve recreational access along the Grande Ronde River in Asotin County at three existing access sites:

1. Boggan's Access Site: Install a concrete picnic table.
2. Wheeler Access Site: Demolish a cabin and construct a vault toilet in its place. Install a concrete picnic table and a kiosk. After the cabin is demolished, excavate approximately 18 cubic yards of native material and place approximately 2 cubic yards of fill material for the vault toilet. The vault toilet is constructed from precast concrete. Additionally, level the area before placing fill consisting of 3" of aggregate and 3" of hot mix asphalt to conform to Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) standards for one ADA parking stall. The combined footprint of the vault toilet and ADA parking will not exceed that of the existing cabin.
3. Bezona Access Site: Install a concrete picnic table.

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.

There are no street addresses. There are 3 properties associated with this project: one is located off Grande Ronde Rd., west of SR 129, and two are located off SR 129. The sites are in Asotin County, approximately 13 mi SW of the town of Anatone, Washington.

1. Boggan's: The NE 1/4 of Sec 35, T 7N, R 44E (46.041664, -117.253577)
2. Wheeler: The NE 1/4 of Sec 35, T 7N, R 44E (46.040706, -117.253714)
3. Bezona: The SW 1/4 of Sec 35, T 7N, R 44E (46.035152, -117.273071)

Please see the attached site plan and vicinity map.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

[Find help answering earth questions³](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth)

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

a. General description of the site:

All three sites consist of forested, shrub-scrub riparian areas.

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

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

Approximately 10%

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.

Sandy and stony loams.

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

No.

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.

Purpose	Type and Source	Cubic Yards	Total Area (sq ft)
Precast Toilet	Excavate native material for vault toilet	18	95
Precast Toilet	Fill material for vault toilet (sand and aggregate base course sourced locally)	2	95
ADA Parking	Level area before placing fill consisting of 3" of aggregate and 3" of hot mix asphalt to conform to WSDOT standards for one ADA parking stall.	11	600

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

Yes, however, the use of best management practices (BMPs) will be used to keep erosion to a minimum. Waters of the state will be protected from erosion during and after construction consistent with permits and regulations.

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

Less than 2% of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces upon project completion.

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

BMPs may include straw wattles, silt fences, and seeding of exposed soils. Other measures will be taken as necessary. Permits may require other measures, which will also be followed. Site temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plans will be available.

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.

During construction, there will be an increase in dust and vehicle emissions. After construction, vehicle emissions will likely increase from the use of the access sites and the addition of parking to the Wheeler site.

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

None are known.

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

BMPs will be used to control temporary air pollutant emissions in the construction area. Those may consist of requiring proper maintenance of construction equipment, avoiding prolonged idling of vehicles, and spraying water to minimize dust. Standard emission control converters and mufflers will be used by construction vehicles.

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

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

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>

yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Yes, the projects are adjacent to the Grande Ronde River.

- 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.**

Yes, the projects will occur within 200 ft of the Grande Ronde River.

- 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.**

There will be no work below the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM). No fill or dredge material will be placed in or removed from surface waters. There are no wetlands at the project sites.

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

The project will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

The 1988 FEMA map shows that the Bezona, Boggan's, and Wheeler sites are within the 100-year floodplain. However, the maps appear to be incorrect as the flood data are shown to overlap the road rather than the Grande Ronde River. According to historical information, the Grande Ronde River flooded in 1996 and it was deemed a 100-year flood event (elevation 1,254.5 ft). Supporting information for the permitting and construction of the cabin at the Wheeler site indicates that the cabin was built above the 100-year floodplain (Asotin County Planning Department, personal communication, January 2024), thus the new vault toilet and ADA parking proposed to be built in its place by WDFW will also be above the 100-year floodplain and will avoid adverse impacts to the aquatic environment. WDFW determined that the existing cabin elevation is at approximately 1,275 ft. Picnic tables proposed at the sites will also be placed above the OHWM.

- 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.**

There will be no discharge of waste materials to surface waters.

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**

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>

quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No groundwater will be withdrawn from a well for any purpose.

- 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.**

No waste material will be discharged into the ground from any sources.

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.**

Stormwater will be shed off the structures proposed, but the amount is anticipated to be small, and no method of collection or disposal is proposed. The existing riparian and upland vegetation will slow runoff and soils will aid in filtration.

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

During extremely high flows, there is a chance for waste to enter surface waters. However, the vault toilets proposed will be above the 100-year flood level to avoid impacts.

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

No. New impervious surfaces will be in the footprint of existing impervious surfaces.

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

BMPs will be used during construction.

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?

No vegetation will be removed or altered.

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

There are no threatened or endangered species. There are two rare plant species in the vicinity: Cusick's Milkvetch (*Astragalus cusickii* var. *cusickii*) and Prairie Cordgrass (*Spartina pectinata*).

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

No landscaping is proposed.

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

None are known.

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:
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

According to WDFWs Priority Habitats and Species maps, upland animals include waterfowl concentrations, Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus hemionus*), Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*), Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis*), and Elk (*Cervus elaphus*). The Grande Ronde River has occurrences of Steelhead and Rainbow Trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*), Dolly Varden/Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), and Chinook Salmon (*O. tshawytscha*).

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

USFWS and NOAA/NMFS tools were used to determine that the following species could occur near the project area: Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (Threatened), Bull Trout

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>

(Threatened) and their Critical Habitat, Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) (Candidate), Spalding's Catchfly (*Silene spaldingii*) (Threatened), Fall Chinook Salmon, and Steelhead.

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

Yes, this site is within the Pacific Flyway (birds), and fish migrate up and down the river.

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

WDFW will avoid disturbance where possible, all required permits will be obtained, and all mitigation measures will be followed. Work will be limited to the time needed for construction. There is no in-water work associated with this project proposal.

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

None are known.

6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions⁹](#)

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.

The completed project will not require any sources of energy.

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

There will be no effect on the 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.

None are proposed.

7. Environmental health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions¹⁰](#)

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.

No environmental health hazards are anticipated.

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>

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>

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

None are 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 are 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.**

During project construction, fuel and other vehicle fluids will be used. Fuel and other vehicle fluids will be present during vehicle use when the project is completed. No toxic or hazardous chemicals will be stored or produced because of the completed project. The cabin that will be demolished was tested for lead and asbestos presence in January 2024. No asbestos or lead was detected in the samples and abatement is not required (ALLWEST Project No. 323-142E, January 16, 2024).

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

No increases in emergency services are anticipated.

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

None are proposed.

b. Noise

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

The noise in the area is low and consists of vehicles and boats but is not anticipated to 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)?**

Most noise impacts from the project will be during the construction phase. Construction noise is to be expected during hours each day of the week allowed by the local noise ordinance. Long-term noise impacts are low and will consist of vehicles entering and exiting the sites during normal operating hours.

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

Operating hours are limited to day use at the access sites.

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.**

The Wheeler site was purchased by WDFW in 2023 and there is currently an unoccupied cabin. The property also has a WSDOT parking area, and an equipment shed. The Boggan's and Bezona sites are WDFW access sites and contain gravel parking areas and vault toilets. All the sites have primitive boat launches and are used for recreational access to the Grande Ronde River and the surrounding area.

- 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 sites are not known to have been used as working farmlands or forest lands.

- 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 effects are anticipated.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

The Wheeler site has a cabin that was constructed in the 1990s for private use. The Wheeler site also has a WSDOT equipment shed. The Boggan's and Bezona sites have vault toilets in fair condition.

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

The cabin is in fair condition and WDFW will demolish it and put in a vault toilet with ADA parking as part of this project.

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

Rural Residential

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

Unknown

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

Rural

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>

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

Some portions of the sites are likely within a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area (Riparian Buffer) as outlined in the Asotin County Critical Areas Ordinance.

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

There will be no permanent residents at the completion of the project. There is a Wildlife Area Manager that works offsite.

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

The completed project will not displace anyone.

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

None are proposed.

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

The proposed project is permitted by the Asotin County zoning ordinances and the Shoreline Master Program.

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

None are needed.

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 are needed.

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>

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?**

The height of the precast toilet structure is 9' 5". Exterior materials are precast concrete – the walls are textured to simulate barnwood and the roof is textured to simulate cedar shake.

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

At the Wheeler site, the view will be less obstructed because the vault toilet building will be at a lower height and smaller than the existing cabin. The kiosk and picnic tables are not anticipated to obstruct views.

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

WDFW will use typical building materials and colors that are not anticipated to alter current views.

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?**

There may be glare from signs and vehicles, but it is anticipated that the impacts will be minimal. There will also be lights from vehicles using the sites.

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

No safety hazards are anticipated.

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

None are known.

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

Limiting the operating hours to day-use only will reduce potential impacts from vehicle lights during dark hours.

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>

12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

There is fishing, hunting, camping, recreational boating, and wildlife viewing in the vicinity of the project.

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

No. During construction, no access, including the use of the boat launches, will be permitted due to safety reasons.

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

This project will enhance existing recreational opportunities at WDFW access sites.

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.**

One historic structure, the Wheeler Cabin (ID 731754) is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

One historic property (Grande Ronde River Bridge) is located within a 1.0-mile radius of the API. Of these sites, one (Grande Ronde River Bridge) has been determined eligible to the NRHP.

- 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.**

No previously recorded archaeological sites are within the API. A professional survey was conducted at the Wheeler site.

There are five archaeological sites (45AS00096, 45AS00440, 45AS00439, 45AS00465). Two are potentially eligible (45AS00440 and 45AS00465), and two require further testing/surveying (45AS00096 and 45AS00439). Nine cultural surveys have been completed within a 1.0-mile radius of the API (Fitzpatrick 2020; Woody 2014a; Woody 2014b; Chadez 2017; Smith 2012; Hannum 2012; Tracy 2017a; Tracy 2017b; Chadez 2023). Additionally, according to the DAHP predictive model, the API lies in an area of very high risk for the potential of intact archaeological resources.

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.**

Consultation with DAHP and Tribes under executive order 21-02. Based on the results of consultation, the project scope was adjusted to avoid impacts to locations with recorded archaeological sites and a cultural resource survey conducted at Wheeler site.

- 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.**

Based on the results of consultation, the project scope was adjusted to avoid impact to the location with recorded archaeological sites. Historic property form documentation was completed for the structure at the Wheeler site and WDFW's Inadvertent Discovery Plan will be in place.

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.**

The project sites are located off SR 129. The closest town is Anatone, approximately 13 mi NE.

- 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. The nearest transit stop is in the town of Asotin, approximately 50 minutes from the project sites.

- 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).**

No.

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

The project will not use water, rail, or air transportation. The project is located adjacent to the Grande Ronde River, which is used by recreational boaters.

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>

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

During construction, there will be an elevated number of vehicle trips per day during normal work hours of 8 am-5 pm Monday-Friday, including trucks and other equipment. Upon the project's completion, there will likely be an increased number of vehicle trips due to site improvement. The number of vehicle trips is estimated to be from 10-20 per day and up to 50 a day during the summer and during Steelhead fishing season (mid-September-November). This estimate was arrived at by speaking to WDFW wildlife area managers.

- 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.**

The project is not anticipated to interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products.

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

Transportation impacts are anticipated to be low, and no measures are proposed.

15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions¹⁷](#)

- 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.**

The project is not anticipated to increase the need for public services such as police, fire, or EMTs.

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

None are proposed.

16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions¹⁸](#)

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

There are no utilities available at the sites. There will be no power to the vault toilet structure and it will not be connected to a sewer. The vault toilet is a contained unit.

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>

- 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.

No utilities are proposed. There will be no power to the vault toilet structure and it will not be connected to a sewer. The vault toilet is a contained unit.

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.

X 

Katrina Simmons
Environmental Planner

Type name of signee: Katrina Simmons

Position and agency/organization:

Environmental Planner, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Date submitted: 3/11/2024

¹⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>