



**State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
(WAC 197-11-960)**

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Lake Terrell Fishing Pier

2. Name of Applicant: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Capitol Programs & Engineering Division
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Contact Person: Cindy Knudsen
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
Telephone Number: (360) 902-8422
Fax Number: (360) 902-8367
E-Mail: Cindy.Knudsen@dfw.wa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared: October 20, 2010

5. Agency requesting checklist: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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

Summer 2011 or 2012 Phase One
Summer 2013 or 2014 Phase Two

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

No.

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

Geotechnical Report

Geo Engineers, Proposed Fishing Pier Lake Terrell Wildlife Area, Whatcom County, Washington.
File No. 3730-117-00, April 28, 2010.

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 are pending.

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

A Whatcom County Shoreline Development Permit, a shoreline variance and WDFW HPA will be needed.

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.

The Whatcom Wildlife Area, Lake Terrell Access fishing pier that is currently in use needs replacement. This project, conducted in two phases, is designed to enhance accessible fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities by removing the old fishing pier, and installing a new fishing pier.

PHASE ONE: involves installation of a 6' wide and 150 feet long grated fishing pier extending into the waters of Lake Terrell. Other elements of this project that will be stationed above ordinary high water (OHW) include: gravel parking area, ADA accessible parking, a vault toilet, a walkway, 200' bioswale, a kiosk and landscaping. An existing gravel roadway will be used to access the site. A turnout will be added midway, however no additional improvements to the access road are planned. The existing fiberglass vault toilet shall be removed.

PHASE TWO: This portion of the project will add a (10 foot by 40 foot) T-shaped fishing platform on to the end of the walking platform installed in phase one, with the addition of ADA accessible railing. In addition, the existing fishing pier and float shall be removed. See site drawings for additional information

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including 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.

The proposed project site is within the Whatcom Wildlife Area. Lake Terrell Unit. The site is reached from Interstate 5, take exit 260 (Lummi Island/Slater Rd). Proceed West on Slater Rd 6 miles to flashing red light (Lake Terrell Rd). Take a Right (N) on Lake Terrell Road for approximately 3 miles. The road ends at the Lake Terrell Wildlife Area headquarters. This project is located in Whatcom County in Section 21, Township 39 North, Range 1 East (48.863372,-122.687746).

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. **General description of the site (underline one):** flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____.

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

3% slope.

c. **What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of the agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.**

Soils in the vicinity are classified as Whatcom Silt Loam (Bellingham drift).

- d. **Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.** No.
- e. **Describe the purpose, type and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

An access roadway will enter this site for phase one of the project. Gravel will be applied to the roadway that will match the grade found at the site.

- f. **Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction or use? If so generally describe.**

Yes, roadway construction activities will temporarily disturb existing surfaces.

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

There will be a total of approximately 11,640 square feet of new impervious area in Phase 1 including:

New gravel access:	2,658 square feet
New gravel parking:	8,246 square feet
New concrete parking:	<u>700 square feet</u>
TOTAL:	11,604 square feet

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

Erosion impacts will be reduced by placing a sediment barrier around the construction sites to isolate the disturbed area from surface waters.

2. Air

- a. **What type of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Low levels of vehicle exhaust emissions and dust from construction activities are expected during project activities. No long-term effects in air quality are anticipated to result from the completed project.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.** No.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:** None.

3. WATER

a. Surface

- 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 or wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

Terrell Lake is in the project site. Terrell Lake is connected to Terrell 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.

Yes, all components are directly adjacent to Terrell Lake (see attached plans).

- 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 fill or dredge material placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands for Phase 1 or Phase 2 of this project.

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

No.

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

No, the entire site is not within the 100-year floodplain.

- 6) **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste material to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.** No.

b. Ground

- 1) **Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give 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 (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.**

No waste material will be discharged.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

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

Generally, stormwater in the area sheet flows from gravel road surfaces and from grassy areas onto adjacent Wildlife Area lands and is infiltrated before reaching surface waters. For Phase 1 of this project, a bioswale will be constructed (above ordinary high water) that will introduce water into Lake Terrell through an infiltration grass filter, and an energy dissipator. For Phase 2 there will be no change in runoff patterns.

- 2) **Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.** No.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground and runoff water impacts, if any:** A bioswale will be constructed to direct surface water during Phase 1 of this project. The water entering the bioswale will be introduced to Lake Terrell through a (8 foot wide x 10 foot long) energy dissipator constructed of rocks. See site drawings.

4. PLANTS

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

deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other; Sitka spruce

shrubs

grass

pasture

crop or grain

wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other

water plants: waterlily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

other types of vegetation

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

During Phase 1: grass will be eliminated and replaced with gravel during the construction of the access road, parking area, and pullout. During Phase 2: there will be no vegetation removed.

c. List threatened and endangered species [of plants] 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:

All disturbed ground above ordinary high water will be planted with grass and cuttings taken from on-site and plants purchased from a local vendor, including willow, and red osier dogwood. Additionally, during Phase 1, grass will be planted and/or installed in the areas noted on the site drawing for the bioswale. See site drawings for detailed planting plan.

5. ANIMALS

a. Underline any birds or animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: waterfowl.

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: catfish, perch, sunfish, bullhead, bluegill, and pumpkinseed. The lake itself provides habitat for bass and spiny-ray fish as well as rainbow and cutthroat trout.

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

Lake Terrell has occasionally had common loon, wood duck, and trumpeter and tundra swans at this

site.

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

Lake Terrell is located along the Pacific Flyway, which is the route of migrating waterfowl to/from British Columbia and areas farther north. Lake Terrell is a food source and resting place for migrating waterfowl. In addition, Lake Terrell supports a year-round population of birds and ducks. Common Loon, wood duck, and trumpeter swans may migrate through the area. Wintering trumpeter and tundra swans also use the lake as a night roost area.

d. Proposed measures to preserve and enhance wildlife, if any:

None.

6. ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

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. 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

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. No.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: None.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? None..

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

Temporary increases in noise levels during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise will be 8 am to 5 pm. No long term change in noise levels is expected from the completed project.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: None.

8. LAND AND SHORELINE USE

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

This site is used as a wildlife area to provide public access and protect valuable wildlife habitat. Adjacent properties are rural residential and agricultural. The surrounding habitat types in adjacent properties include wetlands, grasslands, and upland mixed forest.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so describe?

Yes, portions of the wildlife area are farmed to provide cover and food for waterfowl species.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

This site has a parking lot, ADA accessible vault toilet and parking area including signage, and 24 hunting/wildlife viewing blinds. There is a boat dock and fishing pier.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so what? The old vault toilet will be replaced during Phase 1. During Phase 2, the old fishing pier will be removed.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? Recreational Open Space

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

Recreational Open Space

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

Rural.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No.

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

No persons would reside here. Staff members live nearby on wildlife access property, and work here on a limited basis.

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:

Proposed restoration of the fishing pier facility will be compatible with the Whatcom County Master Shoreline Plan.

9. HOUSING

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

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

A precast concrete cdx vault toilet will be installed (approximately 7 feet tall). Other proposed repairs will use gravel, 1-2 man rock, cement, and pilings that would not extend above ground level, or the surface water of Lake Terrell.

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

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

The repair may produce minimal 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

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

There are hunting blinds in the wildlife access area that provide hunting and wildlife and waterfowl viewing opportunities. The wildlife area also offers bird watching, boating, dog walking, fishing, and hiking opportunities.

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

No recreational activities will be displaced. Public and ADA access to the wildlife area will be preserved.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreational opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: None.

13. HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

None are known. Historical and Cultural Preservation documents have been submitted for verification.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. None are known. Historical and Cultural Preservation documents have been submitted for verification.

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

In the unlikely event that artifacts are discovered during construction or removal of the old fishing pier, work in the immediate vicinity will cease and the proper authorities will be notified.

14. TRANSPORTATION

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Lake Terrell Road serves this site. See site plans.

- b. **Is site currently served by public transit? If no, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

No. The nearest public transit stop is unknown.

- c. **How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? None.**

- d. **Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

Yes, a new gravel turnout and parking area, will be created that provide access to the new fishing pier.

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

There is no established water, air or rail transportation nearby.

- f. **How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**

No change in WDFW staff vehicle trips will occur. This area is open to the public vehicular traffic.

- g. **Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: None.**

15. PUBLIC SERVICES

- a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, 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

- a. **Underline utilities currently available at the site: Electricity, Natural Gas, Water, Refuse Service, Telephone, Sanitary Sewer, Septic System, Other.**

A new vault toilet will be installed by private contractor.

- 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 will be added or changed from this project. An old vault toilet will be removed, and a new vault toilet will be installed during phase one of the project.

C. SIGNATURE

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: Cynthia Knudsen DATE SUBMITTED: 10/20/2010