WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Cowlitz Wildlife Area - Kiona Unit - Culvert Repair

2. Name of applicant:
WDFW

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

600 Capitol Way North, 98501

4. Date checklist prepared:
6 20 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

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

Summer, 2011 or 2012

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.

A FEMA Record of Environmental Consideration Report (REC) was prepared.

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.

No.

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

A HPA and a Lewis County fill and grade permit may be required. A USACE permit will be required.

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.)

Excavate existing culvert fill and bedding material, and stockpile on site for reuse. Remove existing 36" culvert. Place and compact culvert bedding material for the new arch pipe culvert. Place new 60" wide by 46" high by 40' long galvanized steel arch pipe culvert. Place/reuse and compact stockpiled material excavated during the removal of the 36" culvert to backfill new culvert. Remove excess stockpiled material (11 CY) and haul off site to an approved dump site. Stage removed 36" culvert at the Cowlitz WA for future use. Total net fill will be 11 cubic yards.

Net cut below OHW: 69 cubic yards.
Net fill below OHW: 58 cubic yards
Total Net fill for this project = 11 cubic yards above OHW.

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.

From Randel travel west on US – 12W for 2.5 miles. Turn Left at Savio Rd. Proceed 308 feet, and take the first left onto Savio Road E. Follow the road, keeping past mobile home to gate marked "Cowlitz Wildlife Area". If gate is locked, proceed on foot along forest road to the field where the road opens up. Project site is east of the road along the ditch. T12N, R6E, S13 (46.52663,-122.0062). See site drawings.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . . .

The project area is located on the Kiona Unit of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area, in an upland pasture area, primarily used for big game foraging. Water from this drainage area eventually flows into Kiona Creek. There is wetland soil present in the surrounding areas. Tree cover in the nearby forested areas is comprised of a mature mix of hardwood and

conifers (red alder, cedar and western hemlock). Ponding in nearby pasture fields is attractive to winter migratory waterfowl. The project site is dry in summer, and it is located in an area that is a natural barrier to fish passage.

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

3%

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 prime farmland.

Shooley Silt Loam soil.

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.

Fill is estimated at 58 cubic yards. This amount includes eleven cubic yards of material that is placed and compacted for the new arch pipe culvert. This fill material will be purchased from a local quarry. Net fill 11 cubic yards. There may be wetland soils in the project area.

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

Yes erosion could occur. This area is typically dry during summer when construction will occur, but best management practices will be used including hay bale, and siltation curtains.

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

There will be no change in impervious surfaces.

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

Refueling of machinery will occur away from the project location. All components of this project will occur above OHW. At no point will machinery enter the water. Best management practices will be used to avoid excessive sedimentation and erosion including hay bales and sediment curtains.

2. Air

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

This project is located on a seasonal (flood overflow) area of the Kiona wildlife area that is typically dry in the summer. There are wetlands nearby. This seasonal fresh water source flows into Kiona Creek, and the Cowlitz 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.

No. The project location will be dry during construction.

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.

Fill is estimated at 58 cubic yards. This amount includes eleven cubic yards of material that is placed and compacted for the new arch pipe culvert. This fill material will be purchased from a local quarry. Net fill 11 cubic yards. There may be wetland soils present.

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

No. This project is located in an area that goes dry seasonally.

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

Yes.

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

No.

b. Ground:

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.

None.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

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

Stormwater will sheet flow from surrounding areas. During flood events, the new culvert will accommodate stormwater runoff. Stormwater in the area sheet flows from the nearby fields and eventually reaches Kiona Creek.

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:

None.

4. **Plants**

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

___x___ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
___x___ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
___x___ shrubs
___x___ grass
___x___ pasture
___x___ crop or grain
_____ 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?

None.

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

None

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

None

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and 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:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

None.

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

This seasonal water source is blocked to fish passage, and not available to salmon. There are winter foraging areas for birds, deer, and elk.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or 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.

None.

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? If so, describe.

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.

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.

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 he 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 located at the Kiona Creek Wildlife Area. Adjacent properties are rural and agricultural.

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

Yes, a portion of the surrounding fields are irrigated and mowed to provide hay.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

A damaged culvert.

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

The existing culvert will be removed from the site, and stored for future use, if needed.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
RDD-20

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
RDD-20

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

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

The surrounding grounds are part of a WDFW wildlife area.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
None.

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

None

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

The proposed repair will replace a culvert that was too small to handle seasonal peak water flow during flood events. These repairs will allow water passage and prevent flooding of surrounding areas.

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?

N/A

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?

None.

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 wildlife viewing and hiking opportunities nearby.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation 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.
No.

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.

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

If artifacts are discovered during construction, activities will stop 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.

US – 12W and Savio Rd and Savio Road E serve this site.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The nearest public transportation 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).

No.

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

No.

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.

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

None.

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

None.

C. SIGNATURE

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 - WDFW

Date Submitted: 6/21/2011

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.