

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:

Sol Duc River Side Channel Habitat Improvement Project - Mitigation

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Cindy Knudsen
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA. 98506

4. Date checklist prepared:

6 14 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Summer or fall, 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.

None

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.

HPA.

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.)

This proposed project near the Solduc River is in a highly productive off channel area due to the presence of large numbers of fresh water shrimp. The proposed project will increase instream cover for fish species by placing two large (10 foot tall by 10 foot wide) stumps in the north end of this rearing pool. This section of the pool has reached via an access road adjacent to the proposed project location. The stumps will be anchored in place with cable and 3-4 man rocks placed on top of the stumps. Quick drying resin glue will be used to anchor the rocks and cable reinforcing structures to the stump.

Best Management Practices will be used during construction. The proposed project will be conducted during seasonally dry conditions utilizing siltation curtains, and possibly straw bales. Any disturbed areas will be restored with materials found at the site. Extreme care will be taken to ensure no petroleum products, hydraulic fluids chemicals, or other toxic materials will be allowed to reach the water. Operation of equipment will follow all requirements and safety precautions during times of high fire danger including daily hour limits and complete operation closures when required. Any materials left over from construction activities will be removed from the site.

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 US Interstate 5, Take Exit 104 and Merge onto US 101-N toward Aberdeen/Port Angeles. Take WA-8 W toward Montesano/Aberdeen. US-8 Becomes US-12. US-12 becomes US 101 N/E Wishkah Street. Turn Right onto US-101 N/Alder Street. Continue to follow US-101 N. Turn Right onto Levee Street/US 101. Continue to follow US-101. Turn Slight Left onto Perry Ave/US 101. Continue to follow US 101. Turn Left onto LA Push Road/WA-101. La Push Road turns into Quillayute Prairie Road. Turn left on Moriarty Road. Follow Moriarty Road to the Thomas Springs Pond site T 28N, R14W, S17 (47.9276157,-124.533119).

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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

This site is a natural spring located in a heavily wooded area.

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

5%

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.

Queets Silt Loam

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.

This natural spring area will have two large stumps placed on the north side of Thomas Springs for habitat enhancement. These stumps are approximately 10 feet tall and 10 feet wide (a total of 200 sq feet). These stumps were originally part of a large engineered log jam structure installed on the Solduc River that was removed in Summer 2010.

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

Erosion could occur to the road alongside the Thomas Springs during construction activities. There will be no land clearing associated with this project. Any disturbed areas will be restored with materials found at the site to avoid erosion.

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

Wood stumps will cover approximately 200 square feet.

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

Any soils or plantings disturbed during construction will be restored with natural materials found at the site. This project will be done in dry conditions to avoid impacts from erosion.

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.

There will be typical emissions from construction equipment.

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.

Thomas Springs is located at the proposed project location. It is a year round natural spring. Thomas Springs drains into the Solduc River. There is a small freshwater wetland on the east end of Thomas Springs.

- 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. This project will place two large stumps into the water of Thomas Springs as a habitat improvement project. 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.

Fill material will be limited to stumps placed in the water of Thomas Springs and 3-4 man boulders designed to anchor them in place. The materials used for the proposed project consists of stumps, steel cable, large rock(s) and adhesive material.

- 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.

- 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 in this area infiltrates through forested natural areas and eventually enters Thomas Springs. This project will not change these natural patterns.

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

No waste materials will enter Thomas Springs. Equipment fueling will be done away from the project location. Best Management Practices will be used to avoid introduction of waste materials to the surface waters of Thomas Springs. Heavy equipment required for the installation of the stumps will be operated from above OHW.

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

Best Management Practices will be used during construction. The proposed project will be conducted during seasonally dry conditions utilizing siltation curtains, and possibly straw bales. Any disturbed areas will be restored with materials found at the site. Extreme care will be taken to ensure no petroleum products, hydraulic fluids chemicals, or other toxic materials will be allowed to reach the water. Operation of equipment will follow all requirements and safety precautions during times of high fire danger including daily hour limits and complete operation closures when required. Any materials left over from construction activities will be removed from the site.

4. Plants

- a. Check or circle 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
 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. If any vegetation is disturbed, it will be restored with materials found at the site.

- c. List threatened or 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:

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: Wood duck and Hooded Merganser duck
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.

The Thomas Springs proposed project location is within an *adjacent section* for marbled murrelet habitat. There are marbled murrelet detection sites 3,057 and 3,600 feet from the proposed project location, in two nearby (adjacent Township Range and Section) areas.

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

Coho salmon rear in this ponded area, migrating through to the nearby Solduc River. There may be winter elk migrations through this site. This area near the Solduc River is in a highly productive off channel area due to the presence of large numbers of fresh water shrimp. This is primarily coho habitat although several species of salmon use this area for migration and for rearing.

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

This area near the Solduc River is in a highly productive off channel area due to the presence of large numbers of fresh water shrimp. The proposed project will increase instream cover for fish species by placing two large stumps upside down in the north end of this rearing pool. Installation of the stumps in the ponded waters of Thomas Springs will provide instream cover for rearing salmon species. This project is proposed as mitigation for removing an engineered log jam that was previously used to provide instream cover in the Solduc River.

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? 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.

This project will generate typical construction noise levels during normal working hours. The noise generated from this project will be temporary in nature.

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?

Natural.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None.

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

No.

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

RR CF

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

Western Planning Region

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.

This section is classified "*adjacent section*" for marbled murrelet habitat. The section to the east has protected habitat for marbled murrelet.

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.

None.

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

None.

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?

The height of the (wood) stump is approximately 10 feet high.

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?

The proposed project is on private land; however there are fishing and hunting opportunities in the general vicinity.

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

No. The proposed project will enhance fish habitat by providing instream cover. Improved habitat may positively affect fish rearing and ultimately improve recreational fishing opportunities.

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

Improved habitat may positively affect fish rearing and ultimately improve recreational fishing opportunities.

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.

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

In the unlikely event that historic artifacts are discovered, 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.

Highway 101, Quillayute Prairie Road and Moriarty Road serve this site. See site drawings.

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

The nearest public transit stop is unknown.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

None.

c. 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 vehicle trips will be generated by the completed project.

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: Christina Knudsen

Date Submitted: 6-15-2011

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:

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.