

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

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:

Please complete 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. ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). For nonproject actions.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Bogachiel Access Site Asphalt Overlay

2. Name of applicant:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501: Chris Gourley (360) 902-8392

4. Date checklist prepared:

10/18/12

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Construction scheduled to begin May 2013

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.

No environmental information will be 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.

None are known at this time.

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

Clallam County is not requiring any permits for the project because it is maintenance (Personal communications 10/16/12).

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 project will add a 2" thick crushed base course gravel layer to resurface the existing degraded asphalt road structure and pave with 2" hot mix asphalt. The new road will be 13 feet wide with the top of pavement 4" above existing grade. The project is to pave approximately 0.50 miles of degraded asphalt road. Nine drainage culverts will be replaced as listed in the plans and two will be preserved. Two areas will be widened to serve as pull-out areas.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, "and county" 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 Bogachiel Public Access Site and Hatchery are located in Clallam County near Forks. From I-5, take exit 104 North US 101. Take a slight left onto State Route 8 West. Continue through Aberdeen on 101 North. In Forks, turn left onto Bogachiel Way and continue down the road approximately 3.3 miles to the launch. The access is at the end of the road. The road from the approximate split to the hatchery entrance will be paved. The site includes areas in Township 28 N, Range 14 W (Section 13) and Range 13 W (Section 18) and the parcel numbers are 132818230000, 142813140000, 132818240000, and 13281840200.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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

The road area is flat, but there is a steep slope on the north side of the road. South of the road is relatively flat.

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

Approximately 50%

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

The soils within the project area are classified as Queets silt loam, a soil that is found on 0-5% slopes and often found in floodplains and terraces, is well drained, and has a parent material of alluvium.

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

The parcel to the north of the road has recently been clear cut. While unstable soils are not known to exist, it is possible that the loss of soil stability could trigger weak layers to move.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The purpose of the project is to improve public access by making roadway improvements, including regrading the road and resurfacing with asphalt. Approximately 415 cubic yards of gravel will be used (140 CY for the culvert bedding and 275 CY for base course on the existing roadway) and 455 tons (225 CY) of asphalt will be used. There are culverts that currently drain the hillside to the north into the rearing pond on the south side of the road. Many of the culverts are in need in replacing. They have rusted through on the bottom and the debris grates will be moved to the upstream end of each culvert for easier cleaning.

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

Not likely. There will be a minimum of new disturbed areas with all construction occurring within previously paved and impacted areas. Every effort will be made to minimize erosion.

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

The increase in impervious surface along the road will be 2,173 square feet, or 6.11% of the total road surface. Also present on the parcel are buildings (hatchery staff housing and storage), the rearing pond, forested areas, and grass areas.

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

Any potential erosion will be prevented using erosion control BMP's. A staging area will be designated for contractor use. Barriers such as silt fencing or weed-free straw bales will be placed as needed to reduce erosion and other potential contaminants to soils and waters.

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.

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected 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:

Standard emission control converters and mufflers would be in use by construction vehicles.

3. Water

- a. Surface Water:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The work provides access to a rearing pond for steelhead as well as the Bogachiel River. The runoff from the road and the hillside to the north goes into the rearing pond without treatment. The river is in the vicinity, but is not likely to be affected by the work.

- 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.

The work will be conducted adjacent to the rearing pond. No in water work will be done. Adding gravel to the current road and paving will be monitored to ensure that the pond is not adversely affected.

- 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.

None.

- 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.

Yes. The entire site is within the 100 year floodplain.

- 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 Water:

- 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.

Not Applicable.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow?

Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Storm water treatment will not be changed or affected in any way. Currently storm water is directed into the pond or one of the culverts along the north side of the road. While the culverts may be replaced, there will be no change in storm water collection.

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

The pond may receive waste materials, so efforts will include BMPs to eliminate this possibility including, but not limited to temporary cofferdams and straw bale barrier check dams.

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

Sediment control BMP's will be in place and may include the use of straw mulch, cofferdams, and silt fence. Any other necessary BMP's will be utilized as needed.

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: **spruce**
 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?

No vegetation will be removed.

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

SEPA Environmental checklist (WAC 197-11-960)

guidance updated March 2012

The Natural Heritage Program (NHP) databases as well as the federal agency listings (USFWS) were examined for threatened or endangered plants on September 12, 2012. There is one state listed endangered species, *Abronia umbellata* var. *breviflora* and its historic range is not near the project site, and the conditions that it has been found in do not exist at the project site. The state listed threatened plants are *Astragalus australis* var. *olympicus* (current sightings are not near project site), *Claytonia multiscapa* ssp. *Pacifica* (no information available on this plant), *Coptis trifolia* (WA population found in cedar bogs which are not present at the project site), *Draba longipes* (historic distribution not near the project site), *Lobelia dortmanna* (occurs in the shallows of lakes and ponds which are not present on the project site), *Oxalis suksdorfii* (historic distribution in Clallam County was on a grassy sand dune, a habitat not found within the project site), *Polemonium carneum* (historic and current distribution are not near project area), *Potentilla breweri* (not found in project area), *Sanguisorba menziesii* (found in or near bogs which are not present on the project site), *Sparganium fluctuans* (may occur within project site), and *Synthyris pinnatifida* var. *lanuginosa* (distribution is not near project site).

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

There will not be any enhancement of vegetation on the site.

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: **kingfisher**
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: **otter**
fish: bass, salmon, **trout**, herring, shellfish, other

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

Threatened listed species in Clallam County include Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), and Green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). Short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria (Diomedea) albatrus*) is listed as endangered.

While the site is within the management buffer for marbled murrelet, the site is approximately a mile from the nearest sighting. With the recent clear-cut activity, it is unlikely that they would be found within the site. Spotted owls are present near the site, but the management buffers do not interfere with the project site. The other species are not likely to be present on the site.

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

Many migratory bird species use this area as part of a migration route along the Pacific Flyway.

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

To preserve fish and wildlife resources, WDFW will time this project to have minimal impact upon wildlife.

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 are needed.

- 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 are included.

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.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Avoid use of toxic chemicals and materials.

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.

Increased levels of noise during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise levels will be 7am to 6pm. No change in noise level is expected from the completed project.

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

No special noise reduction efforts are planned.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

The current use is a public road that accesses the Bogachiel fish rearing ponds and the access sites at the end of the road. The road is currently in poor shape. Nearby parcels are primarily forested and some residential properties.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Within the parcels, there are 2 structures, a house and office and a storage shed/shop.

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

No structures will be demolished.

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

URL

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

Commercial Forest

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

The Bogachiel River is designated as Conservancy, but there is no designation at the project site.

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

The area near the rearing ponds is listed as cavity duck breeding area. Outside of the project's impact area, south of the road and the ponds, is a palustrine aquatic habitat area. The site also falls within the marbled murrelet management buffer.

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

Hatchery operations use this road, but there is an alternate route that is also used by staff.

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:

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?

There are no proposed structures.

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? **None.** What time of day would it mainly occur?

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 area is used for accessing fishing, swimming, and boating. In addition, the hatchery's rearing ponds are on the site and accessed with this and another road.

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:

The restored road will provide better access to the hatchery and the river access.

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.

According to the Department of Archeological and Historic Preservation there are no listed historic properties in the area.

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Not Applicable.

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

Keep project within the proposed footprint.

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.

Bogachiel Way is the road that accesses the area. This road will be graded with gravel and overlaid with asphalt.

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

The site is not served by public transit. The nearest stop is approximately 3 miles away at the Forks Transit Station on Spartan Avenue in Forks.

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

The completed project will not have any parking.

- 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. This public road will be asphalt paved after a ayer of stabilizing gravel and grading have been completed. The road will remain roughly the same width, while making the width uniform.

- 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 additional vehicular trips are anticipated.

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

While the sites may receive more access due to the road improvements, use is not expected to increase to a point of nuisance requiring any impact mitigations.

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 _____

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 planned this site.

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: Chris Gourley

Name of signee: **Chris Gourley**

Position and Agency/Organization: **Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Date Submitted: **October 18, 2012**

Appendix A Project Drawings