

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:

Wilkie Creek Foot Bridge

2. Name of applicant: Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, Sherman Creek Wildlife Area

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

34042 Hwy 20 E

Daro Palmer, Wildlife Area Assistant Manager

Kettle Falls, WA 99141

(509) 690-6071

4. Date checklist prepared: 23 October 2012

5. Agency requesting checklist: WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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

As soon as possible.

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

There are no future plans directly related to this proposal. There has been discussion between Sherman Creek Wildlife Area staff and National Park Service staff of establishing a river trail campsite at this location in the future. It is an easy place for boaters on Lake Roosevelt to pull into shore, and on the wildlife area there is an open, flat area that would make a good campsite. National Park Service has offered to donate a restroom that Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife could install on the site. This would require installing a vault to set the restroom on. There is a management road that accesses the site, which would enable a pump truck to annually clean the restroom vault.

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

Not aware of any environmental information directly related to this proposal.

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.

None known.

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.)

We propose to build a foot bridge to allow recreational foot traffic to cross Wilkie Creek safely. This area is already used by hikers, bird watchers, etc. This site occurs along a "trail system" of old wagon roads and the old Hedlund Railroad bed that recreationists use to walk through this eastern portion of the Sherman Creek Wildlife Area along the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. Boaters on Lake Roosevelt also make stops along the shore of the wildlife area to walk around, picnic, etc. The bridge will be 18 feet long and four feet wide with handrails on each side. It will be constructed from used power poles donated by BPA and lumber salvaged from an old barn.

Construction will occur in the fall when the Wilkie Creek stream bed is dry and there will be no entry into the stream bed during construction. A footing will be dug into the top of the stream bank on the south side. Fill will be added on the north side, sloping up to the bridge.

Wilkie Creek is a non-fish bearing stream. It has a bank full width of approximately one meter with an 8-10% slope to the stream bed. Seasonal fish use is not possible. During the spring when Wilkie Creek is running, Lake Roosevelt is very low eliminating the possibility of spring spawners to access the creek. From July through the fall Wilkie Creek is dry, eliminating use by fall spawning fish.

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.

The proposed project is located in the southern portion of Section 22 in Township 36 North, Range 37 East at 48.600693°N, 118.136759°W (WGS84). Please see attached map.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, **hilly**, steep slopes, mountainous, other
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
The steepest slope on the project site is approximately 20%.

- 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.

Sand and gravel on streambanks. Cobble and gravel in streambed.

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

None.

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

One end of the bridge will require approximately 3 cubic yards of gravel fill to enable the bridge to be level.

The fill source is on site.

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

No erosion is expected.

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

None.

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

No erosion control measures are needed.

Construction will be carried out without entry into the dry stream bed.

a. **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 minimal emissions from the small tractor that will be used for one day to dig in the footing and move the fill material.

- 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.

Wilkie Creek is a seasonal, non-fish bearing stream that flows into Lake Roosevelt.

Lake Roosevelt's high water mark is 115 feet from the project location.

- 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 project will require work over Wilkie Creek but no entry will be made in the dry channel.

The power poles will be flown over and set in place using a cable and pulley system.

No work will be required in Lake Roosevelt.

- 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.

Not known.

Wilkie Creek drains a small area, so flash flooding from a cloud burst or rain-on-snow event is not likely to occur.

- 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.

Storm water could cause runoff from the exposed fill that will be placed on the north side of the bridge, but most of the water will run away from the creek and onto the vegetated forest floor. The creek side of the fill will be armored with large rock to prevent runoff of dirty water into the stream bed.

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:

No measures to reduce runoff impacts are 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

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?

Approximately 200 square feet of grass will be covered by the fill added on the north side of the bridge.

All exposed soils will be reseeded with an appropriate native seed mix.

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

No threatened or endangered plant species are known to be on or near the site.

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

No proposed landscaping.

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.

No threatened or endangered animal species are known to be on or near the site.

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

No.

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.

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.

If emergency services are required they can be contacted by phone. No special services are required.

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

None needed.

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.

There will be short-term noise from operation of a tractor and hammering.

The noise will occur over three days from approximately 10:00am to 5:00pm.

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

None needed.

8. Land and shoreline use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
Recreation such as hiking, camping, and bird watching.

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?

The site is located on the Sherman Creek Wildlife Area, managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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

The site is located on the Sherman Creek Wildlife Area, managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

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

Not applicable.

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?

None.

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

None.

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

None needed.

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

None needed.

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?

Not applicable.

- 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?
This bridge will be built on the Sherman Creek Wildlife Area, which provides for recreational opportunities such as hiking, horseback riding, camping and hunting.
- 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:
This project will provide a safe crossing for recreationists walking through this area.

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.
The old Hedlund Railroad bed runs through the site.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:
None needed.

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.
The site is most closely accessed by State Highway 20 as well as Mellenberger and Sherman Homes Roads.
There is a wildlife area road for management access, but all other users must walk to the site.
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
No. Nearest transit stop is in Kettle Falls, approximately six miles away.
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?
No parking spaces will be created or eliminated.
- 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.

None.

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

None needed.

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 needed.

16. Utilities

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

No utilities are currently available at the site.

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 needed.

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: *Dave D. Per*

Date Submitted: *10/31/2012*

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?

The proposal would not likely increase any of these.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Not applicable.

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

The proposal is not likely to affect any of these.

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

Not applicable.

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

The proposal would not be likely to deplete energy or natural resources.

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

Not applicable.

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?

The proposal would not be likely to affect these types of areas.

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

Not applicable.

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?

The proposal may increase land and shoreline use by recreationists, but not that would be incompatible with existing plans.

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

Not applicable.

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

The proposal would not likely increase these demands.

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

Not applicable.

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

There are no known conflicts with local, state, or federal requirements for environmental protection as a result of this proposal.