

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:

Forks Creek Hatchery Improvements

2. Name of applicant:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

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

Larry Peck, 600 Capital Way N; Olympia, WA. 98501-1091 (360) 902-8376

4. Date checklist prepared:

10.31.2012

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

There are currently no plans for future additions or expansion beyond the current project proposal.

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

Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs) are prepared to reflect annual rearing and release programs that occur at this project. This data is available in FPC annual reports and in the FPC Hatchery Database ([http://www.fpc.org/hatchery/Hatchery Queries v2html](http://www.fpc.org/hatchery/Hatchery%20Queries%20v2.html)).

New NPDES permit application with DOE.

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.

There are currently no other proposals directly affecting the property of the current proposal.

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

County Shoreline Permit (Substantial Development)

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.)

The proposed project consists of two major elements:

- 1. Demolition of existing asphalt Adult collection/holding pond and replace with two/three new concrete raceway ponds, all within the existing footprint of the asphalt holding pond. New ponds replace and maintain current pond function, but facilitate easier pond cleaning of fish waste. No net gain in impervious surface area and new pond outlets will tie into existing pond effluent line/fish ladder.**
- 2. Demolition of existing pollution abatement pond and construction of new larger abatement pond to improve existing treatment of fish waste collected throughout the fish rearing cycle. Construction of the new abatement pond will be completed within the existing hatchery footprint, and constructed on existing impervious surfaces.**

Replacement of the asphalt holding pond with two/three new raceways and enlarging the existing pollution abatement facilities will result in improved water quality in Forks Creek.

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.

**Forks Creek Hatchery is located in Pacific County, section 06, township. 12.0 N, and range 07.0 W. WM. Hatchery address is:
Forks Creek Hatchery, 1986 State Route 6, Raymond, WA. 98577.**

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

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

**All proposed work associated with the proposed project will be completed on the existing developed hatchery grounds.
The general descriptions of the work sites are flat.**

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

Approximately 8 to 10 percent, proposed work area is flat.

- 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.

Soils in the vicinity are classified as Grehalem silt loam.

- 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.

For the Asphalt Adult Pond demolition and new replacement concrete pond construction (2 or 3) a total of 1716 Cubic Yards of asphalt, fill, metal and concrete are planned for demolition/removal and a total of 1158 Cubic Yards of new soil, backfill, concrete, pipe bedding and asphalt for fill associated with this element of the proposed project.

For the pollution abatement pond replacement a total of 354.1 Cubic Yards of soil excavation and concrete demolition is associated with the total amount of materials to be removed with a total of 553 Cubic Yards of soil and new concrete fill for the proposed total fill associated with this element of the proposed project.

To the extent practical all cut material will be recycled. Specific quantities and types of project materials cut and fill are included in the permit drawings. All proposed work to be conducted above OHW.

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

No existing erosion problems are known at the site, because both the new adult holding pond and pollution abatement pond expansion will be constructed of concrete, no potential erosion problems are foreseen for the proposed project. During the construction of the project the use of BMP's will be followed to prevent sediment entering the watercourse.

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

The proposed project will result in no net change in existing impervious surfaces.

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

Best Management practices will be used including sediment curtains and filter fabric. No sediment will enter the water or be allowed to migrate downstream. No equipment will enter the water to complete this proposed project.

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.

During construction, air emissions will include gaseous and potential low levels of dust. There will be no new air emissions from the completed project. When the project is completed, it will reduce gaseous emissions as future pond cleanings will be conducted with an electrical pump system; current methodology of pond cleaning is using gas driven trash pumps.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

There are no off-site sources of emissions affecting the proposal.

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

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

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.

Forks Creek Hatchery is located directly adjacent to Fork Creek which flows into the Willapa 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.

Yes, all proposed elements of the Forks Creek Hatchery Improvement project are directly adjacent to Forks Creek.

- 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.

The proposed project will not impact current existing hatchery surface water withdrawals.

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

No, the proposed project is not 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.

A major element of the project is to expand and improve the existing hatchery pollution abatement pond and improve water quality in the hatchery effluent. All waste products collected in association with the fish rearing activities will be delivered and treated in the new expanded pollution abatement facility. No other waste products will result from the proposed project.

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 in the area sheet flows from imperious roads and graveled areas onto adjacent land is infiltrated before reaching surface waters. The proposed project will not change existing storm water runoff patterns.

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

No.

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

The proposed project will incorporate all appropriate requirements of the DOE 2005 Manual.

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?

Proposed project will occur on the developed footprint of the existing hatchery grounds, potential slight vegetation (grass) removal associated with new expanded pollution abatement pond.

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

No endangered species known to be on or near site.

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.
There are no Endangered Species near the proposed project site. Spotted owl buffer edge is approximately 4,300 feet away from the project site, and marbled murrelet habitat sections are approximately 4,800 feet away from the project site.

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

Yes, Chum Salmon utilize Forks Creek as a migration corridor for both adult and juveniles. Fall Chinook, coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout also utilize Forks Creek as rearing habitat. This area is a migration area for Willipa Roosevelt Elk. The project also lies within the Pacific Flyway but few observations other than mergansers have been experienced at the site.

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

The primary benefit of the project proposal is to improve water quality in the existing hatchery's effluent. The water quality in Forks Creek will improve with reductions in both suspended and settleable solids leaving the existing hatchery during routine pond cleaning.

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.

No new energy supplies will be needed in association with this proposal. Forks Creek Hatchery currently is supplied electrical service. Electrical services are currently and planned uses include office heating, lighting, small tools such as saws and drills, and minor office equipment, such as phone, computer, ect. The project proposal will result in a relatively small increase in electrical use but reduced gasoline use associated with routine pond cleaning at this hatchery site.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

The project would have no effect on the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

- 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.

The only environmental health hazards that could occur as a result of the project are those associated with the fueling and maintenance of construction equipment. The impacts may include spill of and exposure to fuels, hydraulic fluids and lubricants.

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

No special emergency services will be required for this project proposal.

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

Proposed measures to reduce and control environmental health hazards include the use of best management practices associated with construction equipment fueling and maintenance. Specifically, fueling and maintenance will be conducted in a manner that will minimize the potential for spill and contamination. Spill containment and cleanup kits will be maintained onsite, and spills of fuel, hydraulic fluid, lubricants, or other hazardous materials will be cleaned up immediately with proper disposal.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

There are no types of noise in the project area which will affect this project.

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.

In the short term, there will be an increase in noise associated with increased traffic and construction equipment to complete the proposed project. For long term, WDFW does not anticipate increased traffic to the site. The completed proposed project will reduce routine hatchery operational noise for pond cleaning, current pond cleaning is conducted with muffled gas trash pumps new method will utilize quieter electrical pump.

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

Project construction will occur only during daylight hours and thus will not involve night-time noise disturbances. Long term noise levels from operating the hatchery will be reduced with new electrical pumps replacing noisy gas pumps for pond cleaning.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

The proposed project site is currently used as fish hatchery. The hatchery has been historically used to hold adult fish, egg incubation, fry and fingerling rearing as well as a fish release site. Adjacent properties are Rural and largely undeveloped in nature.

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

The project site has not been used for agriculture.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Current structures on the site include hatchery building, fish rearing ponds, a pollution abatement pond, water supply intake structure, short fish ladder, two staff residences and a small parking area.

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

Yes, the existing adult holding and pollution abatement ponds.

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

Rural Lands.

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

Rural.

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

Rural.

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

No.

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

Forks Creek will continue to be staffed at three (3) FTE.

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

No people would be displaced as a result of the completed project.

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

There are no displacement impacts as a result of this project.

1. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
Land use of the project site will not change as a result of the Forks Creek Hatchery Improvement project.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
No new housing units will be provided as a result of the project.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
No housing units will be eliminated as a result of the project.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
There are no housing impacts as a result of the project.

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 tallest structure associated with the proposed project will be the cover structure of the renovated pollution abatement pond. This cover is made of a poly-rubberized material.
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
The completed project will not obstruct or alter any existing views in the vicinity.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
No impacts are anticipated, therefore no measures are proposed.

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
The proposed project will not alter or change existing site illumination.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
Light and glare from the completed project will not present a safety hazard or interfere with views.
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
There are no existing off-site sources of light or glare that would affect the proposed project.
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:
The project proposal will not have any light and/or glare impacts; therefore no new mitigated measures are proposed.

12. Recreation

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

There are fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing opportunities near the site. The hatchery also provides for educational and informal tours.

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

The proposed project would not displace any recreational uses.

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

None, the proposed project will not hinder or reduce existing recreational 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.

There are no known places or objects on or next to the site that are listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers.

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

There are no known landmarks or evidence of historical, archaeological, or cultural importance or near the site.

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

The proposal is not expected to have any cultural impacts on the project site or nearby properties.

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 6 serves this site, no proposed changes to the existing site access is associated with the project.

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

There is not an established transit stop at the project site; however the county does offer "Dial a Ride" services at the site.

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

The proposed project will not increase or decrease existing parking at the hatchery. The hatchery currently provides parking for approximately eight (8) vehicles.

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).

The proposal does not require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets.

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

The project will not use or occur in the immediate vicinity of water, air or rail transportation systems.

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 vehicle trips to and from the hatchery are anticipated be generated from 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.

The project will not result in an increased need for public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

There are no proposed measures. see 15.a above.

16. Utilities

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

Electricity, telephone, refuse service, septic system and oil for heating.

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.

The existing utilities will be maintained during construction and for future operations at Forks Creek Hatchery. No additional utility providers will result from the proposed project.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Larry W. Peck

Date Submitted: 11.01.2012

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?

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.