

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:
Lake Aberdeen Pollution Abatement Pond
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:
01/24/2013
5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Construction scheduled to begin when permits allow. The project will not require any in-water work.

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 at this time.

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.

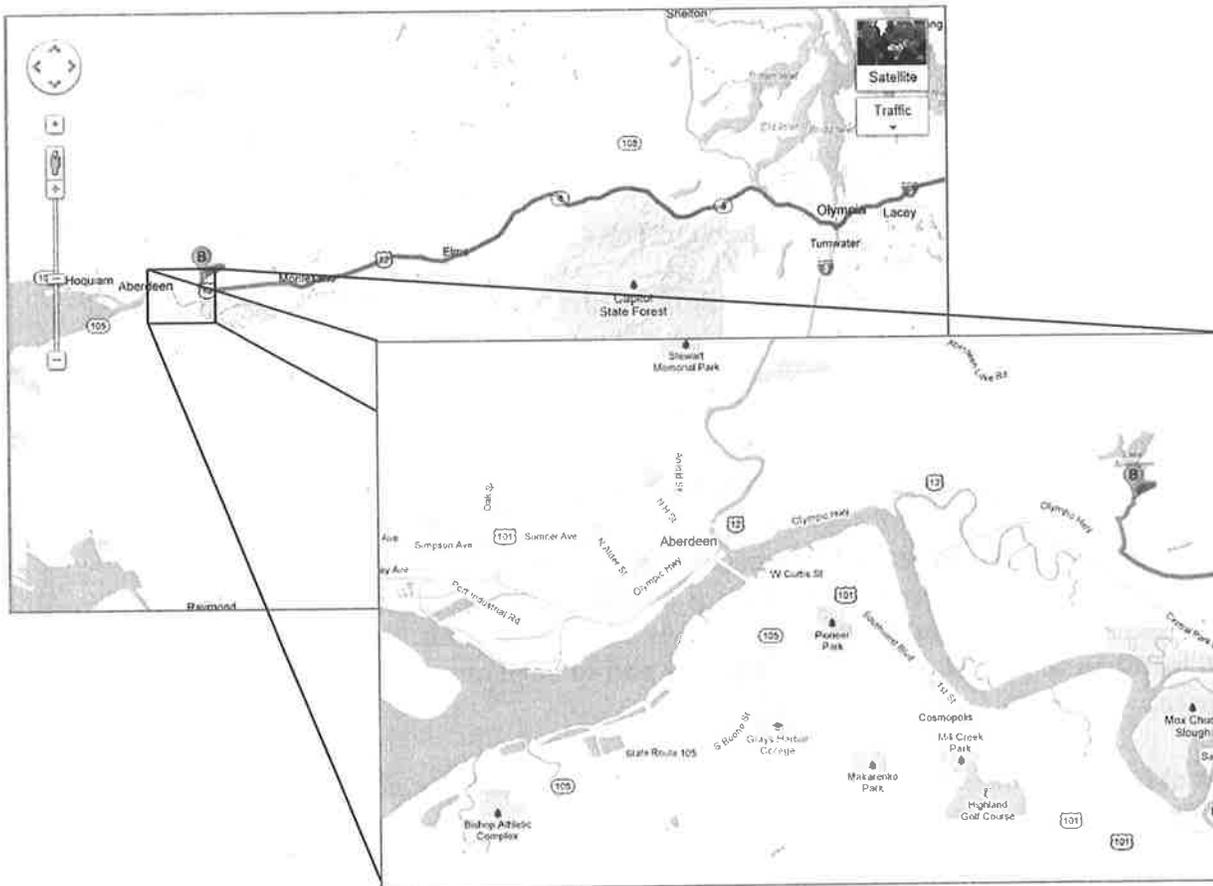
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
A City of Aberdeen building permit will be needed for the cover structure (obtained by contractor). The City of Aberdeen has considered prior documentation as notice for Critical Areas and will require a JARPA for a Shoreline Exemption. A WDFW HPA may be needed.

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 modify an existing pollution abatement (PA) pond by adding additional 10" connection piping, new 6" vacuum piping, and a new center wall and end slab. A portion of the ground slab will be removed for concrete transitioning. A portion of the current flat bottom of the PA pond will be filled with compact structural fill before concrete is placed on top of it to create a new sloped bottom. The new PA pond will be covered with a forest green vinyl and steel cover to keep additional debris out of the pond. This cover will be acquired by the contractor and specifications will be submitted to City of Aberdeen for approval and a Building Permit.

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 Lake Aberdeen hatchery is located on Lake Aberdeen just east of the City of Aberdeen. The PA pond is between the adult holding pond and the raceways. From I-5, take exit 104 onto US-101 N and continue on to State Route 8 W. Continue onto US-12 W/Olympic Hwy and turn right toward Aberdeen Lake Road and Central Park Drive. Turn left onto Central Park Drive and right onto Aberdeen Lake Road. The hatchery is on the left at the south end of the lake.



B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site

(circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,
 other _____ **Hills of approximately 500 feet are all around Lake Aberdeen, but the
 work area is very flat.**

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

The site is very flat. The steepest slope within the work area is no more than 10%.

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.

Where the work will be done, the soil is Udorthents, level. This soil has a parent material of sandy and loamy river dredging and is often found on tidal flats. The slope is generally 0 to 2 percent and the soils are moderately well drained. Nearby, Ocosta silty clay loam is present which is from a clayey alluvium parent material and is found on floodplains and deltas. It is poorly drained and found on slopes of 0 to 2 percent. Lytell silt loams on 30 to 65 percent slopes are also found in this area on uplands. These are well drained soils present on slump landforms and the parent material is colluviums derived from sandstone and siltstone.

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.

Approximately 65 cubic yards of soil will be excavated for trenching of new piping. 31 cubic yards of concrete will be demolished and removed, for a total removal of 96 cubic yards of material. Soil backfill will account for 92 cubic yards of material and concrete fill will total 84 cubic yards, with a total fill of 176 cubic yards of material. The concrete fill will be used to regrade the existing PA pond and to add a new pad to the north end of the pond. All fill sources will be local, when possible.

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

While it is possible for erosion to occur, it is highly unlikely given the relatively flat surfaces. Trenching would be the most likely cause of erosion. Erosion control measures will be taken to reduce or eliminate erosion and to keep any turbidity from reaching water sources.

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

The site is an existing hatchery with graveled surfaces, buildings, raceways, and a rearing pond. The addition of the concrete pad on the north end of the PA pond will add approximately 240 square feet of concrete where gravel is currently. A cover will be placed over the pond as well.

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

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures will be used during construction as described in the site plans. Staging and refueling of machines will be conducted out of the OHWM with non-toxic lubricants in the current gravel visitor's parking area. Additional siltation prevention BMPs include placement of a silt fence well above the OHWM of Van Winkle Creek. At project conclusion, these materials will be removed by hand and taken to an approved disposal site out of the flood zone.

All work will be done in accordance with the terms and conditions of required permits. Please see site drawings for additional details.

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.

Lake Aberdeen is a dammed lake that has multiple inlets. The outlet at Van Winkle Creek at the south end of the lake is restricted so that anadromous fish may not pass into the lake. There is a large wetland at the north end of the lake.

- 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 all be conducted above OHWM, but will be in close proximity to Van Winkle Creek. Work will be performed within 45 feet of the OHWM approximately 7 feet above the creek in elevation. The work is also adjacent to Lake Aberdeen.

- 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.

There will be no fill or dredge within the OHWM of the water.

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

The work will not require surface water withdrawal or diversion.

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

No. The area is not designated on FEMA FIRM maps but falls within an area of other parcels in Zone C on map panel 530057 0407 B.

- 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. Any wastes will be contained within the upland areas and removed by the end of construction.

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 will not be not changed or affected in any way. The new PA pond will have a vinyl cover, angled from the top to allow runoff from both sides. For more details, please see the drawings.

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

The PA pond is designed to capture and settle any waste before removing water through a pump or other removal system.

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

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures will be used during construction as described in the site plans. Staging and refueling of machines will be conducted out of the OHWM with non-toxic lubricants. During project demolition and construction, a silt fence will be installed on the water-ward side of the work area. Additional siltation prevention BMPs include filter fabric fences and hay bales. At project conclusion, these materials will be removed by hand and taken to an approved disposal site out of the flood zone.

All work will be done in accordance with the terms and conditions of required permits. Please see site drawings for additional details.

4. Plants

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

- deciduous tree: **alder**, maple, aspen, other:
 evergreen tree: **fir, cedar**, pine, spruce, other
 shrubs
 grass
_____ pasture
_____ crop or grain
_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, rush, 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 is slated to be removed or altered. All areas of work are previously disturbed and currently gravel or concrete.

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

The Natural Heritage Program (NHP) databases as well as the federal agency listings (USFWS) were examined for threatened or endangered plants on January 18, 2013. Threatened plants listed in Grays Harbor County include the following: *Carex macrochaeta* (large-awn sedge), *Claytonia multiscapa pacifica* (Pacific lanceleaved springbeauty), *Erythronium quinaultense* (Quinault fawnlily), *Polemonium carneum* (great polemonium), and *Sanguisorba menziesii* (Menzie's burnet). Endangered plants listed include the *Dodecatheon austrofrigidum* (frigid shootingstar) and the *Sanicula arctopoides* (Bear's-foot sanicle).

- 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: **various waterfowl**

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.

Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*), marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), western snowy plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus*), bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), and green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) are all listed as threatened species by US Fish and Wildlife in Grays Harbor County. Brown pelican (*pelecanus occidentalis*) is in recovery status. Streaked horned lark (*Eremophila alpenstris strigata*) is proposed threatened. Short-tailed albatross (*Phoebastria albatrus*) and leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) are listed as endangered.

- 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. Fish do not use Lake Aberdeen for migration due to the barrier that exists at the hatchery.

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

The project does not take place in an area that will likely harm any wildlife. However, timing windows that will have the least impact on wildlife will be adhered to as per permitting requirements.

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 additional energy sources will be required for the new PA pond to function as designed.

- 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.

None.

- 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. While additional noise may occur with the new system, it is unlikely to be noticeable due to the surrounding hatchery noises.

- 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 site is currently used as a fish hatchery. The property was purchased in 1936 and the hatchery was renovated in 1958 to replace circular ponds with standard shallow raceways. The hatchery was renovated again in 1992, adding 5 additional raceways, two adult collection/holding ponds, fish ladder and a modern incubation/nursery building. Adjacent properties are mature timber and there is a facility on the east side of the lake that was used when the previous pipeline was in place.

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

This site is not thought to have been used for agriculture.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The site is a fully functioning hatchery. There are 2 residences, 2 garages, a covered shed, an open sided shed, a freezer, a hatchery building, 3 structures containing raceways, the current PA pond, and an adult holding pond. The driving surface is primarily graveled, with a small paved portion after crossing Van Winkle Creek. There is also a visitor display and parking wheel stops.

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

No structures will be demolished. A small portion of the current PA pond (31 cubic yards) will be removed and will be replaced with new concrete.

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

City Limits

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

Not designated under the current plan (2001)

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

Public supply, reservoir.

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

There are wood duck populations and palustrine wetlands around the lake, but none are in the work area. Both are listed in the WDFW PHS system.

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

None.

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

None.

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

None.

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

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 completed vinyl pond cover will be approximately 18 feet above existing grade.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

There will be a slight obstruction of view due to the pond cover. However the view would only be obstructed from the hatchery itself. Views off hatchery grounds would not be obstructed.

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

The pond cover will be created with forest green vinyl to provide a reduced aesthetic impact.

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

There will be no change in light or glare.

- 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?

Visitors are welcomed to the hatchery and there are fishing piers and boat launches on the lake as well. Internal combustion engines are prohibited. There are often swimmers at the lake.

- 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 project will have no impact on 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.

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation show there are no known sites near the project site (WISAARD access 01/18/13). There is a historic property about 0.25 miles away, but it will not be impacted in the construction process.

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

None are apparent.

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

Keep project within the proposed existing 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.

US-12 is a highway that serves the surrounding area and allows access via Central Park Drive and Aberdeen Lake Road.

- 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 3.4 miles away at the Wal-Mart in Aberdeen.

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

This project does not add or remove 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).

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 trips will be generated by the completion of the 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 _____

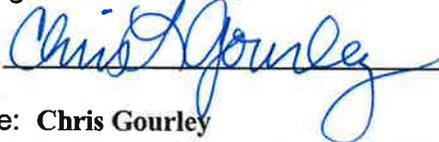
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

The project introduces additional water and drain pipes. These will require trenching to install, but will be hooked up to the current system so no additional utilities will be needed to run the proposed completed work.

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: _____



Name of signee: **Chris Gourley**

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

Date Submitted: **January 24, 2013**

Appendix A Project Drawings