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: **WDFW Districts 1 and 2 Aerator Installations, Upgrades, and Maintenance.**

2. Name of applicant: **Randall Osborne**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **2315 N. Discovery Pl, Spokane Valley, WA 99216**
   (509) 892-1001 ext. 302
   Contact: Randall Osborne
4. Date checklist prepared: **September 4, 2013**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (WDFW)**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Ongoing as needed**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **There is the possibility for upgrading existing aeration systems, or installing new aeration systems to protect or enhance fish populations managed by the State of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, 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.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
County Shorelines Exemptions, Washington State Department of Natural Resources Aquatic Use Authorization, WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval.

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 proposal includes repairing or replacing existing aeration systems, or installing new aeration systems, on lakes in WDFW's Districts 1 and 2. Aerators will be used, where warranted, in waters where mixing will relieve environmental stressors on existing fish populations, or will reduce the risk of seasonal fish kills. Maintenance may include replacing existing airlines or air-stones, repairing compressors, or protecting these components from humans or nature. Upgrading may include replacing existing aeration system components with newer components. Installation may include installing new systems in lakes that warrant an aeration system due to degraded open water fish habitat.

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. **This proposal covers all static waters in WDFW's Districts 1 (Ferry, Stevens, Pend Oreille counties) and District 2 (Whitman, Lincoln, Spokane counties). Attached are maps depicting WDFW's District 1 and 2 boundaries, and site plans, vicinity maps, and legal descriptions of existing WDFW aeration systems within those boundaries. Below are the legal descriptions of existing WDFW aeration systems.**

Lake	County	Lat.	Long.	¼ Section	Section	Township	Range
Big Meadow	Pend Oreille	48.73000	-117.55737	S½ Sec 6 and N½ Sec 7	6 and 7	37N	42E
Rocky	Stevens	48.49700	-117.87200	SE ¼	27	35N	39E
Starvation	Stevens	48.49000	-117.72700	SE ¼	36	35N	40E
Williams	Stevens	48.75501	-117.96408	NE ¼	36	38N	38E
West Medical	Spokane	47.58310	-117.71265	SW ¼	12	24N	40E
Z	Lincoln	47.60704	-118.42434	NE ¼	5	24N	35E

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 . . . . . .**Site descriptions vary depending on lake location. Aerators are located in areas that are typically flat or slightly hilly.**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **Typically 10% slope or less.**

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. **Aerators are not located on farmland. Soil types vary and range from solid rock to clay/dirt.**

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. **No fill proposed.**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
No.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **0%to ≤1%**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
Aerator compressors are housed in existing structures (sheds, containers, etc.). Airlines and airline protection hardware are laid on top of the ground or lake bed. Minor trenching for airlines may be necessary for maintenance at certain aerator locations.

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. **Vehicles must be driven to the sites during maintenance. Normal aerator operation would not result in any emissions.**

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: **Vehicles will be driven per speed limits during maintenance activities.**

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

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. **Yes. Inland lakes in WDFW Region 1 in both Districts 1 and 2.**

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 (see attached site maps). Existing aerator maintenance would include lifting and replacing airlines (which are laid on top of the shoreline and lake beds) for repair, replacement, and airline protection. Compressor maintenance would involve work within 200 feet of the shoreline due to typical compressor location.

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. **Unknown.**

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. **No waste material will be discharged.**

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. **No source of runoff.**

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: **There will be no change in water runoff.**

4. **Plants**

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

X_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
X_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
X_____ shrubs
X_____ grass
_____ pasture
_____ crop or grain
X_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
X_____ 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 would be removed or altered.**

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Unknown. Scope of work not to affect habitat and project is utilizing developed roads and access points.**

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **Vegetation will not be disturbed. Vehicles will be driven on established roads and foot traffic will be restricted to established trails or footpaths.**

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:

West Medical Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, osprey, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer
Fish: trout
Z Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, upland game birds, magpies, ravens, owls, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer, badger, rabbits,
Fish: trout
Rocky Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, eagle, osprey, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer
Fish: trout
Starvation Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, eagle, osprey, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer
Fish: trout
Big Meadow Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, eagle, osprey, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer
Fish: trout
Williams Lake:
Birds: hawk, heron, songbirds, loon, eagle, osprey, waterfowl concentrations, shorebird concentrations
Mammals: deer
Fish: trout

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Z Lake: Columbia Sharp-tailed Grouse (ST). Scope of work not to affect habitat and project is utilizing developed roads and access points.**

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

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **The use of aerators directly benefit fish populations. Aerators will be used in waters where mixing will relieve environmental stressors on existing fish populations, or will reduce the risk of seasonal fish kills. Use of aerators indirectly benefits wildlife, such as birds and mammals that utilize fish for food.**

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. The only energy used is that required to run the aerator compressors. **The compressor at Z Lake is operated by batteries that are recharged by solar and/or wind turbine. The compressors at West Medical, Big Meadow, Starvation, Rocky, and Williams lakes are electric operated. Minor electricity use may result during maintenance activities to operate small hand tools.**

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: **Yes. Lake aeration systems are only operated when needed. They are typically operated only in the hot summer months and winter months.**

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **No.**

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **None.**

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: **No environmental health hazards present.**

b. **Noise**

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

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. **Sources of noise would be limited to occasional use of WDFW vehicles, small hand tools, and aerator compressors. Noise from vehicles and hand tools would occur during daylight hours. Low compressor noise would likely occur 24 hrs./day during periods of operation.**

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **Aerator compressors emit low volume noise. Compressors are housed in sheds, containers, etc. which minimize or eliminate noticeable noise outside of the housing.**

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? **Aerators at Williams and Starvation lakes are on DNR property; adjacent property is privately owned. The aerator at Big Meadow Lake is on USFS land; adjacent property is also owned by USFS. The aerator at Rocky Lake is on private property; adjacent property is also privately owned. The aerator at West Medical Lake is on property owned by the Washington State Veteran's Cemetery; adjacent land is owned by the City of Medical Lake and Washington State Department of Social and Health Services. The aerator at Z Lake is on WDFW's Swanson Lakes Wildlife Area.**

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. **No.**

c. Describe any structures on the site. **One small building houses the compressors on each property at Williams, Starvation, Rocky, Big Meadow, and West Medical lakes. The compressor at Z Lake is housed in a smaller container.**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? **No.**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
N/A

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

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

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
No potential to affect shoreline or critical areas of the lake.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? **One or two WDFW employees would periodically work at existing aerator locations during upgrades and/or maintenance activities.**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? **None.**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: **No displacement will occur.**

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

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: **No housing impacts will occur.**

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? **No new structures are proposed. Upgrades to, or replacement of, any existing structures will be of the same dimensions as existing 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: **Aesthetics will not be impacted.**

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 light or glare will be produced.**

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: **No light or glare will be produced.**

12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? **Trout fishing and recreational boating.**

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: **Installation, upgrades, and maintenance of aerators will enhance recreational by easing open water habitat restrictions of existing and stocked fish populations available to anglers. All compressors are housed and protected from the public, and all airlines lie on the bottom of the lake beds as to not interfere with recreational boaters or anglers.**

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. **No known landmarks or evidence within ¼ mile of existing sites.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: **Not Applicable.**

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. **Not Applicable. Aeration systems are WDFW property and are located in areas where they are least likely to be disturbed by the public.**

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

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? **Not Applicable.**

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. **Not Applicable.**

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: **Not Applicable.**

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. **Not Applicable.**

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. **Other than existing, no new utilities are proposed.**

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: Randall Osborne

Date Submitted: 9/17/2013

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

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:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

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.