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:

Chiliwist Stream Restoration

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Marty Peoples

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Capital Asset Management Program
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501

4. Date checklist prepared:

February 11, 2014

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

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

Construction is scheduled for the spring and summer of 2014

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.

Joint Aquatic Resource Permit Application (JARPA)

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 no known pending applications.

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

A Shoreline Exemption, Army Corp of Engineers Section 404permit, and Hydraulic Project Approval will be required.

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.)

Overall Project Description:
The project area lies within the borders of the WDFW Chiliwist Creek Wildlife Area southwest of Omak, Washington. When WDFW purchased this property it contained two dams with associated in-channel ponds to provide irrigation. Both dams were in poor condition and blocking fish passage. WDFW proposes to restore the stream by removing both dams. The stream will be restored to the former channel and condition. Near the site of the lower dam, an off-channel pond will be constructed along with a small intake structure on Chiliwist Creek. This pond will provide a stable source for the use of the existing water right and also provide habitat for upland species living within this wildlife area.

Proposed Description of Activities:
The work will begin by removing a portion of the upstream earthen dam and associated water diversion structures. The former stream channel (that was abandoned) will be restored by providing large woody debris, habitat boulders, placing stream gravel, sloping the banks to a natural condition, and planting native riparian vegetation. Once the stream restoration work is complete the stream will be permanently returned the channel.

At the lower site, the dam will be demolished and the stream channel will be restored by installing large woody debris and stream gravels. The bank will be sloped to a natural condition and native riparian vegetation will be planted. An irrigation pond will be constructed to replace the function of the two in-stream ponds that are being removed. This pond will be outside of the stream channel. An intake and piping system will be installed to carry diverted water from Chiliwist Creek to the new pond. The pond will be a shallow pond (approx. 6') with an overall inside footprint of approximately 1.0 acre. A water surface control structure will be installed to maintain desired water levels. Topsoil from the original excavation will be set aside and spread over the finished pond berm. The graded surfaces will be replanted with both woody plants and native grasses. An overflow for the pond will be provided with a rock erosion pad in the stream to protect from pond outfall. Approximately 2200 lineal feet of pipe will be installed in upland areas to connect the pond to existing irrigation systems.

The specific project components are:

1. Restore approximately 120 lineal feet of stream channel which is now dry. This section of stream was abandoned with the construction of the upper earthen dam. Restoration will entail adding large woody debris, stream gravels and habitat boulders, and re-sloping banks to a natural condition. Native shrub and tree species will be planted along the stream after the other work is complete.

2. Install a stream isolation system for the remaining 300 feet of Chiliwist Creek at the upper pond site. Once the water is successfully diverted, remove the portion of the upper earthen dam blocking the former stream channel. Restore the stream by adding large woody debris, stream gravels and habitat boulders, and re-sloping banks to a natural condition. Native shrub and tree species will be planted along the stream after the other work is complete. After completion 420 lineal feet of stream channel will have been restored at the upper dam site.

3. Remove the outlet structure and piping associated with the old dam. Backfill and stabilize excavation area with erosion control measures. Remove stream isolation measures at the upper site.

4. Install a stream isolation system at the lower restoration site to divert water around the work area and prevent turbidity impacts to aquatic resources and prevent fish from entering the work area.

5. Remove existing concrete dam at the lower site. Haul debris to an approved landfill.

6. Construct new irrigation pond, new intake, overflow spillway and outlet pipe with erosion control rock pad.

7. Restore approximately 190 lineal feet of stream channel where the concrete dam was removed dam. Restoration will entail re-grading the stream, adding stream gravels and habitat boulders, and re-sloping banks to a natural condition. Porous rock weirs will be incorporated into the stream restoration design to ensure proper intake functioning.

8. Remove stream isolation measures.

9. Install irrigation pipe in upland areas as required. Approximately 2200 lineal feet of pipe will be installed.

10. Native shrub and tree species will be planted after the other work is complete along the stream and surrounding the pond. Seed disturbed soils with native grass mix.

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 proposal is located on Chiliwist Wildlife Area approximately 14 miles from the City of Brewster. To reach the site, head north from Brewster on Old Highway 97, then turn left (west) after 14 miles onto Chiliwist Road. Proceed uphill for one mile to the Chiliwist Wildlife Area.

The address is 570 Chiliwist Road, Mallot, WA 98829. The Okanogan County assessor parcel number is 3224130014, Latitude 48.2701° N, Longitude -119.766° W; Section 14, Township 32 N, Range 24 E. The Legal Description is "TAX 14 NE SW, NW SE, PT S1/2 NE S/RD".

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

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

The project site is part of the Chiliwist Wildlife Area and consists of a recently purchased agricultural property. The property has been recently farmed and contains limited native vegetation. Chiliwist Creek flows through the property and is dammed at two locations for irrigation purposes. These dams are in poor repair and are impassable to fish. The riverbed in this area is primarily composed of sand and gravel.

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

The steepest slope is approximately 30%.

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 mapped within the project area by the USDA Web Soil Survey are Conconully gravelly ashy loam (15%), Ewall loamy fine sand (60%), and Haley ashy fine sandy loam (25%).

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

No surface indications of unstable soils are apparent.

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

Above Ordinary High Water (OWH) 7536 cubic yard of material will be cut. The majority of this material will be cut from the pond site and from the upper and lower dams. Fill for this area (above OHW) will be 3027 cubic yards and occur primarily at the pond site as the pond walls are built from excavated material.

Below OHW 433 cubic yards will be cut resulting mostly from the removal of two dams and stream bank re-sloping. Fill below OHW will be 115 cubic yards and composed primarily of streambed gravel, cobble, and habitat boulders used for stream restoration.

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

Yes, minor erosion could occur during rainfall events but is not likely. Disturbed areas will be isolated from surface waters with a silt fence and other best management practices. Work will be done during periods of low precipitation.

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

There will be no increase in impervious surfaces as a result of the project.

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

Work will be done during late spring and summer when water levels are lowest. When constructing the pond a silt fence will be installed between the work area and OHW to catch any sediment laden water. The in-stream work area will be isolated from stream flow to prevent turbidity impacts.

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.

Minimal, short-term emissions may occur as a result of machinery used for the construction of the project. Long-term emissions will not be increased.

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:

Temporary air quality impacts will be minimized by implementing erosion control measures and by inspecting and properly maintaining all equipment.

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.

The property is located on Chiliwist Creek, which is a tributary of the Okanogan 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, the entire project will fall within 200 feet of Chiliwist Creek. See project description and attached plans.

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.

Below OHW 433 cubic yards will be cut resulting mostly from the removal of two dams and stream bank re-sloping. Fill below OHW will total 115 cubic yards and be composed primarily of streambed gravel, cobble, and habitat boulders, all used for stream restoration. There will be a net cut of 318cubic yards from below OHW. Habitat boulders and cobble will be acquired onsite and streambed mix will be acquired from a local rock quarry.

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

The project will operate within existing water rights and not result in any increase in water use or violation of existing water rights.

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

This site 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.

No waste material will be discharged to surface waters.

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 water 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.

The newly created riparian buffer will serve as a vegetative filter strip providing stormwater treatment prior to discharge to Chiliwist Creek from surrounding agricultural fields.

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

No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters.

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

- ***Stormwater runoff will be contained using erosion control Best Management Practices. Silt fence will be installed to settle out sediment that might be present in runoff.***
- ***A stream isolation system will be installed around the in-water work areas to prevent sediment laden water from impacting surface waters.***
- ***Equipment will be washed and inspected for leaks before entering the job site.***
- ***Equipment staging and fueling areas will be located away from surface waters to avoid impacts to surface waters resulting from fueling or staging activities.***

4. **Plants**

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

X_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
X_____ shrubs
X_____ grass
X_____ pasture
X_____ crop or grain
X_____ 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?

These proposed actions will result in the disturbance of approximately 1 acre of ground. This area consists of pasture and agricultural fields dominated by orchard grass and weedy species.

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

There are no endangered plant species known to occur in this area.

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

Plantings will be made to restore riparian habitat in this area. Plantings will consist of native shrubs and tree species for total 12,250 square feet of riparian restoration (see drawings).

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 listed threatened or endangered species are known to be on or near the project site. Gray wolves do occur within this county but not expected within the project area.

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

Waterfowl and deer use this area as part of a migration route.

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

The project has incorporated a number of design approaches to avoid and to minimize potential adverse impacts to areas both above and below the OHWM. The following features have been incorporated into the project design to minimize the potential for impacts to wildlife species:

- ***The project would occur during the approved in-water work window for the protection of migrating fish.***
- ***All work will be accomplished by machinery operated from the uplands.***
- ***Two impassable dams will be removed.***
- ***Planting 12,250 sq. ft. of native riparian shrubs would be performed to establish the riparian buffer at this site.***

<u>Best Management Practices</u>

BMP's are employed to reduce the potential for construction-related impacts on species and habitats. The following BMP's will be followed for this project:

- ***Turbidity and other water quality parameters will be monitored to ensure construction activities are in conformance with Washington State Surface Water Quality Standards, or other conditions as specified in the WDOE Water Quality Certification (WQC). The contractor will observe turbidity during excavation operations in order to ensure compliance with WQC requirements.***
- ***Excavation operations will be conducted in such a manner to limit disturbance to the minimum required to complete the work.***
- ***Extreme care would be taken to prevent any petroleum products, chemicals, or other toxic or deleterious materials from entering the water. If a spill were to occur, work would be stopped immediately, steps would be taken to contain the material, and appropriate agency notifications would be made.***

- ***The Contractor will be responsible for the preparation of a Spill, Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan to be used for the duration of the project. A copy of the SPCC Plan with any updates will be maintained at the work site. The SPCC Plan will provide advanced planning for potential spill sources and hazardous materials (gasoline, oils, chemicals, etc.) that the Contractor may encounter or utilizes as part of conducting the work. The SPCC plan will outline roles and responsibilities, notifications, inspection, and response protocols.***
- ***The Contractor would implement a site-specific spill prevention, containment, and control (SPCC) plan, and is responsible for containment and removal of any toxicants released.***
- ***All upland soil disturbed areas will be protected in accordance with standard Best Management Practices as outlined in the WA Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington.***
- ***Debris on the construction sites will be placed in such a manner that it cannot enter the water. Should debris accidentally enter the water, immediate and appropriate action(s) will be taken to remove the material to an upland site***
- ***Silt fences will be installed as necessary to control wind borne erosion.***
- ***All erosion control devices would be inspected during construction to ensure that they are working adequately.***
- ***No herbicides, fertilizer, or pesticides would be applied to the planting areas.***

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 completed project will require electrical energy to power water pumps. This electrical need will occur only during irrigation periods. The machinery used for construction will likely be gas or diesel powered.

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:

Energy conservation features include reducing pumping locations from two separate sites to one site. Pumps will be operated only during summer irrigation activities and remain off during other times.

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.

Materials likely to be present include gasoline, diesel fuel, hydraulic fluid and lubricants. An accidental spill of these materials could occur during construction.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None required.

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

A Spill Prevention and Pollution Control Plan will be prepared and implemented by WDFW to reduce risk of spills during construction. Environmental health hazards are not expected as a result of this project. Only approved construction equipment and materials will be used in construction of this project.

b. **Noise**

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

No noise exists in the surrounding area that would affect the 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.

There will be a temporary increase in noise levels during construction between 7am and 6pm. There will be no change in noise levels after the project completion.

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

No measures to reduce or control noise impacts are proposed.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

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

The subject property is undeveloped open space. The surrounding properties are currently in residential and agricultural use.

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

Yes.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The subject property has two dams and associated ponds.

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

Yes, both dams will be removed.

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

Recreational-Parks

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

Recreational-Parks

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

N/A

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

Yes. Riparian zones are classified as "environmentally sensitive".

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 proposed.

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

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

Approval for this project will be obtained from Okanogan County, with comments from other agencies during the SEPA comment period.

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 pond walls will be the highest structure and will extend approximately 6 feet above the ground surface.

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

No views in the immediate vicinity will be altered or obstructed as a result of the proposed project.

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

None planned.

11. **Light and glare**

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

No lighting is planned in association with this project.

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?

No off-site sources of light that will affect the proposal currently exist.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None proposed.

12. **Recreation**

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

Recreational opportunities in the vicinity include wildlife viewing, 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:

No measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation are proposed.

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.

A cultural resource assessment was performed that revealed no significant cultural or historic findings at this site. Eastern Washington University Archaeological Department performed this assessment.

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

None known

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

Contractors and workers will be informed to immediately stop work if artifacts of historical or cultural importance are found. If any are found, the Washington State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted for guidance.

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 served by the Chiliwist Creek 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 site is unknown.

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

Parking is not available at this site and will not be provided.

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 vehicular trips will be generated resulting from this 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 proposed 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.

No measures are proposed.

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.

Additional utilities are not proposed for the 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: Marty Peoples

Date Submitted: February 12, 2014