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 Stemilt Creek Cattle Guards

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Fish and Wildlife

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

Washington State Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA. 98501
Cindy Knudsen
360 902 8422
Cindy.knudsen@dfw.wa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared:

6 19 14

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Fish and Wildlife

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

Fall, 2014.

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

Three cattle guards will be installed. The fencing will be connected with one of the cattle guards at the Stemilt Creek location.

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

No environmental information directly related to this project is known.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No.

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

An HPA will be required for this project. A Chelan County Shoreline Variance and Right of Way Permit will also be required for work in and adjacent to county roads.

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 will install three cattle guards, all located within the Wenatchee Heights area of Chelan County. The cattle guards are being installed to deter wildlife from trespassing into agricultural ground north of the project locations.

Each cattle guard requires excavation of 24 feet wide by 20 feet long by 2 ½ feet deep within the surfaced portion of the county road. All cattle guards when finished will each measure 24 feet wide by 16 feet long in the existing roadway prism. The cattle guards all will be constructed of four (4) precast concrete footing sections with a steel grid anchored on top of the footings, to create the wildlife guard/barrier. Twenty yards of gravel material for each cattle guard will be split between both ends of the cattle guard and spread out to match the existing road grade.

Two hundred feet of fencing will be installed at site three. The new woven wire fencing will be installed approximately 20 feet on center with hand tools, only on the western side of site three, attached to wooden posts and anchored in with duckbill anchors. Post holes will be dug with an auger 12 inches in diameter by 36-39 inches deep then the fencing will be tipped up and fastened to posts. A section of woven horizontal wire fencing will be installed under the fence where it crosses over Stemlit Creek and trimmed to fit the creek banks (approximately 4 feet high by 16 feet wide). The fence panel will be fastened to a T post located immediately upstream of the swinging gate, that will breakaway and allow the gate to swing freely during high flows. Monitoring for high water events during the summer convective storm season will be done to prevent the possibility of in-water work being done during those times. Project materials will be staged away from the creek until the project is fully completed.

The fence over Stemilt Creek will be installed at a low flow stage when the fence is installed, during the proposed work window July 1 – September 30. The swinging panel installed over water has a breakaway fence design that will allow for high flows and fish passage. Installation of the fence includes brush trimming for 5 feet on either side of the fence with a rotary mower or cutter head will be used to trim or snip brush. Brush trimmings will be cast to the side and left on site. If stumps are created during brush trimming, they will also stay on site. No clearing or grubbing will be done. All brush trimmings will be placed on cleared areas.

An eight foot high, five foot wide wire filled gate will be installed, two feet from one side of the base of all of the cattle guards. All of the cattle guards will be connected to existing fencing constructed by others, except for one side of the fencing at site three proposed as a component of this project. At that site, the fencing will attached to one side of the cattle guard, and continue for 200 feet and the other side will attach to existing fencing.

At site two, a 40 foot long CMP drainage culvert with beveled ends will be installed at a 4:1 slope. The ditch in this location will be filled with three inches of (CTSC) gravel over the culvert.

A cultural resources survey has been requested by Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). An archeological survey will be conducted in summer 2014.

This project will take all reasonable action to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to archeological or cultural resources that could be present at the project. Monitoring will be performed during project activities. Should any artifacts be found, the project will stop to avoid adverse impact to the project area, and DAHP will immediately be notified.

Please see site drawings for additional details.

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.

Cattle guard locations:

1. Stemilt Loop Road (47.3359383,-120.3106512)	*T 21 N, R20E, S 3*	*Chelan County*
2. Stemilt Loop Road (47.31830,-120.2701988)	*T 21N, R 20E, S13*	*Chelan County*
3. Stemilt Creek Road (47.3238497,-120.2802867)	*T 21N, R 20 E, S12*	*Chelan County*

Cattle Guard Location One:

Merge onto I-90 E toward Spokane. Take EXIT 85 toward WA-970/WA-903 N/Wenatchee. Merge onto Sunset Hwy. Turn right onto State Highway 970/WA-970. Turn slight right onto State Highway 970/WA-970. Continue to follow WA-970. WA-970 becomes US-97 N. Merge onto US-97 N/US-2 E. If you reach US-97 S you've gone about 0.1 miles too far. Stay straight to go onto N Wenatchee Ave/US-2 Bus E/WA-285. Turn slight right onto N Miller St/WA-285.N Miller St is 0.1 miles past Maple St. Turn left onto N Chelan Ave/WA-285.N Chelan Ave is 0.1 miles past N Mission St. Turn slight left onto WA-285.WA-285 is just past Spokane St. Stay straight to go onto S Mission St. S. Mission St becomes Squilchuck Rd. Turn left onto Cranmer Drive. Cranmer Drive is 0.9 miles past Southridge Ct. Turn left onto Wenatchee Heights Rd. Take the 1st right onto Wheeler Hill Rd. Turn right onto Wenatchee Heights Rd. Wenatchee Heights Rd becomes Loop Rd (Portions unpaved). Continue to destination: (47.3359383,-120.3106512).

Cattle Guard Location Two:

Follow directions above to N. Wenatchee Ave/US-2 Bus E/WA-285. N Wenatchee Ave becomes Malaga Alcoa Hwy. Turn right onto Stemilt Creek Rd. Stemilt Creek Rd is 0.5 miles past Atwood Rd. Turn slight left onto Stemilt Hill Rd. Turn left to stay on Stemilt Hill Rd. Take the 1st right onto Stemilt Loop Rd. Continue to destination. (47.3183, -120.2701988).

Cattle Guard Location Three:

From U.S.-97 N/US-2E, stay straight to go onto N. Wenatchee Ave/US-2 Bus E/WA-285. Continue to follow N. Wenatchee Avenue. No. Wenatchee Ave. becomes Malaga Alcoa Highway. Turn right onto Stemilt Creek Road. Continue to Destination (47.3238497,-120.2802867).

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

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

The land for all three locations is rolling hills with some steep slopes.

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

Site one: 45% slope
Site two: 15% slope
Site three: 15% slope

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.

Site 1: Colockum bouldery silt loam
Site 2: Colockum silt loam
Site 3: Beverly gravelly fine sandy loam

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

None are known.

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

No fill will be used for this project.

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

Construction work for this project does not include areas of intensive ground disturbance. Work will be scheduled to occur during a time period when soils are not likely to be wet and easily damaged. All applicable best management practices will be used.

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

None.

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

Typical Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be used to avoid erosion during construction. The trench type excavation will be self-containing in the event of rain type event. No grubbing of the vegetation is being proposed. Clean gravels will be imported and used as backfill. Straw wattles will be added in any location where highly erodible soils are disturbed and exposed.

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.

Typical emissions will be from power equipment, pick trucks and or other heavy machinery.

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

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
None are proposed.

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.

Stemilt Creek is adjacent to the cattle guard at the project location number three. Stemilt Creek flows into the Columbia 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.

One portion of the proposed project at location three will cross over Stemilt 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.

No fill and dredge material will be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands.

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

No surface water withdrawals will be required.

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

The proposal is not within a 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 materials will be discharged to surface water.

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 ground water will be withdrawn or discharged to ground water.

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 ground water will be withdrawn or discharged to ground water.

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.

Precipitation and snowmelt would be the only sources of water runoff. Drainage will eventually enter ground water by following typical drainage patterns. Water will eventually flow into established drainage patterns in the seasonal/ephemeral water courses. Stormwater at site thee could eventually enter the waters of Stemilt Creek.

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

No. Refueling of construction equipment will be conducted off site, away from the project locations.

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

Disturbance for all three sites will be limited to the Chelan County roadway prism and county right of way. Soils removed during excavation will be removed from the project site and taken to an approved location for disposal. All applicable BMPs will be used to avoid any possible stormwater runoff from the construction sites, including but not limited to straw wattles and straw mulch, . The cattle guard construction is scheduled to occur in fall 2014, when soils are not saturated.

Location three (immediately adjacent to Stemilt Creek) will include 5 feet on either side of the fence project where brush will be trimmed for construction access.

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

_____ 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?

Location three includes areas cleared of vegetation immediately adjacent to Stemilt Creek in the riparian corridor. This area may include sagebrush, forbs, and native grasses.

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

A check of the DNR Native Plant Database on 5 14 14 indicates that no threatened or endangered species of plants are known to be near any of the sites.

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

None are proposed.

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: Eastern Brook Trout, Rainbow Trout, steelhead.

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
Resident Rainbow Trout and Cutthroat Trout are present. Steelhead could possibly be in Stemilt Creek.

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

Deer and elk migrate through this area. Fish may migrate through Stemilt Creek.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
Installation of the cattle guards will prevent wildlife and cattle from entering agricultural areas, and redirect animals into wildlife areas where acceptable forage and migration opportunities are located. Installation of the cattle panels in Stemilt Creek have been designed to allow flood flows and fish passage.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None.

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

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None are proposed.

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 environmental health hazards are anticipated.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

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

None are proposed.

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.

Typical noise will include typical construction noise from backhoe, dump truck, pickup trucks, compressors and hand tools.

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

None.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

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

These three sites are located on rural roads. All three sites are near residential and agricultural areas.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There is existing fence at site three, the Stemilt Creek site.

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

No.

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

Ag/Res

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

Ag

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.

An archaeology survey has been requested by the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). A cultural resources survey will be conducted summer 2014.

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

No persons would reside at the completed project.

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

None.

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

None.

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

This project will protect agricultural areas from encroachment by cattle and wildlife, in accordance with present zoning and projected land uses.

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 fence will typically be eight feet tall; however the fence portion over Stemilt Creek could be slightly taller.

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

Territorial views would see the fence.

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

None.

11. **Light and glare**

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

None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.

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

None.

12. **Recreation**

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

In this area, hunting, fishing, camping and wildlife watching are all popular.

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

No recreational uses will be displaced.

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

None.

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.

None are known at this time.

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

A cultural resources survey has been requested by Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP). An archeological survey will be conducted in summer 2014.

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

This project will take all reasonable action to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects to archeological or cultural resources that could be present at the project. Monitoring will be performed during project activities. Should any artifacts be found, the project will stop to avoid adverse impact to the project area, and DAHP will immediately be notified.

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.

Interstate 90, U.S.-97 N/US-2E, N. Wenatchee Ave/US-2 Bus E/WA-285 are the major highways serving this site. Wenatchee Ave. s Malaga Alcoa Highway and Stemilt Creek Road are the local roads serving this site.

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

The nearest public transit site is unknown.

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

No parking places are proposed.

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 new roads or streets are proposed. Existing roadways will have three cattle guards installed.

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.

The completed project will not require vehicle trips.

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

None are proposed.

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 increased public services will be required.

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

None are proposed.

16. **Utilities**

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

No utilities are available at the three sites.

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

No utilities are proposed for this 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: Cynthia Knudson

Date Submitted: 6/19/14