

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

UPDATED 2014

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:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. 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:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer 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. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Pioneer Park Parking Lot Improvement
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: (360) 902-8380 Douglas Mackey
4. Date checklist prepared:
5/15/2014
5. Agency requesting checklist:
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Fall of 2015
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
Yes. A Deschutes Watershed Center, proposed adjacent to Pioneer Park, is envisioned as a fish hatchery and community educational facility, including features such as; classroom learning, general community meeting areas, interpretive displays, interpretive trails and plantings at the park, as well as a watershed trail along the Deschutes River. A separate SEPA analysis was conducted in 2009 for the full facility. WDFW continues to work with *Friends of Deschutes Watershed Center* (FDWC) a community-based organization established to promote watershed stewardship and educational opportunities within the River watershed, and surrounding communities. The FDWC interim board and officers are representatives of organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to the project, including the City of Tumwater, Olympia-Tumwater Foundation, Squaxin Island Tribe, Trout Unlimited, Puget Sound Anglers, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, and WDFW. Interim elected officers of the organization are representatives of the City, the Tribe, and Trout Unlimited. FDWC will work to obtain private sponsorship for educational displays, interpretive signage and development of the Watershed Center.
- WDFW supports plans to build an interpretive trail to provide pedestrian access along the Deschutes River corridor from Tumwater Falls Park north to Budd Inlet and south to Pioneer Park. However, the trail is not a formal component of this project, and thus will not be covered under this SEPA Checklist.**
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
It should be noted here that while many of the project's planning and permit documents are six or more years old, they are largely representative of the current needs and viable design concepts.
Deschutes Master Plan Part 1 – Initial Site Assessment. January 2002.
Prepared for WDFW. Prepared by FishPro, Inc.
A Master Plan for the Deschutes Watershed Center. December 2002 (draft).
Prepared for WDFW. Prepared by FishPro, Inc.

Wetland Delineation Report. June 2004 and 2009, prepared for WDFW by HDR/FishPro Engineering. The report is currently being updated with a 2014 wetland delineation.

Cultural Resources Assessment. June 2004. Prepared for WDFW through FishPro/HDR Engineering. Prepared by Western Shore Heritage Services, Inc.

Floodplain Delineation and Detailed Flood Study. August 2004. Prepared for WDFW. Prepared by FishPro/HDR Engineering.

In addition, the project has undergone preliminary review with City, County, State, Tribal, and community entities including:

- 1. Department of Ecology: Effluent discharge issues and potential discharge limitations; National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting requirements; water right permitting; ordinary high water mark delineation; and WDFW participation in on-going water quality studies on the Deschutes River**
- 2. City of Tumwater, Thurston County, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): Floodplain fill and compensatory flood storage at Tumwater Falls Park**
- 3. City of Tumwater and Department of Ecology: Wetland buffer impacts. (Wetland buffers are areas adjacent to wetlands that serve as buffer zones to provide increased protection of wetlands in their transitional zone to uplands.)**
- 4. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE): In-water work activities (intake placement) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements**
- 5. Squaxin Island Tribe and Washington State Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Cultural resources assessment and review; submittal of site assessment report**
- 6. Squaxin Island Tribe: Overview of the proposed project and tribal support of project**
- 7. Washington State Legislature: Natural Resources sub-committee (9/21/04) Presentation of project status**
- 8. City of Tumwater City Council: Presentations of project overview**
- 9. City of Tumwater: 2004 Pre-application meeting; a subsequent 2015 Pre-application meeting is scheduled to review permitting requirements**

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.

The land lease is being developed with the City of Tumwater for the appropriate use of their property as land owner.

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

City of Tumwater Permits and Approvals

- a. Certificate of Appropriateness (for interpretive signs)**
- b. Floodplain Development permit**
- c. Site Development, Grading permit,**

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:
The project area is generally flat.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
This site is flat with no steep slopes, grades about 2 – 3%.

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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

The soil data from NRCS reports soils of the “Sultan silt loam” type. The site contains no agricultural land of interest commercially at this point in time.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
None.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
Fill (approx. 500 yards³) is anticipated for use in preparing the surface for paving.

Grading will occur on site to prepare the area for construction. The disturbed area is estimated to be .8 acres.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
There is a potential for erosion to occur during land clearing and construction activities as soils will be exposed. The extent of erosion is anticipated to be minimal since construction areas are flat and Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as silt fencing, placement of straw bales, and protection of exposed soils will be implemented.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
Approximately 0.75 acres of impervious surface will be added to the site or parcels (about 1.1% of the 45 acre Park area).

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
Use of silt fencing, placement of straw bales, and protection of exposed soils would be implemented during construction. Disturbed soils will be re-vegetated following construction. Topsoil removed during construction would be stockpiled for use elsewhere on the site. Erosion potential would be reduced during construction by directing surface water runoff to on-site stormwater facilities. Erosion control plans and maintenance guidelines for sediment removal facilities would be submitted with City of Tumwater in clearing, filling and grading permits.

Thurston County and City of Tumwater regulations apply to development in floodplains. Both jurisdictions are being consulted to determine which code provisions apply to the floodplain code as part of their environmental review.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Temporary, localized increases in atmospheric concentrations of carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter, the typical pollutants in engine exhaust, would result from construction vehicle use, diesel generators, and other construction equipment. The scale of construction activities would be considered minor and emission would be unlikely to exceed the boundaries of the construction site.

This action will result in slightly higher numbers of visitors making use of the parking facility, especially during summer month. Arguably, the quantity of increased emissions is negligible.

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

None.

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

Grading that causes dust during dry periods will be mitigated by watering or covering exposed soils and minimizing the duration and extent of exposure. Potential for tracking dirt and dust off-site could be reduced by minimizing off-site trips and cleaning vehicles before they enter public streets.

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.

The Deschutes River flows adjacent to the project parcel, about 240 feet south of the project site. This river flows into Capitol Lake and then enters Puget Sound near downtown Olympia and the 4th Avenue Bridge.

- 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 project will require work within the 100-yr floodplain. The project is also within 200 feet of the wetlands connected and associated with the Deschutes River. While category III wetlands occur on-site, no work within wetlands is anticipated to occur. In accordance with WDFW recommended mitigation policies, work in the wetland buffers has been avoided.

- 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 surface water withdrawals are required for the parking area improvements.

- 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.

There are no anticipated discharges of waste materials to surface waters.

b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No groundwater will be utilized for this project.

- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Initial meetings with the City of Tumwater and engineers from HDR indicate that the surface area of the the new and replaced parking area is small enough to receive adequate stormwater treatment through vegetated filter strips installed around the perimeter. The project drainage plan will show all calculations and present a design compliant with the City's Drainage Manual.

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

Discharge waters containing waste materials will be treated prior to entering surface waters per the project drainage plan.

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

The proposed drainage pattern is essentially the same as the current situation with sheet flows moving over the parking lot then through the planned filter strips. The parking lot is designed to meet current stormwater treatment and flow control requirements and will be directed to any needed small treatment features per the City of Tumwater guidelines.

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

A grass filter strip with pea gravel diaphragm is the planned measures to manage flows and water quality treatment for this parking area. New projects are also required to incorporate Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction stormwater management, along with preparation and implementation of a Temporary Erosion and Sedimentation Control Plan (TESC).

4. Plants

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

Grasses predominate with the following plants in the vicinity

- deciduous tree: **Oregon white oak, Oregon ash, red alder, hawthorne**
- evergreen tree: **Douglas fir, western red cedar**
- shrubs: **red-osier dogwood, salmonberry,**
- grass, including large areas of **reed canary grass**
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: **cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage,** other
- water plants: other
- other types of vegetation:

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Vegetation disturbance at the site would be limited to the removal of herbaceous plants at approximately 0.4 acres of an unmaintained grassy area. No wetland vegetation would be impacted, nor is any work anticipated in wetland buffers. An up-to-date wetland delineation report is being generated to replace the older delineation reports.

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

There are no known threatened or endangered plant species on or near the site. The Natural Heritage Program (NHP) databases as well as the state (WDFW) and federal agency listings (USFWS), were examined for threatened or endangered plants again on March 26, 2015. The project site is located within the wide area identified as possible locations for one sensitive plant species, the tall agoseris (*Agoseris elata*). This member of the aster family is listed as "State Sensitive" by the NHP.

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

The overall approach to mitigation for potential natural habitat impacts is to first avoid impacts to the extent possible through careful site design, planning, construction techniques, and strict adherence to BMPs. If avoidance is not possible, mitigation measures to minimize impacts to vegetation communities are proposed to compensate for alterations to the vegetation from the proposed activity. All impacts will be mitigated in accordance with the City of Tumwater's municipal code:

- **Chapter 16.08 Protection of Trees and Vegetation**

- Chapter 16.28 Wetland Protection Standards (for impacts to wetland buffers)
- Chapter 16.32 Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection

Detailed mitigation plans, including planting lists, locations and contingencies, will be prepared in compliance with the City of Tumwater's Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Plan.

- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.
Himalayan blackberry is established in areas near the site as is English ivy to a lesser extent.

5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. Examples include:

birds: **hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds**, other: **waterfowl**
 mammals: **deer, bear, elk, beaver**, other: **muskrat, river otter**
 fish: **bass, salmon, trout**, herring, shellfish, other: **sculpin**

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Threatened or Endangered Species

USFWS data indicated that both the Northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis caurina*) and the marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) may occur within Thurston County. However, no known habitat for either species occurs in the vicinity of Pioneer Park with the closest populations most likely occur far from the project sites, in the vicinity of Mount Rainer National Park.

Puget Sound Steelhead trout are that only other federally listed threatened or endangered species are a matter of record as inhabitants of the land or water within .5 miles of the project site. (See Critical Areas Summary Report) Sources checked include the USFWS, NMFS, and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources that works cooperatively with USFWS on federally listed plants.

Sensitive Species

The following species are documented as occurring in the vicinity of the project action area by the WDFW in their Priority Habitat Species (PHS) database (12/3/14):

The Capital Lake area approximately .5 miles to the north are a waterfowl concentration area, particularly important for wintering waterfowl including mallards, gadwalls, American wigeons, scaups, buffleheads, ruddy ducks, ring-necked ducks, and goldeneyes.

This area is a breeding area for wood duck (*Aix sponsa*), cavity nesters that utilize trees in the fringe of the lake's water. The area is used by nesting bald eagles; and is forage habit for the same as well as osprey and great blue heron.

Mink (*Mustela vison*), frequent this area, for which the habitat value is recognized by inclusion in the PHS. Bats (*Myotis ssps.*), regularly forage over the lake and night roost in trees along the shoreline.

Aquatic Species

The Deschutes River watershed has documented use by fall Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), winter steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and sea-run and resident cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*; (WDFW 1960's to the present). A brief history of the Deschutes Chinook salmon, likely a representative of the South Sound Tributaries fall Chinook salmon hatchery stock, is discussed in the Critical Areas Summary Report being issued as part of the Shoreline Substantial Development Permit review process. Bull trout, that may occur in Thurston County, have not been documented to occur in the Deschutes system.

The project Critical Areas Summary Report contains a Fish and Wildlife Protection Plan addressing the City of Tumwater's Municipal Code, Chapter 16.32.

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

The site is considered adult immigration and juvenile emigration routes for anadromous fish species including Chinook and coho salmon, and sea-run cutthroat trout, and low numbers of steelhead trout. In addition, the site is located within the Pacific Flyway for migratory waterfowl. Therefore, during the migratory season this site, located adjacent to the water, is used by migrating waterfowl.

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

No measures are proposed at this time.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None are known at this time.

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.

Pioneer Park is currently served by electric power and the proposed renovations would continue to use these sources to meet energy needs.

- 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:

This parking expansion, trail modification, and interpretive panel project offers little in the way of energy conservation opportunities; although the future hatchery scheduled for the adjacent lands will save energy currently required for transporting fish. This energy conservation part of the story will be told in one of the interpretive panels of this project.

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 any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
None are known at this location.
- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.
None
- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.
N/A
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
Rare, but possible,
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
None

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
Short-term noise impacts would occur from operation of construction equipment. Noise levels from construction equipment are projected to be 70-90 dBA, as is typical of construction equipment, at 100 ft from the source. Noise during the construction period would be confined to daytime hours. Construction noise is exempt from Washington State Noise Standards contained in WAC 173-60.
- 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.
Noise sources during construction would include heavy equipment, air compressors and back-up indicator alarms. Short-term noise levels and expected durations associated with construction are described above. Long-term noise sources would be increased vehicular traffic, and park visitors.
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
To reduce temporary construction noise associated with the project, contractors would be required to comply with all applicable regulations. The following measures should be employed to reduce construction noise:
 - **All equipment should have sound-control devices no less effective than those provided on the original equipment.**
 - **No equipment would have an un-muffled exhaust.**
 - **Equipment should be turned off when not in use and not left idling.**

8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

The City of Tumwater Pioneer Park site is currently used for sports and recreation by a wide range of park users. Park resources include a baseball field, two softball fields, three soccer fields, two sand volleyball courts, children's play toys and access to recreational uses of the Deschutes River.

The project may cause a slight increase in public use in the park areas, though park managers indicate that the added parking, while helpful in the summer months, would still not accommodate all users wishing to park vehicles in the heat of long hot summer days.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

While the site may have had a farming history, no conversions will occur as these uses are long gone from the site.

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The site is currently occupied by the recreational facilities listed above in 8. a.

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

The southern edges of the existing parking lot will be resurfaced to accept the new parking area, per the attached drawings.

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

The site is zoned as "Open Space" with a floodplain overlay zone (C. Carlson, Planner, City of Tumwater).

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

The current comprehensive plan designation of the site is: shoreline environment (C. Carlson, Planner, City of Tumwater).

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

The current shoreline master program designation of the site is also: shoreline environment.

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

Within the City of Tumwater, protected habitats include rivers planted with game fish, specifically, the Deschutes River, as well as areas with which listed species have a primary

association. According to City code, therefore, the Deschutes River and adjacent riparian corridor, wetlands, and shoreline environment would be considered 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?

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

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

No displacement impacts are anticipated.

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

The proposal contributes a useful recreational resource to the park according to City of Tumwater Parks and Recreation staff.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

No special measures are planned as these land uses; they do not occur nearby.

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No residential units would be provided.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No residential units would be eliminated.

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

No housing impacts are anticipated.

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?

An informational kiosk with interpretive panels would be about 9 feet tall. The materials for the proposed kiosk are a pressure-treated Douglas fir wood base with other wooden components.

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

The kiosk will alter the fully open view toward the south-western portions of the property from the parking lot area.

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

Project planners are working with the City of Tumwater Parks and Recreation Department staff to design the trail and kiosk to fit with the desired aesthetics commensurate with the park environment.

11. Light and glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
Existing onsite lighting will be adequate to provide for security and facility operations.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
Lighting associated with the proposed project would not be a safety hazard.
- 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 additional lighting is anticipated, though cooperative efforts with the City of Tumwater could include lighting requirements that would be minimal and will not likely produce more glare impact than currently exists on the site.

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
Pioneer Park offers the recreational opportunities mentioned above as well as those activities associated with the trail system leading to the Deschutes River: hiking (including with dogs - which is a common use at this park - even in inclement weather), picnicking, intertube floating the Deschutes, and some wildlife and bird watching.
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
Recreational uses are essentially better served with this facility.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:
Site plans include addition of a landscaped access area in the former site of the fish raceways. This area will be constructed with trees, shrubs and grasses to provide recreation with park benches and ADA-compliant accessible paths to the fish viewing areas.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.
There are none of these sites known to exist at this location.
- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

A professional archaeological survey was completed for the site by Western Shore Heritage Services, Inc. (WSHS) on April 30, 2004. The Pioneer Park portion is included next, below.

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP at the time) issued a concurrence letter October 29, 2004, ten years ago. This office will again review the project to assure that any changes in the standard of care can be included a review of the 2015 project. The field investigation methods are included as they appear in the report:

Field investigations at Pioneer Park consisted of 33 shovel probes spaced throughout the field areas anticipated to be disturbed based on the Deschutes Watershed Center Master Plan (2004). Areas investigated included the raceways, surface water intake, new trails throughout the project area, effluent treatment buildings and the maintenance building. Shovel probes were spaced to get maximum coverage from the areas anticipated to be affected and generally were spaced every 15m.

No archaeological material was identified within the Pioneer Park project area. An angular piece of basalt and a possible basalt flake were identified in one of the shovel probes adjacent to the river; however, further testing and examination of the unit indicated that basalt rip-rap was located directly adjacent to the probe leading to the notion that the material was not associated with any prehistoric deposit. Most other shovel probes spaced throughout the project area were free of any disturbed material. Small to medium gravels were the only inclusions in the heavy soil.

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

In the event that ground disturbing or other construction activities result in the inadvertent discovery of archaeological resources, work should be halted in the immediate area, and contact made with city and county officials, the DAHP's State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), and appropriate Squaxin Island Tribal officials. In the unlikely event of the inadvertent discovery of human remains, work should be immediately halted in the discovery area, the remains covered and secured against further disturbance, and communication established with county administrative and law enforcement personnel, the office of the SHPO, and authorized Squaxin Island Tribal representatives.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Pioneer Park is accessible by vehicle only through the entrance on the east side of Henderson Boulevard SE about .5 miles south of the Yelm Highway.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

There are no public transit stops in the immediate vicinity of the park. The closest bus stop is at the Yelm Highway-Henderson Blvd. intersection, approximately .5 miles from Pioneer Park. Bus service is provided by Intercity Transit with departures to and from the Olympia and

Lacey Transit Centers, and the six other stops inbetween, every 30 minutes during the week and every hour on weekends during ordinary during-the-day travel hours.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

Thirty-six new parking spaces would be constructed and seven spaces removed, creating a net increase of twenty-nine parking spaces.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

The project is an improvement to parking of a municipal park, with no anticipated related need to improve existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities.

- e. Will the project or proposal 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 or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

With 29 new parking spaces vehicular traffic to the park will increase slightly during the The addition of educational facilities and viewing windows at the site may result in an increase in the number of visitors. Peak visitor traffic currently occurs during the fall spawning activities when numerous school/educational groups tour the facility.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No, these land uses are not nearby.

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

Facility improvements are not anticipated to result in a transportation problem, therefore no transportation mitigation measures are proposed.

15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

Pioneer Park is already used extensively by the public during the summer months. The additional parking proposed in this project could cause a slight increase in the need for public services, though this would be difficult to quantify.

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

No appreciable public use increases are anticipated. The added parking area will relieve an existing parking shortage on hot summer days

16. Utilities

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other:

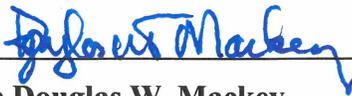
Electricity, water, and sewer are all currently available to this site within Pioneer Park.

- 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 additional utilities would be required at this site.

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 **Douglas W. Mackey**

Position and Agency/Organization:

Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Date Submitted: **May 21, 2014**

Appendix A Project Drawings