

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

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: [\[help\]](#)

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 [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)

Okanogan Complex Fire Forest Management

2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

Jamie Bass
350 Bear Creek Rd.
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(509) 996-2559

Dale Swedberg
640 Jasmine
Omak, WA 98841
(509) 826-7205

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)

December 28, 2015

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)

Approximate dates based on estimates:

- **November 2015: Complete layout/ assessment**
- **December 2015: Complete consultation, bid sale**
- **January – May 2016: Proceed with timber sale, followed by cleanup/ road work as needed**
- **May 2016 -- :Planting trees as needed to meet WADNR Forest Practices reforestation standards, burning of landing slash piles.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)

No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

- **WDFW Priority Species and Habitat Management Recommendations**
- **GIS-generated maps showing: soil type, soil stability, site index etc.**
- **WADNR Forest Practices Application Mapping Tool (FPAMT) depicting slope stability, streams, site class, etc. for Forest Practices purposes**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)

- DNR Forest Practice Application (FPA).
- DNR Burn Permit
- Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plan (RMAP)
- State and tribal cultural/archaeological clearance.
- WDFW Commission Approval for timber sale.

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.) [[help](#)]

During August 2015, the Okanogan Complex Fire burned over 300,000 acres through public and private land through sagebrush steppe, meadow, and dry forest cover types. The Sinlahekin, Scotch Creek, and Methow Wildlife Areas of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Lands Complex each had large management areas burn, resulting in damaged infrastructure, loss of habitat, and standing dead and scorched forest.

Following wildland fire or fire outside the historic range of severity with high mortality rates, dry mixed conifer and pine forests are at a heightened risk for mortality from post-fire stress, beetle infestations, accumulations of large woody debris, and other issues that may lead to the long term loss or repeated degradation of forested habitat. The Okanogan Complex Forest Management Project proposes to address these forest issues via a timber sale. Areas where using ground based logging equipment is feasible (approx. <40% slopes) a prescription will be applied to:

- Favor better survivorship and release trees from less vigorous competitors to increase resource availability
- Protect surviving trees by reducing the severity of bark beetle infestation
- Reduce long term large woody debris accumulations that lead to loss of access and habitat for grazing species
- Reduce safety and access issues for recreational and commercial uses
- Protect surviving trees and regeneration by reducing long term fuel loading outside the historic range of variability

Prescription:**

A. Low/ Mixed Mortality: Conifer-dominated sites, where live conifers remain following the Okanogan Complex Fire. Retention density will be 20–40 basal area (sq.ft./acre) or 15-20 trees per acre (TPA). Leave tree selection will be focused on the following:

1. Retention of pre-fire suppression age class conifers
2. Remove smaller, dead, and/or less likely survivors for 1-2 driplines (min. 20 ft.) from healthier live trees
3. The following attributes will be assessed for best possible post-fire survivor trees:
 - i. Ponderosa pine highly favored
 - ii. >30% live canopy Ponderosa, >60% live canopy Douglas-fir (live canopy from top down)
 - iii. Minimal root burn-out, char at bole (cambium alive)
 - iv. Larger diameter- correlated to thicker, fire-resistant bark
4. Retain trees in spatially heterogeneous pattern
5. Retain live trees that provide wildlife value: trees with forks, broken tops, or large branch platforms for habitat as Wildlife Retention Trees (WRTs)

B. High Mortality: Conifer-dominated sites, where live conifers are do not remain or are in low densities following the Okanogan Complex Fire. In these areas live conifers and 5 snags per acre will be left as Wildlife Retention Trees (WRTs). Leave tree selection will be focused on the following:

- 1. Wildlife value (platforms, cavity nesting, etc.)**
- 2. Structural stability**
- 3. >10" diameter at breast height (DBH)**

C. Aspen sites:

- 1. Retain 100% of pre-fire suppression age class conifers**
- 2. Lower density within 50 feet of aspen site of live trees (-10 TPA)**
- 3. Dead WRTs minimum still retained.**
- 4. No hardwoods shall be cut as part of the timber harvest, but may be cut and left if they pose a hazard.**

****Any trees that pose a risk to existing public infrastructure: roads, campgrounds, pullouts, etc. that have recreational , operational, etc. use will not be retained. This includes dead trees, and live trees with less than 30% live canopy.**

Fuels:

Debris from timber harvest operations (limbs, tops, etc.) will be left in place after harvest. The area will be allowed to a rest period to heal from the impacts of the Lime Belt fire for several years. Then the area will be treated with prescribed fire on a regular schedule that represents the historic fire disturbance interval. If whole tree yarding is utilized then the slash will be piled at the landings and burned in the fall or winter. All slash burning will be completed as per Department of Natural Resources and Department of Ecology regulations.

Regeneration:

Due to availability of live green trees in and around the project area, WDFW will seek to utilize natural regeneration to restock the stand. Planting may be necessary to meet WDNR Forest Practices standards. Long term, to maintain the desired historic range of stocking and structure, WDFW will continue to seek funding for future forest health and prescribed fire treatments.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The timber sale units cover approx. 300 acres and are located in the Sinlahekin and Scotch Creek Wildlife Areas in Okanogan County in the transition from sagebrush steppe to forested foothills (see attached maps). The species composition is predominantly Ponderosa pine, with a component of Douglas-fir on the steeper, wetter slopes within the units. Precipitation falls primarily as snow.

**The project lies within portions of the following sections (Williamette meridian):
Township 35N, Range 25E, Sections 12, 13
Township 35N, Range 26E, Sections 6, 7**

Township 36N, Range 25E, Sections 16, 21

All activities are on WDFW owned and managed land. Refer to attached maps for distinct project activity areas, topography, roads, etc.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site: [\[help\]](#)

(circle one): Flat, **rolling, hilly**, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#)

Rocky knolls/cliffs within project area (>50%). Most project activity would be on <40% slopes due to equipment limitations.

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. [\[help\]](#)

LimeBelt Unit: Predominantly Molson ashy silt loam in up to 45% slopes, with rockier outcrops, talus screes, etc. falling in the Lithic Haploxerepts category.

Blue Lake Unit: Predominantly Molson ashy silt loam in up to 45% slopes, with rockier outcrops, talus screes, etc. falling in the Lithic Haploxerepts or Donavon Rock-Outcrop categories.

Spikeman Unit: Newbon Gravelley Loam is predominant soil type in <35% slopes, with Oxerine Rock-Outcrop predominant on 35-65% slopes on project perimeter.

The proposal does not result in any removal of soils.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

No washouts or eroding beyond natural overland flow are evident in the project area.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. [\[help\]](#)

Minor grading expected on existing spur roads for improvement/maintenance, approximately 0.9 miles. Minor grading expected at landing sites along roads covering approx. 10 acres. Landing sites will utilize existing landings/ flat areas to the extent feasible. Native soil to be moved at most estimated at 500 yards.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Erosion could occur on or near roads and landings during construction, hauling operations, and tree harvest. Erosion is expected to be minimal both due use of existing roads and landings, lack of precipitation aside from snowmelt, and rocky soils.

Erosion could occur on or near roads and landings during construction, hauling operations, and tree harvest. Erosion is expected in and around the area due to burned conditions which have reduced vegetation, created hydrophobic soils, etc. regardless of project activities.

Thinning units are intentionally restricted to lower risk areas, have erosion control measures that will be employed (per h. below), will maximize use of existing roads, skid trails, and landings, have a lack of precipitation aside from snowmelt, and contain rockier soils. Therefore, WDFW anticipates that increased erosion risks will be minimal.

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

None.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

- **Equipment cannot access slopes exceeding 40%, slopes within the project area >40% will be hand-felled and winched or skidded out from areas equipment can access.**
- **Skid trails on steeper slopes will be water barred appropriately following skidding operations as per written instruction and approval of completed work from WDFW Contract Administrator**
- **Roads will have drain dips or water bars on steeper slopes installed by the Contractor to prevent washout/ erosion as per written instruction and approval of completed work from WDFW Contract Administrator**
- **Disturbed soils will be reseeded with native seed following sale completion**
- **Haul operations will be suspended immediately, until mitigation is approved in writing by the WDFW Contract Administrator, if delivery to typed waters is observed.**

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

Emissions would result from operating of logging or road maintenance machinery during the duration of the timber sale. Following sale completion, slash generated from the sale will be burned in landing slash piles during wet/cold months. This will be done in accordance with WDNR's smoke management plan and permitting rules regarding burning. Any emissions from these project would therefore be extremely temporary, and no further emissions would result upon project completion.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Stay in accordance with Washington State's Smoke Management Plan

3. **Water** [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

One Fish-class stream (no name) was surveyed in the vicinity and bounded out of the project area. In the vicinity, but outside activity area are three open bodies of water: Fish Lake and Blue Lake. No perennial streams have been identified. Two seasonal streams have been identified in the vicinity. One forested wetland and one Type A wetland exist outside the project boundary. See maps for more details.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The project will have work adjacent to an un-named Type F stream, the stream has a no-cut, no entry buffer an average of 75 feet according to site index and WDNR Forest Practices' fish class stream protection rules. Any intermittent/ seasonal streams (Type Ns streams) in the project area have a 30 foot buffered Equipment Limitation Zone (ELZ). Fish Lake is greater than 200 feet from project activity areas. Blue Lake is considered a shoreline of the state, and is bounded a minimum of 100 feet outside the project area (therefore no cutting or equipment) according to WADNR Forest Practices and Okanogan County Shoreline Management rules. Two forested Wetlands have been bounded out of the project area. (see maps

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

None.

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

No.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

No.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

No.

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. [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

Not Applicable.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

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

Spring runoff from snow melt and rainfall runoff could occur on the forest floor, roads and landings. Water will be dispersed back into undisturbed forest areas for natural filtration in vegetation and soil. Runoff intercepted by roads and ditches will be diverted through existing culverts and ditches to forest floor. If extreme events occur, runoff could reach nearby streams.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Fuel or oil associated with equipment operations, if spilled could enter ground or surface waters. The contract will require equipment to have at least 1 spill kit in the cab, to prevent, contain and clean up spills, fuel storage only in approved areas and to notify the sale administrator of any spills.

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

No. Roads will be maintained to Forest Practice standards for protecting drainage patterns.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

- **Meet or exceed Forest Practice rules.**
- **Riparian (streams, lakes, and wetlands) buffers**
- **Re-vegetate disturbed areas with native seed.**

4. Plants [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- 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? [\[help\]](#)

Ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir will be harvested from an estimated 300 acres of ponderosa pine-dominated forest, leaving either 15 - 20 green trees per acre, or 5 Wildlife Retention Trees per acre depending on fire mortality (see prescription in Project Description for more details).

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

None

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Disturbed areas will be seeded with a native grass mix particular to each wildlife area after activities have ceased. Weeds will continue to be monitored and controlled according to the Scotch Creek and Sinlahekin Wildlife Area Management Plans which utilizes a mix of biological and herbicide controls.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

- **Scotch Thistle**
- **Diffuse Knapweed**
- **Russian Knapweed**
- **Houndstongue**
- **Black Henbane**
- **Puncture vine**
- **Dalmatian Toadflax**
- **Canadian Thistle**
- **St. John's Wort**

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Sharp-tailed grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*), a threatened species, do not currently inhabit the site, but have been found a mile away in suitable habitat. This proposal will release aspen and hardwood groves from conifer overstory, which will increase possible habitat for sharp-tailed grouse.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, the general area is used as mule deer migration route and winter range

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)

- **Activities will be timed to avoid disturbing threatened, endangered and sensitive (TES) species that may be present in the project area.**
- **All hardwood trees such as black cottonwood, quaking aspen, red alder, maple and willow species, etc., and shrubs such as red-osier dogwood, vine maple, elderberry, and Woods' rose will not be harvested for diversity of wildlife habitat, (except for hazard tree mitigation).**
- **Disturbed soils will be reseeded with native seed following sale completion**
- **Streams, wetlands, and lakes will be protected according to and in excess of WDNR Forest Practices Rules**
- **Retaining 5 dead WRTs per acre across the treated areas to provide for nesting sites, cavity nesters, etc.,**
- **Retain green WRTs where available that have defect that provides a nesting platform, cavity nest, etc.**

Forest habitat will be improved following the project completion, both for species that utilize the mixed conifer forest and the hardwood (aspen, cottonwood, etc.) forest. Long term damage mitigation and forest habitat improvement efforts are a priority for the site.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

None of consequence.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Fuels to operate equipment for cutting, loading and hauling timber and any related road maintenance work. In addition, any fuels needed to light and maintain burn piles.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?
If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

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: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

There could be fuel spills when refueling equipment or oil spills while performing equipment maintenance. There is always the risk of fire from equipment operation in the woods, however, most of the area recently burned and the risk of repeat fire is low. There will be a controlled burn of slash produced, and precautions will be taken to consider soil moisture, wind, weather forecasts, etc.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
[\[help\]](#)

None known.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

None known.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Fuel (gasoline and diesel) and lubricants will be used in conjunction with equipment.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)

- **DNR fire protection resources will be notified if a wildfire occurs.**
- **Washington State Department of Ecology and WDFW will be notified if any spills occur.**

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Contractors are required to have plans and equipment for.

- **Spill prevention, containment and countermeasures (including at least 1 spill kit in each cab)**
- **The contractor must maintain fire fighting equipment on the job and be in compliance with WDNR industrial fire protection level requirements when applicable.**
- **All equipment will have spark arresters on mufflers. Absorbant pads will be under equipment when fueling or doing maintenance.**

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

During harvest activities there will be some noise associated with chainsaws, skidder, loader, and trucks. Typically these would be daylight only and weather dependent. Heavy equipment noise can exceed 100 decibels. No noise will be created after completion of project.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

- **Maintain mufflers on equipment.**
- **Workers use ear protection.**

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

No, the site is managed for wildlife habitat and recreation activities. Adjacent properties are managed as working forests, ranch/farm land, or private residence and will be unaffected by the project.

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? [\[help\]](#)

The project site may have been used for minor agricultural grazing purposes prior to WDFW ownership, and has been logged in the past 20 years. Any work done as post-fire damage mitigation would improve any grazing or commercial value of the landscape. Current use is primarily for wildlife habitat and recreation under the WDFW management plans for Wildlife Areas so active timber management and silvicultural treatments will continue after the project is completed to maintain and enhance habitat conditions.

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: [\[help\]](#)

Oversize equipment access is likely to be only issue as machinery is moved to the site for project work. This would be extremely short term, and truck drivers will be expected to utilize radios to avoid safety and operational issues while performing the move. Only a small portion of road would be inconvenienced by this operation, all other roads are wide enough to not have any affect.

c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)

None

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)

No

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Forest Land

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Maintain as forested habitat, with emphasis on managing habitat for wildlife and providing recreational opportunities.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)

No.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

None

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

- L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Proposal is consistent with Sinlahekin and Scotch Creek Wildlife Area Management Plans, as well as the WDFW Forest Management Plan. This project will reduce stocking levels in forests, reduce long term fuel loading, improve mule deer winter range, promote recreational opportunities, and mitigate damage to lost forest habitat following the Okanogan Complex Fire.

- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

9. **Housing** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

None

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

None

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

10. **Aesthetics** [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)

Views will be less obstructed following project completion.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None.

11. **Light and Glare** [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)

During project, headlights on equipment in early morning or evening hours would be only source.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)

Hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, wildlife viewing, horseback riding, mountain biking, cross country skiing.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

During harvest the recreational use would be disrupted in areas where active work is ongoing. Possible during slash pile burning as well, however

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Upon project completion, recreational opportunities and safety will be improved. Aside from limiting access for safety reasons during harvest, impact on recreation on the Wildlife Area will be minimal during project work.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

There are several sites which have been recorded within the project. Reports from earlier survey effort indicate that the sites should not be considered eligible. WDFW conducted an additional cultural resources survey in the project to better define the project's potential to affect cultural resources. The survey resulted in the clarification of the extent of previously recorded sites and the identification of several previously unrecorded sites. No precontact era sites were found.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The nearest (recorded) professional studies resulted in the identification of several archaeological sites in the project boundary, none of these could be associated with precontact land use, human burial, or cemeteries. The sites will be avoided.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The determination of the probability for cultural and historic resources to be located within the project boundary was based largely upon review and analysis of past environmental and cultural contexts and previous cultural resource studies and sites. Consulted sources included review of project files; local geologic data to better understand the depositional environment; archaeological, historic, and ethnographic records made available on the WISAARD database; and selected published local historic records.

The risk analysis provided by the statewide predictive model and regional patterns, indicates there is high risk for encountering cultural resources. A second predictive model was created, using site to topography correlations outlined in Fulkerson (1988). This model, similar to the models utilized in Powell (1987, 2008), among others, served to fine tune our the WDFW survey protocol.

Consultation with affected tribe(s) has been initiated, the results will be used to inform project design.

The results of the survey will be provided to DAHP and the affected tribe(s) for review prior to project initiation.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The results of WDFW's cultural resources survey for the project will be used to inform final project design. Any necessary mitigation and/or avoidance measures will be designed in consultation with the affected tribe(s) and DAHP. WDFW policy would be to exclude all known sites from the project. When project goes to construction, WDFW will operate under an Inadvertent Discovery Plan; when cultural resources are identified within or near the project, the WDFW Cultural Resources Management Plan would be implemented

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Existing on-site roads will be used to directly access the project areas, see attached maps for location of roads described in relation to activity. Site will be accessed on:

- **WDFW Lime Lakes Road and unnamed spur roads**
- **Okanogan County Lime Belt Road and Sinlahekin Road**

- 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? [\[help\]](#)

No.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)

None. Not applicable.

- 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). [\[help\]](#)

Existing WDFW spur roads will be utilized to access landings as needed, and therefore will need maintenance and improvement to be usable. Other existing WDFW roads in good condition may also need minor maintenance work such as grading, ditching, etc. These roads may also have water bars or ditchouts installed to prevent erosion, washout, rutting, etc. Otherwise, public roads will be used to access the sites.

- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

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? [\[help\]](#)

None.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

During the project work, log trucks may be sharing the road with log trucks coming from other sales if there are any on adjacent properties (unknown at this time).

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The roads used to access the site are either double-lane (no issue) or a small mileage of public roads with pullouts that allow trucks to pass each other. The only affect will be the necessary coordination of logging trucks utilizing county-owned roads if timber sales are underway on adjacent lands on that mileage. Log trucks operators will be expected to follow procedures to communicate with other vehicles on haul roads to avoid operational or safety issues. This affect would be extremely short term, with no affects upon project completion.

15. **Public Services** [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

No.

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

Not applicable.

16. Utilities [help]

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

None

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. [help]

Not applicable.

C. Signature [help]

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 _____

Position and Agency/Organization _____

Date Submitted: _____

Richard Tretter
Richard Tretter
Forest Management Team Lead
12/28/15