

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

JUNE 2016

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: [\[help\]](#)

Snow Creek Pier Removal to Protect Public Safety

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

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

*Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia WA. 98501
Contact: Larry Peck
Larry.Peck@dfw.wa.gov
360 902 8376*

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

03/21/2016

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

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Proposed work is scheduled to begin in late April or early May and all proposed work will occur on the developed Access site.

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. Floating docks and gangway were previously removed.

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

Close coordination with Clallam County for review and WDFW Agency Archaeologist for culture review..

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. [\[help\]](#)

None are known. Proper notification and coordination with WDFW Archaeologist staff and Clallam County Shoreline staff. Even though all proposed work will be conducted in the dry and during low tides a HPA will be obtained from WDFW.

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

A HPA from WDFW will be required prior to beginning this proposed project. Coordination with Clallam County to confirm that a Shoreline Development Permit is not required.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) [\[help\]](#)

This proposal is to remove an old dilapidated Pier that is approximately 100 feet long and four feet wide. Removal will be accomplished by removing and salvaging decking (grading and hand rails) with hand held tools. The support beams and steel H-columns will be lifted out by an excavator and the steel will be recycled at an appropriate recycle center. All proposed work will be accomplished out of water during low tide work windows. This site is owned by the WDFW and the operation of the resort is through a third party private vendor. The resort is scheduled to remain open but without the pier and gangway. The resort currently has and will continue to operate a small rail boat launch and a season floating dock. Obtain and follow requirements of all applicable federal, state, and local permits.

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. [\[help\]](#)

This proposed project is at WDFW's Snow Creek Resort located in Clallam County, 1391 Strait of Juan de Fuca Hwy, (Highway 112), Neah Bay, WA.98357 Tax ID#1433173400000000. 48.3536 -124.5464 The legal description for thisproject is Sec.17,T 33 N, R 14 W

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

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

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

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

The property is located along the Straits of Juan de Fuca this site is generally gentle, sloping, and flat with a portion of the pier extending over the water during mid to high tide.

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

All proposed work will occur within existing development footprint with no excavation or fill activities within a very gentle slope area.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Generally the types of soils found at this site are sand, silt, and gravel, when the site was first developed additional large armoured rip rap rock was placed immediately below and around the constructed pier and the mouth of Snow Creek. No projected impacts to agricultural lands.

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

None are known.

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

No anticipated fill associated with this proposal, limited to the removal of four (4) H Breamed Steel Pilings and gripstruct materials used as walkway on the Pier. Three of the four pilings are located within the intertidal area of the Straits of Juan de Fuca.

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

Erosion is not likely, access to the pier will be on existing developed grounds. Best Management Practices for erosion and sediment control as appropriate.

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

No new impervious surfaces will be added to existing facility footprint.

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

Any potential erosion will be prevented by applying erosion and sedimentation control and Best Management Practices according to standards from either the Ecology Stormwater Design Manual or guidelines from the applicable local jurisdiction. Best Management Practices could include silt fencing and hay bales where needed.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Short term vehicle exhaust and some dust from construction activities is expected. No long term change in emissions is expected from the completed project. No change in the existing hatchery footprint is proposed.

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

None.

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

None.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The proposed project is located on the existing developed Snow Creek Resort site immediately adjacent to the Straits of Juan de Fuca and Snow Creek.

- 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 proposed project is located within 200 feet of Snow Creek and is partially over the Straits of Juan de Fuca during high Tide . All proposed work is limited to the removal of the existing Pier. A portion of the Pier is located over the waters of the Straits of Juan de Fuca. Pier is approximately 100 feet long.

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

No fill material will be placed in wetlands and or surface water. No dredge material will be associated with this proposed project.

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

None.

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

The proposed project is within the tidal zones of the Strait of Juan de Fuca . This proposed project will be within the existing footprint of this facility and limited to the removal of existing structures. No short term or long-term affects to the subject floodplain or floodway are anticipated.

- 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 new discharge of waste materials to surface waters is proposed.

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 impacts.

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

None are proposed, or anticipated.

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. [\[help\]](#)

No source of runoff is proposed for these projects. No waste material will be discharged to the ground. Water runoff will follow natural patterns.

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

No waste materials are expected to enter ground or surface water from the proposed projects.

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

All new well development will be done in the footprint of the existing facilities. There will be no change in current drainage patterns in the vicinity of the sites.

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

Best Management Practices will be implemented on a case-by-case basis to reduce any impacts of sediment erosion to surface or ground water. Native plants may be planted to restore damaged vegetation to reduce or control erosion from runoff water or drainage patterns.

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: **Rose, salmonberry**

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: **sword fern, Hymalayan blackberry**

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)

Existing vegetation will not be removed or altered.

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

None known in immediate area.

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

None are proposed.

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

None noted.

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: mountain quail, osprey and waterfowl

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: steelhead, bull trout

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

Puget Sound Chinook, Puget Sound Early chum and Puget Sound Steelhead are all federally listed species under ESA. These species swim near or adjacent to the proposed project throughout various life stages. All approved work windows for fish, bald eagle nesting and marbled murrelet migration periods will be followed as conditioned in permit requirements.

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

Yes, The Straits of Juan de Fuca is a migration routes for salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and migrating waterfowl.

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

All construction will occur during the proposed work windows. Existing trees, shrubs, and wetland vegetation will not be disturbed.

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

None are known.

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. [\[help\]](#)

None.

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

No, the proposed project will have no effect on any use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

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

None are proposed.

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. [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

[\[help\]](#)

None.

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

None. Project is anticipated to be completed with hand tools and/or with gasoline or diesel powered equipment. The finished projects will not require any source of toxic or hazardous chemicals.

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

None are known.

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

Fueling will be done off site to prevent any source of fuel from entering surface and ground waters. A spill kit will be available on site in the event of an accidental spill.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Short- term noise will be created from construction machines and related activities.

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

None are proposed.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The current property is used as a recreational fishing access and camping site..Adjacent lands are dedicated primarily to silvi culture. The proposed new well development will not affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties.

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

Properties immediately adjacent to the site are forestlands, no additional conversion of current land use is associated with this project.

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

No, The proposed activities are not expected to affect surrounding working farms or forest land business operations.

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

Existing structures at this site include camp sites, restrooms, resort office, storage buildings and rail system boat launch. Site also includes the placement of a moorage dock during the summer months for recreational boat moorage.

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

The remaining Pier dock has been deemed unstable and a risk to public safety, and is scheduled to be removed/demolished.

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

Rural.

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

The comprehensive plan designation is Rural Conservation.. Typically these could include Parks and Recreation, Rural Low Residential, Agricultural, and Floodplain lands.

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

The shoreline master program designation as Low Rural and Conservation.

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

County has identifie/classified site as critical area for bald eagles.

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

Snow Creek Recreational site has 2 staff(private vendor) on site. Maintenance is conducted by private vendor staff on a daily basis, major capital projects completed by WDFW staff directly or contracted out.

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

None.

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

None.

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

The proposal is compatible with existing land use plans and current established use of the property. Public access to the shorelines and recreation areas is an allowed use within the statewide shoreline code.

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

This project is not expected to be responsible for any long-term significance that would impact nearby agricultural and forest lands.

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: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed.

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? [\[help\]](#)

Proposed project is for the removal of an unsafe pier.

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

None really, but removing pier would remove a small obstruction.

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

None.

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

Camping, beachcombing, fishing, wildlife viewing and boating activities occur at this site.

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

No recreational uses at this site will not be reduced.

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

None anticipated..

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 no known buildings or existing infrastructure deemed likely for local preservation registers or listings. This project includes and will require close coordination with Agency's Archaeologist to ensure proper review of Historic or Cultural significance or preservation.. The proposed project is not anticipated to negatively impact any historical or cultural significant building, facility and/ or site.

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

None are known. However proper notification and coordination with Agency Archaeologists will occur.

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

This project is located on an existing WDFW recreational site in an area previously disturbed and developed. Discovery of cultural resources is unlikely. A WDFW inadvertent discovery plan will be in place so that if any cultural resources are identified during construction, construction activities will stop and the inadvertent discovery plan will be followed.

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

No expansion of the existing access site footprint is proposed. Only soils that have been previously disturbed by construction activities will be disturbed in accessing and the removal of the old pier.

If historically or archaeologically significant materials (or evidence thereof) are discovered during construction activities all construction work will stop, the site will be secured, and the WDFW inadvertent discovery plan for cultural resources will be followed. All conditions of federal state and local permits will be followed to help reduce or control impacts to cultural and historical resources.

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 roads serve this site. Highway 112 and Snow Creek Resort access 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? [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable.

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

The existing parking areas will not be expanded or reduced.

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

No the existing footprint will not be altered.

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

There will be no change to existing conditions.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The proposal should not have any impact on fire or police services. There is no expected impact to local schools or other services.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed.

16. **Utilities** [\[help\]](#)

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

Snow Creek Resort is already serviced with electrical service. No change to existing facilities is proposed.

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

No additional utilities will be added.

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 Larry W. Peck

Position and Agency/Organization Biologist

Date Submitted: March 21, 2016

