

# **SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

JUNE 2015

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

### **Riverside Boat Ramp Repair**

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

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

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

**WDFW**  
**600 Capital Way North**  
**Olympia, WA 98501**

**Contact: Marty Peoples, WDFW**  
**Email: [Marty.Peoples@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Marty.Peoples@dfw.wa.gov)**  
**Phone: (360) 902-8426**

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

October 14, 2016

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

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Summer/Fall of 2017 and 2018.

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. [\[help\]](#)

A JARPA will be prepared for this work as well as a Biological Evaluation.

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. [\[help\]](#)

No other applications are pending.

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

Permits and approvals will include a Riverside City Shoreline Permit, a WDFW Hydraulics Permit (HPA), a USACE permit, and a DNR aquatic lease. Other permits may be required and will be obtained as 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 project includes the repair and expansion of an existing WDFW boat launch ramp and access site on the Okanogan River. This is a popular WDFW access site containing one 12 foot wide gravel surface ramp and informal parking. WDFW proposes to renovate this site with a new concrete plank boat ramp, new self-contained vault toilet, improved parking, and day use accommodations. The specific components of this project are:

1. *Install filter fabric fence around the worksite. Install other BMP's as necessary including straw wattles around the ramp. Install turbidity curtain around in water work area.*
2. *Grade footprint of existing ramp to achieve correct slope for ramp.*
3. *Install a 4 inch layer of crushed rock in the new ramp footprint to serve as a pad for the new ramp planks and articulated concrete blocks.*
4. *Install one new concrete ramp by connecting 4 foot by 12 foot precast concrete plank sections and pushing them down the ramp into place. The new ramp will measure 12 feet wide and 72 feet long.*
5. *Install articulated cabled concrete blocking (mat) at the bottom and outside edges of the new ramp to protect against erosion and undermining. The articulated concrete mats to be installed on the outside edges will be 72 feet long and 4 feet wide on both sides of the ramp. A section of articulated concrete mat will be installed on the bottom edge of the new ramp measuring 8 feet wide and 20 feet long.*
6. *Remove existing earthen berm/debris pile and grade this area for a parking and boat turn around area.*
7. *Excavate infiltration pond for storm water treatment.*
8. *Grade day use area and install covered picnic area with two picnic tables and additional picnic table.*
9. *Install kiosk, vault toilet, and pedestrian path.*
10. *Perform mitigation measures. This will involve planting a 5000 sq. ft. mitigation area next to the Okanogan River at river mile 49.5. This mitigation area is located 9 miles above the boat launch on WDFW State Wildlife Area land. Willow stakes will be installed and ponderosa pines planted to establish a vegetated riparian buffer in this location. Willow plantings will be consistent with local willow species found in this area. Other species of native plants may be used as directed by the local Wildlife Area Manager.*

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 project is located in Okanogan County, Section 25, Township 35N, Range 26E. Latitude 48.5012 N, Longitude -119.5027 W. The access area is within the city limits of the town of Riverside. The address is Cooper Street, Riverside WA, 98849.

Driving directions: From Omak, proceed north on US Highway 97 for 7 miles. Once reaching Riverside, turn right at Kendall Street and proceed for four blocks. Turn right on Cooper Street and proceed to the end of the street where the ramp is located.

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

The steepest slope is 20%.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The soil is classified as Tonasket silt loam (90%) and Pogue fine sandy loam (10%).

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

There are no indications of unstable soils.

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

The total affected area will be 1200 square feet below OHW and 400 square feet above OHW. Net fill below OHW will total 26.9 CY. Net fill above OHW will total -2.2 CY. Fill will consist of ramp planks, cabled concrete block, poured concrete, and crushed rock for bedding of ramp planks.

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

No erosion is anticipated. BMP's will be in place to prevent sediment from reaching surface waters during possible rainfall events. In water work will be performed in a manner as to keep turbidity to minimal levels. Specifically, ramp planks will be connected and pushed down the ramp footprint on rails and into place. This method allows equipment to operate out of the water and avoid generating excess turbidity and disturbance. Cabled concrete mats will be lowered into place by an excavator operating on the newly installed ramp surface. This method will minimize substrate disturbance and significantly reduce turbidity.

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

There will be a 15% increase in impervious surfaces.

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

Equipment will only be operated on hardened surfaces and inside the ramp footprint. Staging and fueling will be done in an upland area that is isolated from surface waters. Standards BMP's will be used to prevent sediment from reaching surface waters including a silt fence and straw bales around the perimeter of the work area.

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

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected from the completed project.

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

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 Okanogan River is within the project site.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Work will be done next to and within state waters. This work is described in question A. 11.

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. [\[help\]](#)

36.5 CY of fill will be placed below OHW. Fill will consist of precast concrete ramp planks, precast cabled concrete blocks and crushed rock. Rock will be acquired from a local quarry. Cut from below OHW will be 9.6 CY. Net fill below OHW will be 26.9 CY.

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

No surface water diversions will be required.

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

Yes.

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 waste materials will be discharged.

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 groundwater will be withdrawn.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
No waste material will be discharged.

No waste material will be discharged.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

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

Runoff will not be altered at this site. Typical stormwater runoff sheetflows down the ramp and enters the river.

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

Surface and ground waters will be protected by BMP's. Waste materials will not be used and not enter surface waters.

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

Drainage patterns will not be altered.

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

None.

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? [\[help\]](#)

No native vegetation will be removed or affected as a result of this work. Some planted grass areas will be disturbed and converted to picnic and day use facilities.

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

No threatened or endangered plant species are listed as occurring near this site.

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

No vegetation will be removed as part of this project and no enhancement is planned. This area has established vegetation onsite. Mitigation plantings will occur at a WDFW site 9 miles upstream to mitigate for in-water habitat impacts.

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

Knapweed is present at this site.

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

**Bull trout, Columbia River**  
**Steelhead, Upper Columbia**  
**North American wolverine**  
**Canada lynx**  
**Yellow-billed cuckoo**

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

Yes. Waterfowl, deer, and salmon migrate through this area.

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

Work will only be performed on previously impacted and established footprints to avoid additional impacts to aquatic habitat. Work will be timed to avoid critical breeding seasons for waterfowl.

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

No known invasive animal species occur at this site.

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

No energy will be used.

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: [\[help\]](#)

This project will not require the use of energy after completion therefore no energy conservation features were considered.

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

No.

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

None known or anticipated.

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 or anticipated.

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

No hazardous chemicals will be used, stored or produced.

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

Emergency medical help may be needed if an injury occurs during construction.

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

Fueling of equipment will be done in upland staging areas isolated from surface waters.

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

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

This project will not be affected by noise.

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

Increased short term noise levels are expected during construction hours from 7 am to 5 pm. No long term changes in noise levels are anticipated.

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

Equipment used during construction will be in good operating condition and properly equipped with mufflers to minimize noise impacts.

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

This site is used as an access area for recreation and boating. Adjacent properties are used in agriculture with some private and commercial 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? [\[help\]](#)

No.

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.

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

The site contains a gravel boat ramp and primitive parking areas.

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

No.

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

Rural residential.

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

Rural.

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

Rural.

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: [\[help\]](#)

None.

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

Consult with City of Riverside.

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

Consult with City of Riverside.

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

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

The tallest structure onsite is an eight foot high vault toilet. This toilet will not be altered as part of this project.

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

None.

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

No glare is anticipated.

- 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 known.

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

None planned.

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

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

Fishing and boating.

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

No. A temporary closure of the ramp would be in effect during construction.

- 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 needed.

## 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 buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old.

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

There are no features or landmarks that are apparent at this site. A WDFW archaeologist and USACE archaeologist will review this project which may result in a professional cultural review. Local tribes will also be consulted with on this project.

- 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.

[\[help\]](#)

Methods of assessment included checking the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation website. A WDFW archaeologist and USACE archaeologist will review this project which may result in a professional cultural resources review. Local tribes will also be consulted on this project.

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

All work will be done on established launching surfaces and within the ramp footprint. Any conditions imposed as a result of consultation or a cultural resources survey will be observed. Any potential sensitive areas will not be disturbed. The project will operate under a WDFW Inadvertent Discovery Plan.

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

This site is served by US Highway 97.

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

Public transit is available at the City of Riverside which is adjacent to the site.

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

Sixteen formal parking spaces will be constructed. Current parking is informal can accommodate approximately 10 vehicles.

- 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.

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

A small increase in vehicle trips is anticipated.

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

No.

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

None taken or needed.

**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. Usage of this site will not be changed and not result in a need for additional services.

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

WDFW will conduct repairs quickly to avoid impacts to public.

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

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

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

**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: Marty Peoples

Name of signee Marty Peoples

Position and Agency/Organization Fish & Wildlife Biologist, WDFW

Date Submitted: 11/1/16