

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

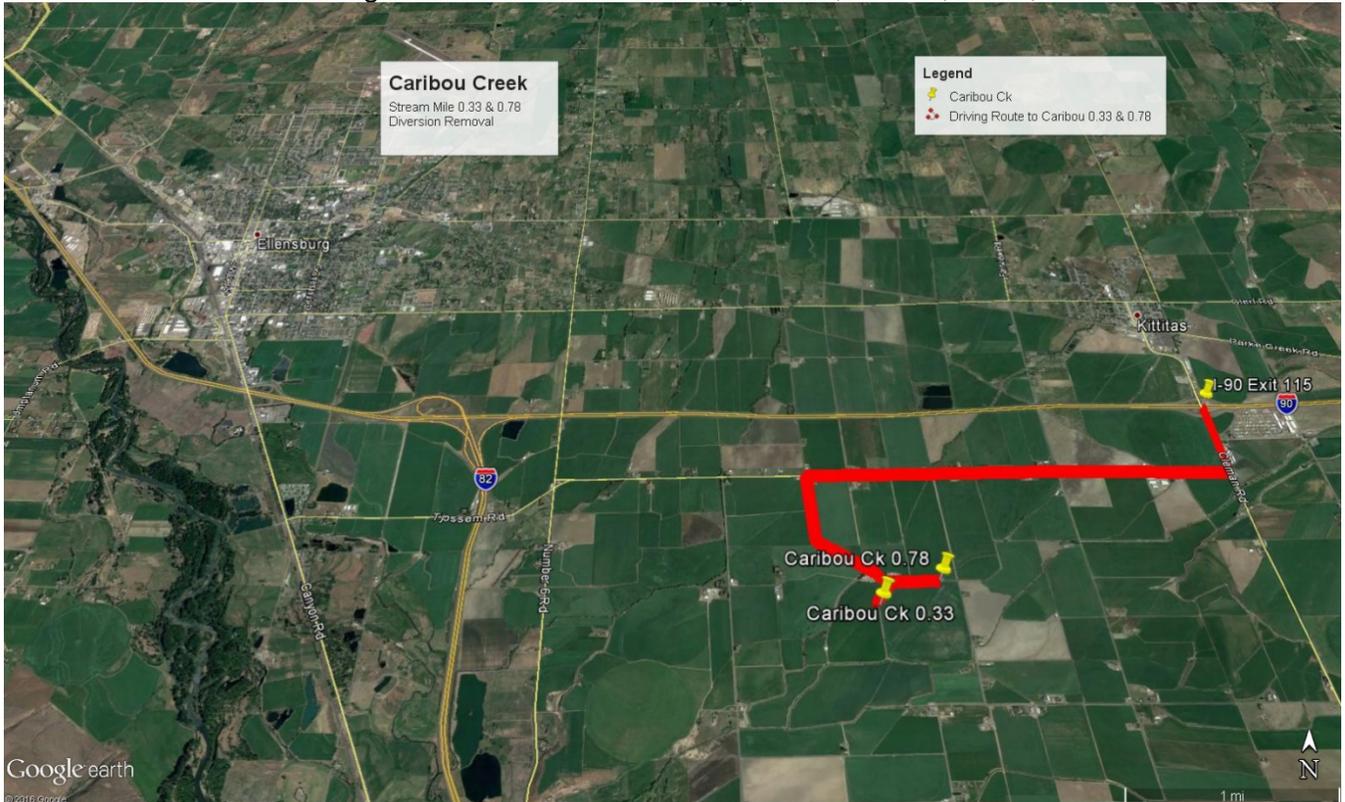
1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)  
Caribou Creek – Stream Miles 0.33 & 0.78 Diversion Removals
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)  
Kittitas County Conservation District
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

2211 W Dolarway Rd., Ste 4,  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
Anna Lael  
(509) 925-3352  
[a-lael@conserveva.net](mailto:a-lael@conserveva.net)

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)  
December 9, 2016
5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)  
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)  
January 9 to February 15, 2017 if the project can not be completed in this timeframe the work will be completed November 2017 – February 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. [\[help\]](#)  
Archeological Report for Section 106 has been completed.  
ESA consultation has been completed under BPA's programmatic Biological Opinion for habitat improvement projects.
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
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)  
Application for HPA from WDFW  
Section 401 Water Quality Certification-Ecology  
Section 404 Corps of Engineers  
Floodplain Development Permit – Kittitas County
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 will remove two fish passage barriers from Caribou Creek to provide year round fish passage for all life stages and species.

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 work will be completed on Caribou Creek near S. Ferguson Road in Kittitas County.  
 Caribou Creek 0.78 Lat/Long – 46.952281 / -120.4525443, NW1/4 Sec 22, T17N, R19E  
 Caribou Creek 0.33 Lat/Long – 46.950017 / -120.459895, NE1/4, Sec 21, T17N, R19E



**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)? [\[help\]](#)  
 <2%

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. [\[help\]](#)

Ashy Silty Loam – Class A

No soil will be removed and there will be no impact to agricultural lands.

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

No

- 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 existing concrete and wooden check dam structures will be removed at each site, the bed and banks will be regraded with a roughened channel to ensure fish passage for all species and life stages. All materials will come from local sources.

The permanent fill at 0.33 will be approximately 70 cubic yards of streambed simulation material in 100 linear feet of creek.

The permanent fill at 0.78 will be approximately 30 cubic yards of streambed simulation material and large scale roughness boulders, 50 cubic yards of wood for wood structure, and 65 cubic yards of riprap in 45 linear feet of creek.

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

Best Management Practices will be applied during and after project construction to minimize erosion. Coir matting, rock, and/or straw may be used to temporarily control erosion, long term erosion control will include native vegetation.

- 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 no impervious surfaces installed as part of the project.

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

Erosion control matting will be placed on the streambanks to control erosion until native grass, trees and shrubs can get established. Seeding and mulch will be placed on upland areas to control erosion until crops can be reestablished.

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

There will be no emissions generated after the project is completed.

There will be minor emissions from the equipment during construction (excavators, dump trucks, loaders).

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

N/A

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. [\[help\]](#)  
All work will be adjacent to and in Caribou Creek. Caribou Creek is a fish bearing stream that is a tributary to Parke 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. [\[help\]](#)

Yes. Two concrete gravity irrigation diversions will be removed and replaced with roughened channels and large wood for bank stabilization. See plans attached.

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. [\[help\]](#)

See B. 1. e. above.

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

Surface water will not be withdrawn but the creek will be diverted temporarily around the work areas to allow the work to be completed in the dry.

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

Yes. All work will be completed in the 100-year floodplain.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge. [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A

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. [\[help\]](#)

The only runoff water at the site would come off of the construction areas, adjacent farm field, County road, or farm road. The water will be diverted around the work area as much as possible.

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

Best Management Practices will be applied during and after construction to prevent runoff from entering Caribou Creek.

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

No

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

Best Management Practices may include: plastic sheeting, coir matting, revegetation, mulch, and appropriate grading.

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? [\[help\]](#)

Reed Canary grass will be removed from the creek bank in the work area

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

Ute ladies'-tresses are listed for Kittitas County, but no populations have been documented.

- 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 reseeded with native grasses and native trees and shrubs will be planted in Spring 2017.

- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
None

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

- b. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

- c. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
MCR Steelhead, Columbia River Bull Trout

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

Ducks and geese can be seen in the area occasionally

Trout, spring chinook and coho have been seen in lower Caribou Ck

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

A fish rescue will be performed in the work area after the creek is by-passed around the area.

The diversion removal will enhance wildlife by allowing fish passage.

The large wood will provide fish habitat.

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

None

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

N/A

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

N/A

**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.

[\[help\]](#)

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

The only noise from this work will be the sound of excavators, trucks, pumps and rock placement for short durations. The work will be performed between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and will be completed within three weeks.

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

Equipment will only be operated when necessary.

## 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 adjacent property is farm land and a County Road. The County road will temporarily be affected during construction at Caribou Creek 0.78. There will be a minimal amount of work done in the road right-of-way so equipment may be working from the edge of the road. Traffic will need to drive around the equipment for a couple of hours total.

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 adjacent land is farm land but none of the land use will be affected by the 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

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

There is a County road bridge adjacent to the upstream project area. Two concrete irrigation diversion structures will be removed.

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

Two concrete irrigation diversion structures will be removed.

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

Commercial Agriculture

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

Commercial Agriculture

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

N/A

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

Yes. 100 year Floodway, Type 2 Stream

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: [\[help\]](#)

N/A

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

The design plans for the upstream site provides bioengineered bank stabilization to ensure the adjacent farm land is protected.

- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The design plans for one site provides bank stabilization to ensure the adjacent farm land is protected.

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

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? [\[help\]](#)

N/A

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

None

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

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

Fishing

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)  
No

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

N/A

**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? If so, specifically describe. [\[help\]](#)

No

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

No. Archeological survey completed in Fall 2013 and approved by DAHP February 18, 2014. Cherry Creek Tributaries Sprinkler Conversions Project; Log No.: 121713-01-BPA

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

Archaeological Survey; consultation with DAHP, Yakama Nation and Colville Tribes

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

Concurrence of No Historic Properties Affected by DAHP

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

The project will be accessed from S. Ferguson Rd. The work may require S. Ferguson to be single lane for a short period of time to facilitate a portion of the construction work at the upper work site.

- 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.

N/A

- 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

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

No

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

None

**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: Anna Lael

Name of signee Anna Lael

Position and Agency/Organization District Manager / Kittitas County Conservation District

Date Submitted: 12/2/2014