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:

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: *Nisqually Access Redevelopment*

2. Name of applicant: *Doug Wiedemeier, WDFW*

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: *600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501-1091; 360-789-2464*

4. Date checklist prepared: *March 4, 2020*

5. Agency requesting checklist: *WDFW*

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): *Begin construction in summer 2020 (if permits obtained, otherwise 2021) and complete within 6 months of beginning work.*

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. *No other work currently planned.*

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. *The National Wetlands Inventory shows two Freshwater Forested/Shrub Welands on the right bank. The Nisqually River is shown as Riverine. No wetlands on near bank of Nisqually River adjacent to the project.*

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. *No.*

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. *WDFW will pursue all County permits and a hydraulic project approval.*

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.
The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) proposes to upgrade the WDFW (and county) owned Nisqually Access Site located in Thurston County. The existing site is made up of two WDFW parcels (0.15 AC and 0.23 AC) plus some county right-of-way all located on the left (south) bank of the Nisqually River, and needs to be ADA compliant. Surrounding parcels are residential to the south and west, railroad to the east, and forested to the north.
WDFW proposes the following scope of work:

1. *Remove all existing asphalt. Grub sub-grade and re-grade to conform to accessibility standards, no slopes greater than 2% augment with additional crushed surfacing top course as needed and compact.*
2. *Sawcut and remove existing pavement along transition edges ~ minimum 5 foot width.*
3. *Install hot mix asphalt as shown on drawings (15,800 square feet).*
4. *Where new surface does not overlay existing asphalt, excavate existing material to the proper depth. Place and compact crushed surfacing top coarse, 4 inch minimum, to proper levels.*
5. *Install shoulder barrier rock, stripes, and signs.*
6. *Place benches and wheel stops at locations shown.*
7. *Replace existing vault toilet with a new CXT Gunnison toilet.*
8. *Replace existing fence (96 feet) and install new fence (140 feet).*
9. *Remove all mature cottonwood trees (14) and install new trees (28) that will be 5 gallon or larger. Native species not yet chosen.*

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.
11642 6th Ave SE, Olympia, WA 98513. Township 18N, Range 1E, section 9. Thurston County. N 47.058003 W -122.692038 See plans for additional location information.

B. Environmental Elements [HELP]

1. Earth [help]

a. General description of the site:

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

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? *Less than 5%.*

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.
Pilchuck loamy sand

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. *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.
Purpose: to improve the ease which ADA fishers can use site and enjoy fishing access area.
Type: access area
Total Area: Total disturbed area slightly greater than 16,000 square feet; 15,800 sq. ft. of new asphalt.
Any imported fill will be from a commercial source (asphalt). Overall there will be a net cut of 10 CY.
No work below OHWM.
See permitting plans for details.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
Possibly, however BMPs will be in place. Once construction has been completed and soils are stabilized, there should be minimal risk of future erosion. Upon completion, areas of bare soils will be seeded. Plantings of trees will occur after construction.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings *Overall there will be an increase in asphalt coverage, but only of areas already graveled. Overall very little change in impervious surface over existing, as any areas where asphalt will be added are currently gravel surfaces.*

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: *BMPs will be in place during and after construction to control erosion. The new site will be graded to thoughtfully allow runoff to move into areas that will not present problems.*

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. *There will be an increase in diesel emissions while construction is occurring. Upon completion emissions should return to current levels.*

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. *None known.*

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: *None, as once construction is complete emissions should return to normal levels.*

3. Water [help]

a. Surface Water: [help]

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. *Yes, the access area lies on the banks of the Nisqually River, a Type S water.*

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. *Yes, the project will involve significant work within 200 feet of OHWM. See plans.*

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.
No work below OHWM.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. *No.*

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. *Yes, the entire site is located 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. *No.*

b. Ground Water: [help]

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. *No.*

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. *None. Toilet will be a self-contained CXT toilet and periodically pumped.*

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. *Presently, stormwater is shed off the site. The proposal will also shed off the storm water, but because of increased asphalt (versus gravel) the runoff should be less turbid.*

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. *The contractor will have spill equipment on site during construction.*

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. No.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: *WDFW is considering whether the dike should be continued on the site by adding a hump to the driveway. Currently sandbags are deployed across the gap in the dike during floods that vehicles normally use.*

4. Plants [help]

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

_x___deciduous tree: **alder, maple**, aspen, other: **cottonwood**
_x___evergreen tree: **fir**, **cedar**, pine, other
__x__shrubs
__x__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? *14 mature cottonwood trees proposed for removal. These trees represent both a danger (due to large branches falling) and are the main reason the existing asphalt needs to be replaced since roots are impacting the surface.*

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.
Golden paintbrush are listed as potentially found in Thurston County per the USFWS web site. The project site is within the listed range. Not known in project area.

Marsh Sandwort: Current range is Pierce county, which is just across the Nisqually River. Not known in project area.
Water Howellia generally occurs in seasonal ponds and is unlikely to occur along the Nisqually River. Not known in project area.
Most likely these listed plants do not occur at the site. WDFW will be on the lookout and consult with the appropriate agency should there be any evidence that listed plants are present.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: *WDFW proposes to plant at least 28 native trees. These trees will be at least in 5 gallon containers. See Plans.*

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.
Known invasive species include Himalayan blackberry, and reed canary grass.

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.

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.
***Steelhead**: Puget Sound DPS steelhead are listed as threatened, and are known to be in the Nisqually River. Critical habitat appears to be designated both upstream and downstream of proposed project.*
***Chinook**: Puget Sound chinook are listed as threatened, and are found in the Nisqually River. Critical habitat appears to be designated both upstream and downstream of proposed project.*
***Marbled Murrelet**: Site is within a designated murrelet section. The Nisqually River is a possible flight corridor. Murrelets are listed as threatened. Project is not in potential habitat.*
***Oregon spotted frog** is listed as threatened. Project is in range, but not within critical habitat.*
***Yellow-billed cuckoo** is listed as threatened, but populations are not well known in Washington. Project is not located in critical habitat.*
***Streaked Horned Lark** is listed as threatened. Project is not in critical habitat. Project is located within current known range.*
***Bull trout** are listed as threatened. The Nisqually River is listed as critical habitat. Bull trout are not likely to be present when construction occurs due to higher water temperatures in summer months.*
***Olympia Pocket gopher, Roy Prairie Pocket gopher, Tenino Pocket gopher, and Yelm Pocket gopher** are listed as threatened. Project is located within listed range for species, but outside critical habitat.*

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
Yes, the site is in the Pacific Flyway and also sees annual migration of fish including anadromous fish.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: *None.*

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

Invasive species include European starling and house sparrow.

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.

The existing site, and after proposed work, does not have any utilities.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None.

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. *No increase from present hazard potential.*

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

No known contaminates at site.

2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

None known. 811 will contacted prior to start of construction.

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.

None.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None anticipated.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: *None.*

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? *There will be a temporary increase in noise as the construction occurs. Once construction is done, noise levels should either return to normal or decrease slightly, as pumps will be newer and potentially quieter.*

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.
Short-term there will be an increase in traffic and construction noise.
Long-term noise levels will return to normal.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
Construction will be limited to 7 AM to 7 PM, unless local ordinances restrict noise further, in which case the more restrictive hours will be adhered to.

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. *The site is currently already used as an access area. Adjacent properties are either residential or growing timber.*

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? *This site has been an access area for since 1970.*

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how*: No.*

c. Describe any structures on the site.
There is an existing access area including parking, toilet, shed, and paved area adjacent to the Nisqually River at this location.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
Yes, see plans. The parking lot will be regraded and paved. Existing asphalt will be removed and replaced. The existing toilet will be removed and replaced with a new CXT toilet.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
RL 2/1

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

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

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.
None known.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
No one lives or works consistently at this site.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
No people will be permanently displaced by this project.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
No people will be permanently displaced by this project.

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
This proposal will not change use, therefore compatibility is not an issue.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
None proposed or needed, since there will be no impact.

9. Housing [help]

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
No impact to housing.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
None.

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?
The vent pipe on the new toilet extends 12.25 feet above base. Exterior building materials will likely be concrete, with a yet to be determined roof material.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
No changes to views as a result of this proposal.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
None proposed or needed.

11. Light and Glare [help]

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
There will be no changes in light or glare.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
No, there should be no change.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:
None anticipated.

12. Recreation [help]

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
People come to the hatchery to catch fish and bird watch. Public use will continue as present once construction is complete.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
Only during construction for safety reasons. Once construction is complete, all recreational uses can resume as usual.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: *Hoping to construct before fishing pressure peaks in fall.*

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.

Twelve previously conducted cultural resource surveys within 1-mile (1.6 km) of the project area. Five previously identified archaeological sites are within 1-mile. 45PO145, 45PI146, and 45PI147 are historic sites associated with early modern development in area. 45TN346, the shelter farm site is a pre contact 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.

On 2/13/2020 Adam N. Rorabaugh inspected recent flood deposits and exposures for cultural materials. The project as designed should have no impacts to cultural resources, but the CAMP archaeologist recommends site inspections for cultural resources after flood events.

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.
Tribal consultation under GEO-0505, DAHP WISAARD, post-flood site visit.

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.

WDFW Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) for cultural resources will be in place during project implementation and cultural resource reconnaissance after flooding events.

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.
See plans. 6th Ave SE is the access, off Old Pacific Hwy SE. Access site is signed.

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?
No public transit serving this site. Nearest bus travels on I-5, just over 1 mile away in a straight line. The nearest bus stop is 3 miles away according to Intercity Transit.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?
Difficult to know given the lack of currently marked spots now. Likely will be a decrease as WDFW attempts to keep vehicles above OHWM and off vegetated areas.

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).
No.

e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
Site only uses roads for transportation.

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?
Increased vehicular trips would occur during construction only. Once the project is completed, volumes should return to normal.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.
No.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:
There may need to be a flagger and/or signs at the intersection of 6th Ave SE and Old Highway 99 on very busy days for large trucks to enter and exit. Likely would only be needed a few days. Otherwise no transportation impacts anticipated.

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.
No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.
None proposed or needed.

16. Utilities [help]

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other ___propane, well water_____

c. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
No additional utilities needed or utilized at the site.

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 ____Doug Wiedemeier_____

Position and Agency/Organization ____Permitter, WDFW, CAMP_____

Date Submitted: __2/26/2020_____