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:
Blue Lake Access (near wannacut) Redevelopment

2. Name of applicant:
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
Bridgette Glass; 360-790-3036; Bridgette.glass@dfw.wa.gov; 600 Capitol Way N., Olympia, WA 98501

4. Date checklist prepared:
08/26/2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:
WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Work will occur in spring 2021.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
We may install a fishing dock along the shoreline. We may also consider installing additional trails depending on how the proposed trails are utilized.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
A survey for Ute Ladies tresses habitat was completed in May 2020 and a survey for the species in bloom was completed in early August 2020. Blue Lake did not have any Ute Ladies Tresses during the species survey.

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.
None are known.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
Army Corps 404 permit, WDFW- HPA, Okanogan County- Shoreline Substantial Development, Critical Areas Variance, grading, and building; DNR Aquatic Lease,

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.)
This project will renovate the existing gravel parking lot and hand launch with the installation of a geogrid and gravel for the launch, install accessible trails around the property (approximately 1 mile in length), including a nature trail to a viewing blind on Blue Lake, install new CXT vault toilet, signage and kiosk, barrier rock to block user created dirt roads, wood fencing and parking space improvements.

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.
Section- 01
Township- 39 N
Range- 26 E

The site is located in Okanogan county. From Oroville, take highway 7 south for 2.8 miles and then turn right onto Golden Road. Continue for 0.4 miles and then turn left onto Blue Lake Rd/ Golden Rd. Continue on Blue Lake Rd for 2.4 miles and the access site will be on the right-hand side.

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)?
The gravel hand launch has an 8.4% slope. The hiking trail will weave through some hills with slopes ranging from 20-30%.

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.
According to the NRCS Web Soil Survey, Synarep-Colville-Xerofluvents complex occurs where the proposed parking lot, vault toilet, boat ramp and fishing platform. This complex occurs at 0-3% slopes with mean annual precipitation of 21-15 inches and elevations ranging from 1,500 ft to 3,000 ft. Lithic Haploxerepts-Vallan complex occurs where the nature trail will be set up. This lithic complex contains 15-45% slopes, mean annual precipitation of 15-18 inches and elevations ranging from 3,000 ft to 4,500 ft. Neither of these soil types is considered to be prime farmland.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
There are no indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity of the project area.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
Approximately 93 cubic yards (CY) will be removed from the existing gravel parking area. Approximately 174 CY of gravel will be added to the parking lot, top of the boat launch (above the ordinary high water mark) to extend it in times of high water, and some will be added to the entrance road. Apprximately 10 Cy of hot mix asphalt will be used to pave one ADA accessible parking stall. Barrier rocks will be added to block decommissioned roads (21 CY). Approximately 25 CY of gravel would be added as fill for the nature trail along the shores of

Blue Lake to meet required standards for an ADA accessible trail of 5 ft in width and slopes less than 5%. The rest of the proposed trail will be a dirt path where the vegetation will be removed exposing native soil beneath. Fill will be sourced locally from within Okanogan County.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
Erosion is possible as a result of clearing the land for the trail and installing the gravel trail.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
The addition of the graveled ADA accessible portion of the trail will result in an increase of approximately 2,008 sq. ft. of impervious surface. We are also increasing the amount of impervious surface at the parking lot by 4,657 sq. ft. with the addition of the ADA accessible parking spaces and vault toilet. The two parcels (3926010001 & 3926010002) amount to 28.4 acres. Currently, approximately 0.8% of the site is impervious surface and we are proposing to increase the existing amount bringing the total amount of impervious surface on the two parcels to 1.4% of the area.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
Straw wattles may be placed along the shoreline where the ADA accessible nature trail will be installed with gravel. No straw wattles will be placed on any other sections of the trail as there is enough of a vegetated buffer to remove sediments before the water flows into Blue Lake. In other areas along the trail, we will slope the trail to allow natural draining and reduce conveyance of water on the trail which can lead to a build up in energy and lead to erosion.

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.
The construction equipment will temporarily add pollutants to the air.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.
There are no known off-site sources of emissions or odor that will affect the project.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
The construction equipment will have standard emission controls to reduce the emissions created during construction of the project.

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.
The proposed project is to create a boat access at an existing recreation site maintained by WDFW. Blue Lake is in the immediate vicinity of the site. We will be maintaining a gravel launch.

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.
The project work will involve work within and adjacent to Blue Lake as described in 3.a.1).

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.
Approximately 26 CY of gravel will be placed below the ordinary high water mark to maintain the existing gravel boat launch. The fill will be sourced locally.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.
The proposed action does not require water withdrawals or diversions.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.
No, the proposed project is not within 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.
There will be no discharge of waste materials to surface waters.

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 groundwater will be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes.

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.
There will be no waste material discharged into the ground from septic tanks. The CXT toilet that will be installed is a vault toilet that will be regularly emptied.

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.
Runoff will come from precipitation. Most of the runoff from the trail and parts of the parking lot will be filtered through vegetation before it reaches Blue Lake. The adjacent town of Oroville, WA receives 15 inches of precipitation and 57 inches of snow annually, on average.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.
It is unlikely that waste materials could enter ground or surface waters.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.
The proposed project will not significaly affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

It is not anticipated that this project will significantly alter surface, ground, and runoff water, or drainage patterns. No measures are proposed to reduce or control impacts.

4. Plants [help]

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

____deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
_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?

Approximately 17,511 sq. ft. of vegetation will be removed to create the nature trail that is approximately 1 mile long.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Ute Ladies Tresses is a federally threatened species that is known to occur within one mile of the project area.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

The decommissioned roads will be reseeded with native vegetation to enhance

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

The following species are known to occur in Okanogan County: Garlic mustard, Mirabilis, Syrian bean-caper, meadow cleary, puncturevine, longspine sandbur, spurge flax, rush skeletonweed, plumeless thistle, scotch broom, scotch thistle, musk thistle, perennial pepperweed, Hawkweed species, Common bugloss, leafy spurge, Tansy ragwort and Yellow starthistle.

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.

According to the USFWS, Information for Planning and Consultation, the Canada Lynx (T), Gray Wolf (E), North American Wolverine (Proposed T), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (T) and Bull Trout (T) have the potential to occur near the site.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
Blue Lake is not known to be a part of the migratory route but there are migratory birds including the Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle and Willow Flycatcher that may occur in the area.

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

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.
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.
There will be no required energy needs when the project is completed.

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:
This project was designed to not require a sustained energy source of any kind.

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.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
There are no known sources of contamination at the site from present or past uses.

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.
There are no known undergournd hazardous liquid or gas transmission pipelines located within the projeccte area or the nearby vicinity.

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.
There are no toxic or hazardous chemicals that will be stored, used, or produced during the projects development or construction or at any time during the operating life of the project.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
No additional emergency services are anticipated to be required. If there are accidents at the access site, emergency services will be called to respond as they would do in the access sites current state.

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

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?
The access site is located off Blue Lake Rd which is a 35 mph county road. There may be some noise from local traffic using Blue Lake Rd.

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.
For the short-term basis, the construction noise would be prevalent during the course of construction and those hours are indicated below. In the long-term basis, the development of this access site is expected to increase usage by approximately 25% which could result in increased noise from users participating in any number of allowed recreational activities on WDFW owned parcels.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
Construction operational hours will be limited to typical working hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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 used as a relatively undeveloped access site with recreational activites on and around Blue Lake on WDFW owned parcels. The proposal will not affect land uses on nearby or adjacent properties as there is no significant change in the use expected at this site.

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?
No, the project site has not been used as working farmlands or working forest lands.

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 currently a gravel parking area, a gravel hand launch, entrance road and dirt road paralleling Blue Lake.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No structures will be demolished.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Rural.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
Rural resource (2014 plan)/Agricultural Resource (alternative analyzed in 2018 revision).

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.
No.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
None are proposed.

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
None are proposed.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
None are proposed.

9. Housing [help]

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

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

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
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?
The tallest proposed structure is the CXT vault toilet. The vent pipe is the tallest part of the structure at 12' 3". The exterior of the vault toilet is comprised of concrete that is painted to resemble barnwood with a cedar shake look to the roof.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
No views would be altered or obstructed.

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

11. Light and Glare [help]

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
No light or glare will be produced as a result of this project.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
No.

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 are proposed.

12. Recreation [help]

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
This access site will provide fishing, swimming, hiking, wildlife viewing, and boating oppportunities. There is an adjacent access site on Wannacut Lake which provides motorized boat launch opportunities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
No existing recreational uses would be displaced.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:
There is an existing dirt road that will be decommissioned, reseeded to restore native vegetation and boulders will be placed on the ends to prevent further usage. The designated entrance road will be regraveled and wooden fence will be placed on the site to limit users to the designated road and parking area. Motorized boat users will follow county ordinances.

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.
No previously recorded built environment features over 45 years of age within 1-mil (1.6km) of project.

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.
No previously recorded archaeological sites within 1-mile (1.6km) of 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.
GIS, historic maps, consultation with Tribes and DAHP under GEO-0505.

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 Inadvertant Discovery Plan for cultural resources will be in place.

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.
Blue Lake Rd is a county road that can be used to access the site. This is shown in the attached project drawings.

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 the site is not currently serviced by public transit. The Blue Lake access is approximately 5 miles from the Chevron bus stop in Oroville by TranGo.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?
No additional space for parking would be created but four parking spaces would be designated with painted lines. The ADA parking space will be asphalt paved. The project would not eliminate any of the parking area that currently exists.

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).
The proposal will involve adding gravel to the entrance road to the Blue Lake Access Site as well as wooden fencing along the sides of the entrance road. This is a public road. There will be no improvements to the county road (Blue Lake Road) which leads to the entrance of the access site.

e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
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?
The current usage of the site is approximately 1,000 vehicles per year. It's expected that this project will generate increased usage of the access site as there will be a defined nature trail. The anticipated increase in usage will be approximately 25%.

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:
None are proposed.

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.
The proposed project is not expected to significantly increase the usage of the access site and therefore potentially require an increase in public services.

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

16. Utilities [help]

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____
No utilities are currently available at the site.

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 utilities are proposed as part of this project.

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: Bridgette Glass

Name of signee Bridgette Glass

Position and Agency/Organization Environmental Planner 3 – WDFW

Date Submitted: 8/26/2020