

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:

Swakane Canyon Rifle and Pistol Range

2. Name of applicant:

Stephanie Kuhns, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Stephanie Kuhns
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501
(360)584-3841**

4. Date checklist prepared:

8/10/2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Phase 1: October 1-31, 2020

Phase 2: October 1-31, 2021

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

None

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

A general cultural resources report was prepared.

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 known.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

Chelan County General Land Use Permit and Chelan County Conditional Use Permit

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.)

The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW) proposes to construct a shooting range in Swakane Canyon, part of the Swakane Unit of the Chelan Wildlife Area (WLA). The shooting range falls under the WLA management plan in Goal 9, Objective C. Goal 9 is to “support and maintain appropriate recreation opportunities,” while Objective C is to “develop options to lessen the conflicts among target shooters and other recreation user groups in the Swakane Canyon” (WDFW, 2018) Target shooting is already a popular activity at the Swakane Unit, “to such an extent that it is impacting wintering mule deer and precluding use of the canyon bottom for other recreation activities such as birding, hiking, and horseback riding” (WDFW, 2018).

The goal of the shooting range is to continue to provide recreation opportunities (target shooting)

while reducing conflict between humans and wildlife (primarily mule deer using nearby overwintering habitat) and conflict between multiple user groups (target shooters and non-target shooters).

The shooting range will be constructed in two phases. Phase 1 will consist of creating a rifle range, and Phase 2 will consist of creating a pistol range. Phase 2 will be scheduled only after additional funding is secured.

Phase 1 sequencing:

1. Field stake project limits and grade stakes
2. Install erosion control elements
3. Clear and grub site area in phases as construction proceeds
4. Excavate site and use cut material as berm fill
5. Install subgrade and gravel surfacing parking area
6. Install concrete walkway and shooting pad
7. Install back berm material
8. Seed disturbed areas (excess material from phase 1 will be stockpiles and seeded)
9. Remove erosion control when site established

Construction Methods and equipment:

Construction equipment used will be tracked excavators and dozers for cut and fill grading.

Berm material will be placed in lifts and compacted.

Gravel will be placed by dozers and graders and compacted with rollers.

Material will be moved on site with dump trucks and loaders.

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.

The shooting range will be accessed from the current road entrance at the Swakane Unit. From Wenatchee, drive north on Highway 97A about 1.4 miles past Rocky Reach Dam and turn west onto Swakane Canyon Road. The parking area and informational kiosk are about 1.2 miles down Swakane Canyon Road (no site address). It is located in Chelan County.

Section 22, Township 24N, Range 20E

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)?

0-10% slopes

- 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.

Cashmere sandy loam

- 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.

All fill will be sourced either from the site (repurposed from cuts elsewhere on the project site) or sourced locally. There will be approximately 2000 net cubic yards of fill. (See sheet 6 of drawings.)

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Yes, erosion could occur as a result of grading, but would be temporary in nature. Best management practices (BMPs) such as straw wattles and silt fencing will be used as needed.

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

Less than 1% of the project area will be covered by impervious surfaces. 11,700 square feet will be covered by impervious surface. The project area consists of two parcels totaling 566 acres.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Potential erosion will be controlled with BMPs such as straw wattles and silt fencing.

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.

Air emissions may increase slightly due to heavy equipment (such as trucks, tracked excavators, and dozers) during construction.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

None

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
Standard emission control converters and mufflers will be used by construction vehicles.

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.

Swakane Creek (seasonal, non-fish bearing) is near the proposed shooting range.

- 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.

No

- 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.

None

- 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.

No

- 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

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 from the parking lot and packed dirt of the shooting range may occur. It will flow into three stormwater swales that will be constructed.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.
**Stormwater runoff could contain chemicals from vehicles or fine sediments that will not be completely captured by the stormwater swales.
During construction, temporary BMPs will be implemented to reduce erosion and runoff.**

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

The shooting range would include a parking lot, concrete firing pads, and a gravel access path that will add impervious surface to the site.

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

Three stormwater swales will be constructed.

During construction, all BMPs necessary to reduce runoff will be implemented. These may include straw wattles, straw bales, filter fence, and/or silt fencing.

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

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

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?

Vegetation to be removed will consist primarily of grasses. Some small shrubs may also be removed.

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

Palouse milk-vetch (*Astragalus arrectus*) – Threatened

Two-spiked moonwort (*Botrychium paradoxum*) – Threatened

Wenatchee larkspur (*Delphinium viridescens*) – Threatened

Taylor's Stickseed (*Hackelia* sp. 2) – Threatened

Showy stickseed (*Hackelia venusta*) – Endangered

Adder's-tongue (*Ophioglossum pusillum*) – Threatened

Chelan rockmat (*Petrophyton cinerascens*) – Endangered

Canyon bog-orchid (*Platanthera sparsiflora*) – Threatened

Lowland toothcup (*Rotala ramosior*) – Threatened

Strawberry saxifrage (*Saxifragopsis fragarioides*) – Threatened

Wenatchee Mountains checker-mallow (*Sidalcea oregana* var. *calva*) – Endangered

Ute ladies' tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) – Endangered

Thompson's clover (*Trifolium thompsonii*) – Threatened

Whited's milk-vetch (*Astragalus sinuatus*) – Endangered

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

Disturbed areas will be seeded with a WDFW-approved mix of native grass seeds.

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

Knapweed sp., Dalmatian toadflax

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**, **eagle**, **songbirds**, other:

mammals: **deer**, **black bear**, other: **California bighorn sheep**

fish: herring, shellfish, other _____

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) –

Threatened

Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*) – Endangered

North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*) – Proposed Threatened

Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) – Threatened

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) – Threatened

Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) – Threatened

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

No

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

No equipment will operate in-water and no damage to shoreline vegetation is expected near Swakane Creek.

- 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.

None needed

- 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 proposed

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal?
If so, describe.

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

There is possible risk of fuel or vehicle/machinery fluid spills or leaks due to the fact that machinery will be operating in the work area. The risk of a spill or leak is not likely and spill kits are available at the project site if a spill should occur. Fueling of vehicles and machinery is completed upland and away from the water body.

There is possible risk of wildfire ignition during construction activities. This risk is dependent upon weather conditions and use of BMPs to reduce the risk of heat sources, sparks or open flames.

- 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.

No sources of contamination are known at this site

- 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.

Typical construction of this project will use gasoline or diesel powered equipment and some hand tools. The finished project will not require any source of toxic or hazardous chemicals. Best Management Practices will be used during construction to protect any introduction of foreign substances to the construction area.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services are anticipated

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Fueling of vehicles and machinery is completed upland and away from the water body to prevent any source of fuel from entering surface waters. A spill kit will be available on site in the event of an accidental spill.

b. Noise

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

No noise will affect the proposal.

- 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 noise will be created from machines used during construction, limited to typical working hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Long-term noise that would result from this proposal would consist of sounds from firearms.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

None. This location was chosen as it is already used by recreationists for informal target practice.

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 project site is currently used as a WDFW-owned and managed wildlife area (Chelan Wildlife Area, Swakane Unit).

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?

The property was previously used as working farmlands.

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.

None

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

No

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

RR 20

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

Unknown

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

Swakane Creek is not a designated shoreline of the state.

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 needed

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

The proposed project will be conducted in accordance with required Chelan County permits and conditions. The proposed project is also listed in the Chelan Wildlife Area master plan.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

The proposed project will have no effect to agricultural or forest lands.

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

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing will be provided.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing will be eliminated.

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?

No buildings will be constructed.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

No views will be altered or obstructed.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

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?

The proposal will not produce light or glare.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

The proposal will not produce light or glare.

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

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

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The location of the proposal is managed for recreational use. Hiking, bird watching, wildlife viewing, hunting, and target shooting all occur in the immediate vicinity.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

The proposed project will not displace existing recreational uses. It will provide a designated location for a use – target shooting – that currently occurs in this area informally. The proposed project will make target shooting safer for all recreational users.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

The project will not reduce recreation, but it will control it by providing a designated location for target shooting.

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.

Six previously recorded built environment aspects within 1-mile (1.6 km). Two residences, the Swakane Ponds, Lincoln Rock, Sickler Passive Repeater, and the Swakane Machine Shop. Lincoln Rock is on the Washington Heritage Register. No previously recorded built environment aspects within current project, and project will not impact viewsheds of historic structures.

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.

Eight previously conducted cultural resource surveys within 1-mile (1,6 km) of current project. Two previously recorded archaeological sites within 1-mile, 45CH291 consisting of a rock feature and 45CH52 a lithic site.

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.

WDFW initiated consultation with DAHP and effected tribes under Executive Order 0505. WDFW conducted a cultural resource survey with a secretary of the interior qualified archaeologist. No pre contact or historic cultural resources were present in the project area.

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.

No cultural resources identified in project area during cultural resource survey. Project as proposed will have no effect to cultural resources.

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

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The project site is accessed via Swakane Canyon Road

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

The proposed project would create 12 parking spaces, including one ADA parking space. No parking spaces will be eliminated.

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.

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?

Vehicular trips are not expected to increase greatly from the current level of use.

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

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

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 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 for 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: Stephanie L. Kuhns.....

Name of signee Stephanie L. Kuhns.....

Position and Agency/Organization Environmental Planner, WDFW.....

Date Submitted: 8/10/2020.....