

# 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:

**Liberty Lake Access Redevelopment**

2. Name of applicant:

**Stephanie Kuhns, WDFW**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501  
(360)584-3841**

4. Date checklist prepared:  
**11/5/2020**

5. Agency requesting checklist:  
**Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW)**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
**July – December 2021; as weather permits**

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 survey will be performed and a JARPA will be 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**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.  
**WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA), Spokane County permits, USACE permits**

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.)

**Work that will be performed by WDFW includes replacing two old vault toilets with a new Double CXT Vault toilet, resealing and striping the parking lot, installation of a new boarding float extension for boaters (8ft x 20ft), re-decking the existing fishing platform with new materials and railing, repairs to infrastructure include armoring the existing ramp, and installing new signage. Existing fishing platform was installed in 1999.**

**A CXT Double Vault Toilet (Tioga Model) will be installed with a digging footprint of 4 ft-4in deep, 11ft-11in long, and 14ft-14in wide. Existing boarding float has 3 floats, and a new 8ftx20ft float will be added. Existing fishing platform to be re-decked (84ft-71/2in long, and 10ft wide), all work will be performed for this portion out of the water.**

**Riprap will be installed on either side of the both the boarding float ramp and the launch ramp to prevent the extensive scouring that has damaged the current ramps. The scouring is caused by annual freeze/thaw**

events.

**New ADA parking signage will be installed near toilet. Mitigation in the form of native plants and root wads will be performed on the shoreline next to the existing fishing pier.**

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.

23801 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Spokane County

Liberty Lake, WA 99019

T: 25, R: 45E, S: 23, ¼ Section: SW ¼ of SW ¼

## **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%**

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.

**A geotechnical consultant analyzed the site and provided the following information in the report:**

**“Geologic information for the site and the surrounding area was obtained from the Geologic Map of the Washington Portions of Liberty Lake 7.5-minute Quadrangle and the South Half of Newman Lake 7.5-minute Quadrangle, Spokane County (Derkey et al. 2004). Subsurface conditions at the site are mapped as Pleistocene age glacial flood deposits, predominantly sand. The sand contains scattered gravel, cobbles, and boulders with gravelly beds or lenses in places. Steep hillsides to the south, east, and west of Liberty Lake contain bedrock, primarily mapped as Precambrian age gneiss. A 1953 log (Ecology; accessed December 3, 2019) for a well installed north of the site at the East Side Liberty Lake Improvement Club in the northwest quarter of Section 23 Township 25 north Range 45 east indicates that unconsolidated sand and gravel were encountered to the maximum drilled depth, 180 feet (ft) below ground surface (bgs).”**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

**None**

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.

**Cut above Ordinary High Water (OHW): 54 cubic yards (CY)**

**Fill above OHW: 77 CY**

**Cut below OHW: 138 CY**

**Fill below OHW: 162 CY**

**\*Quantities are approximate as existing riprap will be salvaged on site and filled back in as much as possible. New riprap will be added as needed. These quantities reflect 1/3 of existing riprap being salvaged.**

**Fill will be a mix of salvaged riprap from the site and locally sourced materials.**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **Yes, erosion could occur as a result of cut and grading during the work on the launches and dock, but would be temporary in nature. A turbidity curtain will be placed in the water around the work site to minimize sediments entering the water.**

**Other (upland) work is unlikely to cause erosion as it will be conducted on pavement.**

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

**Approximately 75%**

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

**Upland work is unlikely to cause erosion as it will be conducted on pavement. The area behind the restrooms will be reseeded with native grass. There are two mitigation areas near the water that will be planted with native willows to help reduce and control 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.

**Emissions from vehicles and heavy equipment would occur during the construction period. No emissions would occur from the finished project, as the site will not change in use.**

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:

**All heavy equipment will be outfitted with appropriate emission control measures and will not be allowed to idle for extended periods of time.**

## **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 site is located at/on Liberty Lake near Spokane.**

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 – a portion of the project will occur both in (boat ramp replacement) and over the water (loading dock installation).**

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.

**Dredging is not proposed.**

**Cut below OHW: 138 CY**

**Fill below OHW: 162 CY**

**\*Quantities are approximate as existing riprap will be salvaged on site and filled back in as much as possible. New riprap will be added as needed. These quantities reflect 1/3 of existing riprap being salvaged.**

**No wetlands will be affected.**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

**None**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

**The proposal does not lie within a 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.

**The proposal does not involve any discharges 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.

**Groundwater will not be withdrawn.**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

**Waste material will not be discharged**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

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

**Sources of water runoff will not change. Temporary storm water impacts during construction may occur from rainfall events and will be contained within BMPs to prevent discharge to surface waters.**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

**Surface and ground waters will be protected through use of BMPs. Waste materials will not be used and will not enter surface waters.**

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

**Drainage patterns will not be altered.**

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

**Standard erosion control measures will be in place to reduce and treat runoff water. There are vegetated areas and mitigation areas planted with willows that will help treat runoff water.**

#### 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?

**Brush that has naturally encroached among riprap along the bank will be removed – approximately 400 square feet. Willow stakes will be placed in these areas as mitigation after construction concludes.**

**The grassy area behind the restrooms will experience some disturbance, but will be re-seeded with native grass seed after construction concludes.**

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

No threatened or endangered species are known to occur at the project site. Spalding's Catchfly, a threatened plant species, is known to occur in the region.

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

Native willow stakes will be planted along the shore once construction concludes (362 square feet).

Native grass seed will be used to revegetate the area behind the restrooms once construction concludes (approximately 300 square feet).

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

Numerous noxious weeds and invasive species are known to occur in the vicinity but have not been identified at the project location.

## 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.

**Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) are listed as threatened in Spokane County but presence in Liberty Lake is not expected and the lake is not listed as critical habitat.**

**Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) is listed as threatened in Spokane County but presence at the project location is not expected and there is no critical habitat listed within the project location.**

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

**Various migratory birds, including waterfowl species, use this region as part of a migration route.**

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

**WDFW will schedule this project during periods of minimal use by fish species to avoid any harmful impacts to fish.**

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

**No known invasive animal species inhabit this site.**

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

**No energy will be used as part of the completed project.**

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

**The project will not affect solar energy use.**

- 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:

**No energy conservation features are scheduled or needed.**

## **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.

**Materials likely to be present include gasoline, diesel fuel, hydraulic fluid, and lubricants. An accidental spill of one of these products could occur during project operations. Spill response kits will be on site at all times during construction.**

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

**There are no known contaminants from present or past uses at the 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.

**There are no known hazardous chemicals that would affect this project.**

- 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.

**No toxic chemicals will be used.**

- 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:  
**A spill prevention and pollution control plan will be prepared by WDFW project engineers to reduce risk of spills and to provide guidance if a spill occurs. Environmental health hazards are not expected as a result of this project. Only approved construction equipment and materials will be used in construction of this project.**

### *b. Noise*

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

**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.



**Short term noise levels will increase during construction. Long term noise levels will remain unchanged. Access area activities create minimal noise activity – this is primarily personal vehicles and recreational boats.**

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

**Noise levels are expected to increase during construction activities, which will occur from approximately 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. No change in noise level is expected from the completed project.**

## **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 state-owned and managed access area for boating and fishing. Adjacent properties are private residences.**

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 site has not been used as working farmland or forest land.**

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 effects anticipated.**

c. Describe any structures on the site.

**The Liberty Lake access site has a concrete boat ramp, three boarding floats, a wood fishing platform, and two vault toilets.**

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

**The vault toilets will be demolished and replaced with a new double vault toilet. The decking on the fishing platform will be removed and replaced.**

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

**Rural traditional**

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

**Rural traditional**

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

**Shoreline residential**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

### **Designated shoreline with 200 foot buffer**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

**No staff would reside or work full time at the project location.**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

**None**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

**Not applicable**

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

**WDFW will consult with Spokane County to ensure consistency with current land uses.**

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

**No impacts are anticipated**

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

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

**Public housing will not be affected or provided.**

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

**No housing units will be eliminated.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**None planned.**

### **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 new structure will be the double vault toilet, which is 8 feet above ground level.**

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

**No views will be affected.**

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

**None planned.**

### **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 new or increased light or glare.**

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?  
**Views will not be impacted by the project, and safety will be increased by the completed project.**

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?  
**There are no known off-site sources of light or glare that may affect the project.**

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

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

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?  
**This site serves as an access area for fishing and boating.**

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.  
**The project site will be temporarily closed to the public during construction to maintain public safety.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:  
**WDFW will provide public notice of the closure prior to and during construction.**

## **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.

**Seven previously recorded historic property inventory forms are also present in DAHP records for residences on N Mitchell Drive, outside of the viewshed of the current 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.

**DAHP records indicate two negative cultural resource surveys within 1-mile (1.6 km) of the current project. All proposed ground disturbing activities are within recent (<45 years of age) fill and extensive renovations occurred at this access area in 1996.**

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.

**Consultation under GEO-0505, archaeological monitoring report by Spokane tribe (negative for cultural resources), historic maps, GIS.**

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.

**The WDFW Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) for cultural resources will be in place during project implementation.**

#### 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.

**E 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue provides access to the Liberty Lake boat launch.**

- 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?

**This site is not served by public transit.**

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

**There will be no additional parking spaces as a result of this project.**

- 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 project will not impact existing roads. The approach to E 3rd Avenue and E 3rd Avenue itself will not be altered.**

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

**The project will not use water, rail, or air 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?

**This project will not result in increased vehicle trips. The project does not increase launching capabilities.**

- 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 planned.**

#### 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.

**No impacts to public services are anticipated.**

#### 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 change in utilities is planned.**

**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: 11/5/2020