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:

Lake Cavanaugh Access Redevelopment

2. Name of applicant:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

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

Chris Gourley

360-790-3118

600 Capitol Way North

Olympia, WA 98501

4. Date checklist prepared:

November 3, 2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

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

Anticipating work in the late summer or early fall of 2021. Timing limitations may exist due to permits (receiving permits and/or fish windows) or material availability (paving).

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

No future development is proposed at this time.

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

No environmental information beyond permit applications and supporting documents will be prepared. This includes a wetland delineation and Critical Areas assessment required by Skagit County.

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 of Engineers permit; County development permits including Shoreline Permits, Critical Areas Variance, and Septic tank permits; Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)

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 provide a safer user experience at the public access site, inclusive of all user groups. Improvements include:

- ***Vault toilet will be replaced with ADA-compliant vault toilet;***
- ***Grading activities will occur in the parking area;***
- ***Removal of the existing entrance sign and replacement with a new kiosk at parking lot edge;***
- ***New boat launch using precast concrete planks will be placed;***
- ***Articulated concrete mats around all sides of the boat ramp, including under the floats;***
- ***A new boarding float (2 floats at 6'x20' and one 8'x20') with associated concrete abutment (6'x20') will be present on the south east side of the ramp;***
- ***Asphalt paving and striping of existing gravel surface with placement of wheel stops;***
- ***Striping and location of two ADA-compliant parking stalls, including one for trailer parking;***
- ***Planting of 33 trees to enhance the forested wetland buffer along the parking area, including underplanting to increase densities.***

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 site is located on the south end of Lake Cavanaugh at 34951 South Shore Drive; Mount Vernon in Skagit County, WA. The parcel numbers are 66486 and 66487. The site is in T 33N, Range 06E, S35. Take I-5 north to exit 212 and turn right onto Stanwood Bryandt Rd. Turn left onto Hwy 9. Turn right onto 4th Ave NE, which turns into Granstorm Rd. Keep left until you come to Lake Cavanaugh Rd. Turn right and follow to South Shore Drive. The site is located on the north side of the road.

B. Environmental Elements [HELP]

1. *Earth* [help]

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): Flat, **rolling**, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other ***The project is within the lake's watershed which is surrounded by high hills. The project site declines steadily to the lake edge.***

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

The ramp will be at a 12.5% slope (similar to current conditions) and the parking area will vary from 8% to 13% when finished grading is complete.

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, the property is soley made up of the soil type Sorensen very gravelly silt loam 3-30% slopes. This is not considered prime farmland and has not been used as farmland.

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

This area has not experienced unstable soils. The Skagit County iMap has determined this area to be at risk of wind exposure and the assumed soil bearing capacity is 1500 PSF.

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.

The parking area will be graded and covered in asphalt, increasing the total area to 19,780 SF (from 18,325), a net increase of 1,455 SF. The parking area will utilize net fill of 620 CY due to ADA compliance and grading, in addition to the asphalt overlay.

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

The site is sloped toward the water and grading will occur in the parking area. All necessary BMPs will be installed to keep sediment from the site from entering the water. This may include but is not limited to straw wattles, straw bales, silt fencing, project timing, and check dams. The ramp is anticipated to be removed, graded, and replaced during low water, if permits allow, to minimize risk of turbidity and erosion. A turbidity curtain will be placed to reduce the amount of turbidity and erosion that could reach the water.

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

Impervious surface on the site will increase by roughly 1,455 SF. The existing impervious surface is roughly 39.7% and this will increase to 42.8%, an increase of 3.1% impervious surface over 1.06 acres.

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

A turbidity curtain will be added around the ramp footprint while in-water work is being accomplished. This will reduce the risk of sediment spreading through the water. As needed due to timing, weather, and materials encountered, other BMPs including straw wattles or filter socks may be used to contain erosive materials.

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.

During construction, dust and standard vehicle emission will be present, but will be controlled (see 2c). Operation and maintenance of the site is not expected to increase any types of emissions. The site use will not change.

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

None are known.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Vehicles for construction will have standard emission control devices.

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 boat launch provides access to Lake Cavanaugh.

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. Removal and installation of the replacement boat launch, installation of articulated concrete mats, and installation of a boarding float and associated abutment will occur partially below OHWM. Much of the work for this proposal will occur within 200 feet of lake Cavanaugh, including asphalt overlay, striping, and grading.

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.

Fill below OHWM is approximately 56 CY and includes gravel, concrete, articulated concrete mats, and pre-cast concrete ramp planks. The cut below OHWM is approximately 35 CY and includes the existing ramp materials.Removal and placement of fill is all within the ramp footprint area. No wetlands will be altered.

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

There will not be a surface water withdrawal or diversion. No concrete will be cast in water. If waters are not low enough at the time of construction to pour concrete without risk of water contamination, a cofferdam of sandbags will be built temporarily.

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

Yes. Zone A: Without BFE. Firm Map # 5301510450C, effective 01/03/1985.

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 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.

No groundwater will 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.

No waste materials will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources.

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.

The use of the site and the overall design is not being significantly altered to alter stormwater.

Alterations in drainage and disposal are not proposed.

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

Waste materials are not expected to enter ground or 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 affected in the vicinity or on the site.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage

pattern impacts, if any:

No measures are proposed.

4. Plants [help]

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

_X___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.
_X___ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
_X___water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
____other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Vegetation will be trimmed in the northeast corner of the parking area. This vegetation is primarily salmonberry, a native perennial plant. Vegetation will be grubbed to the construction limits.

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

None are known.

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

Native vegetation enhancement is proposed for areas on the east side of the proposed parking area. Approximately 33 trees will be planted to enhance the forested wetland buffer. Landscaping efforts will be completed in the fall or early winter before the ground freezes.

Species	*Number of trees*	*Notes*
Western Red Cedar	***15***	***5 gallon size***
Western Hemlock	***10***	***5 gallon size***
Red Alder	***8***	***5 gallon size***

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

Himalayan blackberry could be found on site.

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.
Gray wolf (Endangered), marbled murrelet (Threatened), yellow-billed cuckoo (Threatened), and bull trout (Threatened) with associated Dolly Varden are listed near the site. None of the species have been documented near the site and none are expected to be on the site due to lack of evidence of proper habitats and site availability.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
This site is along a bird migration route of the Pacific Flyway on the Pacific Coast Route. The bald eagle and willow flycatcher are species likely to be present in this area.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
The site uses will not be changing. Achieving project completion in a timely manner will help with the preservation of wildlife, as well as abiding by any work windows assigned to the project.

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.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.
No. The use and height of site elements will not change.

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.
There are no environmental health hazards at this site.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
None are known.

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 are known.

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 are known.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
Use will not change, so there is no change anticipated in emergency services.

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)?

This site is in a developed, but rural area of Skagit County and is not near major highways. Residential noises may be present, but no noise will impact the project site.

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 associated with construction equipment. Because use of the site will not change, any noise associated with current use is expected to continue. This includes vehicle traffic, boat launching, and other water uses.

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

No measures to reduce noise impacts are proposed in the long term. Short-term noise associated with construction will be reduced and controlled by limiting time constructing to the amount necessary and utilizing the most reasonable equipment when constructing.

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 a boat launch and water access area with 1 vault toilet. Adjacent parcels are all residential homes and water access for private use only. No land uses will change due to this project.

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. This site has not been used for farmalnds. No land is being converted from farmland for this project.

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

This project will not affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations.

c. Describe any structures on the site.
The site currently has 1 vault toilet.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
The vault toilet will be removed and replaced with an ADA-compliant vault toilet.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Rural Village Residential (RVR)

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
Rural Village Residential (RVR)

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.
A wetland is present on site and has been delineated per the county guidelines.

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:
N/A

L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
The use of the site is not changing for this proposal.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
No measures are proposed.

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.

None.

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 vault toilet vent pipe is approximately 12 feet tall. The exterior is concrete cast to look like shingles or rocks and all components are neutral colors.

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

No views will be obstructed. The vault toilet structure is a a reaplacement structure for an existing structure of similar size.

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

Materials are chosen to blend in with neutral colors where possible.

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 issues will arise from 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 is a water access site for Lake Cavanaugh. This area is used for fishing, wildlife viewing, and additional water activities. Users launch boats and shore fish on this site.

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

No; it will enhance the user experience and user safety.

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

The area will be closed during construction, but the closure time will be limited to the smallest amount possible to reduce impacts.

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 reported historic structures or built environment aspects within 1-mile (1.6 km) of 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.

Three previously reported archaeological sites within 1-mile of the project area, and one previously conducted cultural resource survey (Stilson 2008) within 1-mile of project area. WDFW conducted a cultural resource survey of the project area (Rorabaugh 2019) which was negative for cultural resources in the project area.

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, cultural resource survey, 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.

The site is served by South Shore Drive.

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?

While Skagit County has a community transit system, no stop exists near the site. The closest public transit is roughly 9 miles away on Hwy 530 in Snohomish County, just west of Oso.

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

The project will delineate parking areas and will add ADA designated parking. However, the parking area is changing very little. The project proposes a more efficient use of the parking area so that 7 vehicle spots (10'x20') are designated, a vehicle ADA compliant spot next to the vault toilet, an ADA-compliant trailer spot (10'x50'), and 7 trailer spots.

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 improvements on existing roads are proposed.

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

No additional transportation will be used for this proposal.

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?

WDFW does not anticipate an increase in vehicular trips due to this proposal. Truck traffic will not increase due to this proposal. The site is well-utilized, but there is no overflow parking on the site.

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.

The proposal will not interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads in this area. The use of this site is not changing.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

No measures are proposed as the site use is not changing and transportation impacts are not expected.

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.

Public services are not expected to be impacted.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

The site improvements will result in increased user safety. No additional measures 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 _____

None.

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.

None.

C. Signature [HELP]

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Name of signee __Christina L Gourley_____

Position and Agency/Organization ___Environmental Planner / WDFW_____

Date Submitted: __11/13/2020_____