

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 [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Riverfront Park Boat Ramp Replacement

2. Name of applicant:

Alex Laughtin

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

600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501; 360-819-3776

4. Date checklist prepared:

2/22/2023

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WDFW

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

Summer 2023

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 plans at this time.

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

Wetland Delineation, Biological Evaluation.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

No government approvals are pending that could affect this property or proposal.

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

USACE NWP 3, HPA, City of Sedro-Woolley Shoreline Exemption.

11. Give a 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 boat ramp has sustained extensive structural damage over time, with the latest damage occurring to the bottom half of the ramp in the winter of 2021 for which a FEMA request was initiated (FEMA 4635). Upon further inspection of the boat ramp, it became apparent that the entire boat ramp warranted replacement. The project proposes to replace the existing 120-foot boat launch consisting of 12-inch x 12-foot x 4-inch pre-cast concrete planks with new pre-cast concrete planks that are 4-foot x 12-foot x 6-inches in the same location and footprint. Minimal sediment removal will be necessary to expose and replace the bottom of the existing launch.

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.

This project is located adjacent to the Skagit River in Riverfront Park, 901 River Rd., Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284, in Skagit County. Lat/long 48.48998, -122.22092; Township 35 Range 05E Section 30.

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](#)

a. General description of the site:

The project is located in a city park adjacent to the Skagit River. The land cover around the site includes maintained grass lawn and perennial and ephemeral streams. The WDFW boat access consists of a flat gravel parking lot, a vault toilet, and a sloping ramp into the river.

Circle or highlight one: **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

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

Zero percent.

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.

The soils on site consist on sand and silt. The NRCS Web Soil Mapper identifies the soils as Field silt loam (map unit 56). There will not be any soils of agricultural significance removed as a result of this project.

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

There is no history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity.

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 project proposes to replace the existing 120 ft x 12 ft concrete boat ramp in the same footprint as the existing. Approximately 60 CY of streambed material will need to be removed to access the bottom of the boat launch. The site will be graded to allow placement of the new pre-cast concrete planks.

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

Slight erosion may occur during excavation of the ramp and removal of the old planks.

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

There will be no increase in impervious surface as a result of this project.

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

Excavation of the ramp will be limited to the minimum necessary to expose the bottom of the boat ramp. Appropriate BMPs such as a turbidity curtain will be implemented during construction.

2. Air [Find help answering air questions](#)

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.

Dust and vehicle emissions may be slightly increased during construction. The project will not change the size or intended use of the access area; therefore, no change in operational emissions is expected.

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

There are no off-site sources of emission that could affect this project.

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

Equipment and construction time will be limited to the amount necessary to complete the project. Appropriate BMPs will be implemented, as needed.

3. Water [Find help answering water questions](#)

a. Surface Water: [Find help answering surface water questions](#)

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 project is located on the bank of the Skagit River, a perennial fish-bearing river. An ephemeral stream is located in the eastern portions of the site originating from a culvert outside of our area of interest and flows into the Skagit River upstream of the 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 will require work in and adjacent to the Skagit River in order to replace the failed boat launch. Please see the attached site plan.

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 60 CY of streambed material covering the bottom of the plank will need to be removed below the OHWM to replace the boat ramp. There will be no fill as a part of this project. The existing ramp planks will be replaced in the same location.

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

No surface withdrawals or diversions would be required for this project.

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

Yes, the proposed project lies within Zone A10, an area of 100-year flood with base flood elevations and flood hazard factors determined.

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 project does not involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters.

b. Ground Water: [Find help answering ground water questions](#)

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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No groundwater will be withdrawn from a well for any purpose.

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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 any source.

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

a) 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.

There will be no new sources of runoff as a result of this project. Runoff from the existing gravel parking lot will remain unchanged, and runoff from the boat launch will flow into the Skagit River.

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

No waste waters could enter the ground as a result of this project.

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

The proposal will not alter or effect the 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.

Not applicable. No affect to surface, ground, or runoff water is expected to occur during construction or as a result of this project.

4. Plants [Find help answering plants questions](#)

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?

No vegetation will be removed or altered as a part of this project.

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

There are no threatened or endangered plant species on or near the site.

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

Not applicable. There are no proposed landscaping plans or measures to enhance vegetation on this site.

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

Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*).

5. Animals [Find help answering animal questions](#)

a. List any birds and other animals that 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
- **Mammals:** deer,
- **Fish:** salmon, trout

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

ESA-listed species range for the Chinook Salmon Puget Sound Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) and the Steelhead Puget Sound Distinct Population Segment (DPS). The proposed threatened species is the North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*). The threatened species are the Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), and Dolly Varden/Bull Trout, and the candidate species is the Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*).

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

Yes, the site is a migration corridor for many fish species, as well as many migratory birds: Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Black Swift (*Cypseloides niger*), Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*), and Rufous Hummingbird (*Selasphorus rufus*).

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

This project proposes to replace an existing boat ramp within the same footprint. Work will be limited to the time needed to replace the ramp. There will be little to no effect on listed species. If site conditions allow, fish exclusion will occur prior to construction. No effects will occur to any terrestrial species.

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

No invasive species are known to occur on or near the site.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)

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

The machinery that will be used in the construction will require the use of diesel fuel to complete the work. Once the work is completed, the energy use at the site is not anticipated to change.

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

The project would not affect the potential use of solar energy.

3. 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 specific energy conservation features are included in this proposal.

7. Environmental Health [Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)

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

Fuel spills or vehicle/machinery leaks are possible. 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.

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

There is no known possible contamination at this site from past or present 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 hazardous chemicals or conditions that might affect project development.

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 or hazardous chemicals are anticipated to be onsite during the life of this project outside those normally associated with cars and boats, such as fuel.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No emergency services are anticipated during construction of the project. If needed, appropriate emergency services will be contacted.

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.

Fueling of vehicles and machinery will be 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)?

Light traffic noise and operational noise from the city park exist in the general area. This noise would not affect or be affected by this project.

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)?

Construction noise will occur during daytime hours. The project should take a week to complete and will not change the operation or use of the boat ramp. No significant long-term noise would be associated with this project.

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

No measures are proposed.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)

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 property is currently used as a boat launch and access area to the Skagit River. This access area is adjacent to the city's Riverfront Park and agricultural fields. This project will not affect surrounding land uses on adjacent properties.

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 because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

This project has not been used as working farm or 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.

Structures on site include a boat ramp and vault toilet.

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

The boat ramp will be demolished and replaced.

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

Public.

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

Public.

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

Urban Conservancy and Aquatic Environment.

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

The site is adjacent to the Skagit River.

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

Not applicable. This is a public access site.

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

This project will not displace people.

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

No measures are proposed.

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

No measures are proposed. The project is compatible with existing land uses.

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 [Find help answering housing questions](#)

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.
No measures are proposed.

10. Aesthetics [Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

Not applicable. No structures are proposed.

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

No views in the immediate vicinity would be altered.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.**

No measures are proposed.

11. Light and Glare [Find help answering light and glare questions](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

The project will not result in light or glare.

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

Light and glare will not create a safety hazard.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

No existing sources of light will affect this project.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.**

No measures are proposed.

12. Recreation [Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

The site is a public access area and boat ramp. The site is adjacent to a city park.

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

The project would temporarily displace recreational use of the boat ramp during construction.

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

Construction will be limited to the time needed to replace the ramp, estimated to take a week to replace.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)

- 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.**

There are 22 historic properties recorded within a 1.0-mile radius of the Riverfront Park, of which 19 have been determined not eligible for the National Register (104813, 104814, 104817, 104818, 104831, 104835, 53740, 53770, 676724, 678193, 709473, 709475, 715646, 717172, 717921, 718069, 723424, 725747, 728390) and three have no determination (14225, 14266, 715905).

There are three previously recorded archaeological sites (45SK00314, 45SK00315, 45SK00397) within a 1.0-mile radius of Riverfront Park.

- 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.**

Six cultural resource surveys have been completed within a 1.0-mile radius of the Riverfront Park (Baldwin 2015; Brannan 2006; Gilpin 2014; McClintock 2013; Piper 2009; Smith 2004). There are not any recorded built environment features, traditional cultural properties, or cultural resources within project area. According to the DAHP Predictive Model, the project is located in an area that is at a high risk for the potential of cultural resources.

- 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 has engaged in consultation under Executive Order 21-02 by WDFW with DAHP and affected tribes. The project is also subject to consultation under NHPA Section 106 through FEMA. WDFW completed a desktop review of project impacts using previous surveys, historic maps, and GIS data.

- 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 project as designed is limited within the footprint of previous modern (<45 years of age) ground disturbing activities. The WDFW cultural resource inadvertent discovery plan will be in place.

14. Transportation [Find help with answering transportation questions](#)

- 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.**

River road is adjacent to the project site and will be used to access the project site. Excess travel will not be needed on this 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?**

There is no public transit in the general vicinity of the project. The nearest transit stop is approximately 1.5 miles away.

- c. 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 require new improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities.

- d. 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 or occur in the immediate vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation.

- e. 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?**

No additional vehicular trips per day would be generated.

f. 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 project will not interfere or be affected by the movement of agricultural or forest products.

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

No measures are proposed.

15. Public Services [Find help answering public service questions](#)

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 project would not result in an increased need for public services.

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

No measures are proposed.

16. Utilities [Find help answering utilities questions](#)

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

Only utility on site is a vault toilet.

b. 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 this project.

C. Signature [Find help about who should sign](#)

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.

X 

Type name of signee: Alex Laughtin

Position and agency/organization: Environmental Planner/WDFW

Date submitted: 2/27/2023