

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:

West Little Walla Walla River Restoration (RCO 22-1517)

2. Name of applicant:

Kari Dingman, Wildlife Area Manager

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

2134 Tucannon Road, Pomeroy, WA 99347
509-843-1530

4. Date checklist prepared:

October 30, 2023

5. Agency requesting checklist:

WA Department of Fish & Wildlife

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

Construction proposed to begin July 2024 and end September 2026

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

No

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

None known of

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 other applications for this property are pending.

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

Shoreline Permit, HPA, Sec 401 Water Quality Certification, Cultural Resources Clearance, NOAA Limit 8, USFWS Consultation

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.)

The project will install post assisted log jams in the .10 mile of stream channel at the mouth of the West Little Walla Walla River to reconnect historic channels and floodplain. Reconnecting the historic channels will get water to the existing wetlands and potentially create new wetlands, as well as improving the connection of the West Little Walla Walla River to the Walla Walla River. Reed canary grass will be dug up by hand and removed from the streambanks of the West Little Walla Walla River, ground cloth (weed barrier) will be laid where the reed canary grass was removed, and riparian trees and shrubs will be planted to create shade for the stream.

Native trees, shrubs, and forbs will be planted into the existing grass stands on the upland portions of the property to provide wildlife habitat for all species. Mast producing trees will be planted in the field adjacent to the Walla Walla River to provide food for deer, turkeys, and other wildlife.

The riparian areas, wetland, and floodplain make up ~14 acres of the project site. The upland area of the project site make up ~18 acres. The entire project area is ~32 acres.

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 project area is located in Walla Walla County, west of the City of Walla Walla, along Stovall Road. The project area is located at 46.037922 N latitude and -118.479965 W longitude. The project area is located in Township 7N, Range 35E, Section 31. See attached maps.

B. Environmental Elements

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

a. General description of the site:

The property is currently managed as the Swegle Unit of the WT Wooten Wildlife Area. The portion of the property near the confluence of the West Little Walla Walla River and Walla Walla River is designated wetland with historic channels and floodplain. The vegetation consists of a cottonwood gallery with an understory of grasses, blackberries, snowberry, and noxious weeds.

The portion of the property that runs from the Walla Walla River south to Stovall Road is made up of a wetter field closer to the Walla Walla River than the West Little Walla Walla River runs through and a drier field closer to Stovall Road. The wetter field has been planted into grasses and has several species of noxious weeds. The drier field has been planted into Great Basin Wild Rye, but has kochia and Russian thistle growing around the perimeter of the field.

The noxious weed infestations on the property are treated annually.

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

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

The steepest slope on the project site is the bank from the southern field down to the West Little Walla Walla River. The slope is ~45 degrees and ~10 feet in height.

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.

- Catherine silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 15.6%
- Stanfield very fine sandy loam, leached surface, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 8.8%
- Touchet silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 7.4%
- Umapine silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 13.4%
- Umapine very fine sandy loam, leached surface, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 2.2%
- Yakima silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes = 50.6%

No soils will be removed from the project area.

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.

No filling or grading are proposed. The only excavation activity proposed is hand-digging reed canary grass from the banks of the West Little Walla Walla River, placing it in a dumpster, and disposing of it at the landfill.

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

Erosion could potentially occur, but ground cloth (weed barrier) will be laid in the areas where the reed canary grass is removed from the banks of the West Little Walla Walla River, and riparian trees and shrubs will be planted into the ground cloth.

The project area is fairly flat with little erosion anticipated overall. Trees, shrubs, and forbs will be planted into the existing grass stands in the upland areas with minimal vegetation removal occurring around each tree and shrub as it is planted.

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

0% of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces

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

Ground cloth (weed barrier) will be placed in the areas where the reed canary grass is removed and riparian trees and shrubs will be planted into the ground cloth.

The project area is fairly flat with little erosion anticipated overall. Trees, shrubs, and forbs will be planted into the existing grass stands in the upland areas with minimal vegetation removal occurring around each tree and shrub as it is planted.

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.

No equipment will be used to construct the beaver dam analogs. A gas powered hand auger may be used in the upland fields to dig the holes to plant the larger trees and shrubs into. A majority of the planting will be done by hand.

ATVs with spray tanks will continue to be used to treat noxious weeds on the property. Noxious weed control usually occurs 1-3 times per year depending on staff availability, growing season, and weather conditions.

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

None that will affect the project.

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

No proposed measures because no heavy equipment will be used.

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.

Yes. The Walla Walla River is adjacent to the project area on the north side. The West Little Walla Walla River flows through the project area and into the Walla Walla River. Both the Walla Walla River and West Little Walla Walla River are year-round streams.

There are freshwater emergent wetlands at the confluence of the West Little Walla Walla River and Walla Walla River. See attached maps.

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. The project will install post assisted log jams in the .10 miles of the West Little Walla Walla River from where it enters the Walla Walla River (see attached maps). The purpose of the post assisted log jams are to reconnect historic channels and floodplain, enhance existing wetlands, and potentially create new wetland habitat.

The reed canarygrass will be removed from the streambanks of the West Little Walla Walla River where it flows through the Stovall Field. Ground cloth (weed barrier) will be laid where the reed canarygrass is removed, and riparian trees and shrubs will be planted into the ground cloth to create shade for the stream.

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.

No fill will be added to the stream and no material will be dredged out. Post assisted log jams will be installed by hand in the West Little Walla Walla River and branches will be woven into the posts. The branches will be locally sourced.

4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give a 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.

Yes. All of the project area, except the southern field adjacent to Stovall Road is in the 100-year floodplain.

6. Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

There may be some sediment that enters the West Little Walla Walla River when the reed canary grass is dug up and removed, but all work will be conducted during the summer months when the water levels are at their lowest.

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 any wells.

No water will be discharged to groundwater.

- 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 material will be discharged into the ground.

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.**

No stormwater runoff will occur from the project.

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

No waste materials will enter the ground or surface waters from the project.

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

No the project will not alter or affect 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.**

No impacts from surface, ground or runoff water, or drainage impacts are anticipated.

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?

The reed canary grass growing on the streambanks of the West Little Walla Walla River will be removed and disposed of at the landfill.

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

Columbia Basin Foothill Riparian Woodland and Shrubland Habitat

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

Native riparian trees and shrubs will be planted along the streambanks of the West Little Walla Walla River, where the reed canarygrass will be removed, to create shade for the stream. Those plants include black cottonwood, white alder, coyote willow, and Geyer willow.

Native trees, shrubs, and forbs will be planted in the 2 upland fields to create more habitat for all wildlife species. Those plants include ponderosa pine, chokecherry, blue elderberry, mockorange, redosier dogwood, woods rose, wax currant, tall Oregon grape, antelope bitterbrush, rubber rabbitbrush, low green rabbitbrush, mallow ninebark, big leaf lupine, Basin wild rye, blue flax, common yarrow, Eaton's aster, Indian blanket flower, showy milkweed, firecracker penstemon, swamp milkweed, sticky geranium, and Munroe's globemallow.

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

Reed canarygrass, poison hemlock, kochia, Russian thistle, houndstongue, knapweed species, Scotch thistle, and Canada thistle

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, other:** Red-tailed hawk, great blue heron (there are nearby rookeries), wild turkey, black-crowned night heron, yellow warblers, orioles, assorted woodpecker species, wood ducks, mergansers, other waterfowl, Swainson's hawk, Cooper's hawk, bald eagle, osprey, meadowlarks, killdeer, great-horned owl
- **Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:** white tailed deer, mule deer, beaver, squirrels
- **Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:** Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout, Pacific lamprey

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

Chinook salmon, steelhead, bull trout

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

Yes. Waterfowl migrate through the area but it is more a periphery route to the Snake and Columbia River corridors.

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

The riparian areas will be planted with riparian trees and shrubs and the upland areas will be planted with native trees, shrubs, and forbs to provide habitat for all wildlife species, including native pollinators.

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

No invasive animal species are known to be 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.

None

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

The project should not affect the potential for adjacent properties to utilize solar energy. Cottonwood trees will be planted near the existing cottonwood gallery near the Walla Walla River. Some ponderosa pine trees will be planted in the upland field areas but not a large number of them and they will not be planted up against fence lines.

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 energy conservation features are part of this project.

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.

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

No known contaminations present on 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.

No known existing hazardous chemicals/conditions on the 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.

Gasoline for the hand auger will be present on the site during the period when the hand auger is used to dig holes for planting the larger trees.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services will be required during the project.

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

Extreme care will be taken when putting gasoline in the gas powered hand auger.

b. Noise

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

No noise in the area will affect the 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)?

There will be more noise than usual during the actual project work due to more people than normal being on the property at the same time. The noise will be mainly human voices.

There will be noise from the post pounder while driving the wood posts into the stream channel during construction of the beaver dam analogs, but the noise from the post pounder will be short-term and intermittent.

There will be noise from the gas powered hand auger during the time when the holes are made to plant the larger trees, but the noise will be short-term and intermittent.

There will potentially be more noise from traffic than normal due to more people coming and going from the site than normal during the periods of work on the project.

The noise associated with the project will all occur during the daylight hours between 7AM and 6PM.

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

There will be no after dark or overnight work on the project.

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 managed as the Swegle Unit of the WT Wooten Wildlife Area. The property is open to the public and provides fishing access to the Walla Walla River. The public also uses the property to walk and enjoy the outdoors. All of the surrounding adjacent properties are privately owned with homes and outbuildings on them.

The project will not affect the current land uses on this property or any of the 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?

The project site has not been used as working farmlands since it was purchased by WDFW in 1992. The use of the project site prior to 1992 is unknown.

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

The project will not affect or be affected by any of the surrounding working farm land normal business operations.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are not any structures on the site.

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

No structures will be demolished.

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

Agriculture Residential 10

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

Agriculture Residential

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

Walla Walla River = Rural Conservancy
West Little Walla Walla River = No designation

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

- Critical Aquifer Recharge Area – Wellhead Protection Area
- Critical Aquifer Recharge Area – Walla Walla River Shallow Gravel Aquifer CARA
- Critical Aquifer Recharge Area – Walla Walla River Shallow Gravel Aquifer Vulnerability
 - Zone 1 – High Vulnerability
- Freshwater Emergent Wetland
- Frequently Flooded Area – AE
- Seismic Hazard Area – Potential Liquefaction Susceptibility
 - Moderate to High
- Seismic Hazard Area – Seismic Design Site Class
 - D-E (Ranking of “Increasing amplification of ground shaking”)
- Erosion Hazard Areas – Potential Soil Erosion Susceptibility
 - Slight
- Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas – Waters of the State

- Walla Walla River = 100 foot minimum buffer
- West Little Walla Walla River = 50 foot minimum buffer
- Fish & Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas – Priority Habitat and Species
 - High Density of Wintering Birds of Prey Habitat

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

No people will reside or work in the completed project area.

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

No people will be displaced by the completed project.

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.

The project will enhance the existing land uses by creating more wildlife habitat and making the property look more natural and less like just a grass field.

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

Not applicable

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.

Not applicable

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?**

No structures are proposed in the project. The tallest trees that will be planted will grow to between 60 & 150 feet tall.

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

The planted trees and shrubs in the project area will potentially block the view of the adjacent landowners being able to see each other's houses and buildings.

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

The project is designed to make the views of the adjacent landowners more aesthetically pleasing by making the property look more "natural" and less like just a field.

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?**

No light or glare will be produced by the completed project.

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

No light or glare will be produced by the completed project.

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

No existing off-site sources of light or glare will affect the project.

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

Not applicable

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

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

The property is currently managed by WDFW as the Swegle Unit of the WT Wooten Wildlife Area. The property is open to the public for walking and wildlife watching and provides fishing access to the Walla Walla River.

No hunting or overnight camping/parking are allowed on the property.

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

No recreational uses will be displaced. Hopefully the project will enhance the experience of walking and wildlife watching with the increase in trees, shrubs, and forbs for wildlife habitat.

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

No measures are planned to reduce or control impacts on recreation. The project area will remain open to the public during the project because no heavy equipment will be used. The property will not be open to hunting or overnight camping at any point in the future.

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 no records of buildings or structures located within the project area that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers. There are no recorded archaeological sites within the project area.

Near the project area and adjacent to the Swegle Unit of the Wooten Wildlife Area is the Whitman Mission National Historic Site.

Whitman Mission National Historic Site (originally Whitman National Monument) was created by Congress in 1936 as "a public national memorial to Marcus Whitman and his wife, Narcissa Prentiss Whitman, who here established their Indian mission and school, and ministered to the physical and spiritual needs of the Indians until massacred with others in 1847." (49 State. 2028) Whitman Mission National Historical Site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1956 as a historic area of the National Park System (Toothman 1984).

- 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.**

Near the project area and adjacent to the Swegle Unit of the Wooten Wildlife Area is the Whitman Mission National Historic Site.

The Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's shows the project area as being very high risk to encounter cultural resources shows the project (DAHP 2010). The wildlife area as well as its surrounding geography is also marked as very high risk. This is likely due to the project area's proximity to water and geomorphological location, which is on the floodplain of the Walla Walla River.

Within the project area there has been one previously conducted cultural resources survey which occurred in 1995. The project was for developments to create public fishing access areas which included parking lots, paths, a foot bridge, information kiosks, and fencing. No cultural resources were located during the survey however no subsurface investigations were conducted (Ray 1995). The previously surveyed portion also only intersects a very small portion of the project.

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

The project was reviewed by a WDFW staff archaeologist. Context for project evaluation was derived from a review of survey and site documents available on DAHP's WISAARD database, a review of DAHP's predictive model. Portions of the project may have a high probability to impact archaeological resources. Those locations will be surveyed to clarify the expectations for intact archaeological resources.

Tribal consultation will be carried out with the Nez Perce Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to identify the potential for impacts to cultural resources.

The results of these investigations will be used to inform final project design.

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.

Consultation

- Tribal consultation will be carried out with the Nez Perce Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation to identify the potential for impacts to cultural resources.

Cultural Resources Survey

- A cultural resource survey will be conducted for the project which will include a subsurface investigation to address any vertical impacts within the project area.
- A literature review will be provided with the cultural resources survey.
- Recommendations for project implementation.
- Additional investigations may be required.

Inadvertent Discovery Plan or Archaeological Monitoring

- This is only if the results of the survey recommend that the project may proceed under either an Inadvertent Discovery Plan or Archaeological Monitoring.

Work Cited

Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP)

2010 Statewide Predictive Model. Last updated 2010. Electronic Document. Electronic document, <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/>, accessed October 10, 2023.

Ray, Tracy L.

1995 *Cultural Resources Inventory Report – Swegle Public Fishing Area Development*. Prepared by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District. On file, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia.

Toothman, Stephanie S.

1984 *Whitman Mission National Historic Site*. NRHP Nomination Form. Prepared by the National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region. On file, Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, Olympia.

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.

Stovall Road is adjacent to the south end of the project site. There is an existing gravel parking area off Stovall Road which will remain in the same location.

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?

The project site is located outside of city limits in Walla Walla County. No known public transit stops are located outside of any city limits in Walla Walla County.

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).

No new roads will be constructed and no improvements will be needed to any existing county roads.

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

No

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?

A significant increase in the amount of vehicles in the area is not anticipated. There may be a few more anglers using the site to access the Walla Walla River during peak fishing seasons, or a few more people accessing the site to enjoy nature and the outdoors. No increase in commercial trucks or nonpassenger vehicles will result from the project.

- 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.**

No the project will not interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural products on roads in the area.

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

No proposed measures planned.

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.**

No increased need for public services is anticipated.

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

WDFW Enforcement staff will continue to patrol the property as they do now.

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:**

No utilities are currently available at the site.

- 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 the project area.

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 *Kari Dingman*

Type name of signee: Kari Dingman

Position and agency/organization: WT Wooten Wildlife Area Manager, WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife

Date submitted: 10/30/2023