

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:

Observatory Forest Health Thinning

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife

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

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Ellensburg, WA 98926

Isaac Nequette

+1 (360) 628-7179

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4. Date checklist prepared:

30 August 2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife

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

The Observatory Forest Health Thinning project is projected to start in early/late fall of 2024 and contractor work is anticipated to be completed by the middle of December 2025. A possible extension could occur depending on fire conditions in 2025 and if early winter conditions occur. Any project work not completed in 2025 will be completed in spring/summer of 2026. Pile burning will occur in Winter of 2025/2026 depending on weather conditions. The following is the anticipated workflow timeline of operations:

Road work maintenance and construction, to access project site, will occur first and is anticipated to take a 3 to 4 weeks.

Logging operations will begin in May or June of 2025, dependent on weather conditions. The road work will be completed in 2024 to allow operations to begin in 2025.

Post-Haul maintenance will begin after logging operations have concluded and will be anticipated to be completed by December of 2025.

Slash pile made during logging operations will be burned in the Winter of 2025/2026 depending on weather conditions.

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.

- WDFW Priority Habitat and Species Management Recommendations
- Maps showing; soil type, erosion potential, soil stability, and hydrologic maturity.
- County Soil Survey data

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

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

- DNR Forest Practice Application (FPA)
- State and tribal cultural/ archaeological survey and protection plan

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 Observatory Forest Health Thinning Project is intended to improve ecological integrity ratings, improve habitat for multiple wildlife species, improve forest health and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

There are 358 acres on 4 units that will be commercially thinned to more closely reflect the historic range of variability. This will include reducing stocking levels to 25 to 35 trees per acre, 10" + DBH. Leave trees in all 4 units have been leave tree marked, with orange paint, using the following prescription:

In all units, the thinning prescription will use the Individual, Clumps and Openings (ICO) leave tree strategy in an attempt to move the units closer to the "historic range of variability." All 4 units will be leave tree marked with orange paint. The following criteria will be used during the leave tree selection process:

- Species preference, in declining order of preference, would include ponderosa pine, western larch, Douglas-fir and grand fir. Leave all stand alone or small clumps of western larch.
- Leave all "unique" species that are limited to micro-sites in the stand (e. g. western red cedar and Engelmann spruce).
- All hardwoods will be automatic leave trees and will not be marked.
- In general, leave large diameter "legacy" trees over 24" dbh. The exception to this when species preference guidelines result in removing a shade tolerant leave tree species (e.g. grand fir) with a seral species (e.g. ponderosa pine) to achieve long-term historic species composition objectives.
- Leave trees with good growing characteristics (good crown ratios and relatively free of pathogens and/or insect attack).
- Leave defective trees with unique characteristics (trees with cat faces, "wolfy" crowns, large limbs, etc.) for Wildlife Reserve Tree (WRT) recruitment.
- In areas with less than 4 snags (WRT's) per acre, the layout crew shall mark at least 2 and no more than 4 trees 10" dbh and greater with defect in the butt log with 2 orange bands at eye level for WRT recruitment. This indicates to the logging contractor that he needs to "snip off" the tree as high as he can reach with the harvester to create a WRT.
- In general, attempt to leave a residual stand with a post-treatment stocking level of between 25 (average 47' spacing) and 30 (average 38' spacing) TPA. Realize that these stocking/spacing guidelines are only intended as a spatial reference starting point. The tree marking crew is expected to constantly adapt the marking strategy to account for changes in timber types and micro-site conditions.
- In dry ponderosa pine timber types (Units 2 and 3, ridgetops and south facing slopes), the tree marking crew shall leave closer to 30 trees per acre.
- In dry mixed conifer timber types (north facing slopes and protected draws), the tree marking crew shall leave closer to 35 trees per acre.
- For type NP and F Riparian Management Zones (RMZ's), add another 10' to the maximum no cut RMZ buffer and feather the thinning beyond that (primarily thinning from below) for 20' beyond into the general upland thinning portion of the unit.

- For type NS Equipment Limitation Zones (30' ELZ's), increase leave tree density to approximately 35 to 40 TPA.
- The Individual, Clumps and Openings (ICO) forest restoration marking strategy will be used to achieve desired leave tree densities and spatial distribution post treatment. The table below shows general guidelines to achieve those goals for this project.

UNITS	TPA	CLUMP DISTANCE	INDIVIDUAL TPA	2-4 TREE CLUMPS/ACRE	5-9 TREE CLUMPS/ACRE
All	25-35	20'	18-21	2	1

- Maintain and create openings across the unit where appropriate. Take advantage of pre-existing openings with good production of browse species where appropriate.
- Minimum diameter for leave trees is 6" dbh.
- In general, leave all trees >24" dbh unless they pose a safety threat (e. g. tree is at risk of falling over a main line road) or they are a non-preferred species with preferred species surrounding (e.g. grand fir surrounded by ponderosa pine, western larch or Douglas-fir).
- Snags will not be marked as leave trees with orange paint. All snags that do not pose a safety threat, as per L & I guidelines, are required to be left by the logging contractor. Those snags dropped for safety reasons by the logging contractor will be left in place as habitat recruitment.
- Dwarf mistletoe infected trees provide important habitat to a variety of wildlife species and will be left individually or in clumps strategically across the unit (lower hillside, adjacent to non-impacted tree species, draw bottoms, etc.). The goal is to provide habitat benefits from dwarf mistletoe infected trees while minimizing impacts to other leave trees in the unit.
- The WDFW Contract Administrator will work closely with tree markers to make sure that the marking strategy is fully understood and implemented consistently across the landscape.

Logging slash will be piled at landings and will be burned as per burn permit conditions issued by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The units will be assessed in 1 to 2 years post-harvest to determine the timing of prescribed broadcast burning (if funding is available). The goal of future treatments will be to continue the process of restoring forest stand structure (including species composition, tree densities and spatial arrangement) within the historic range of variability found on these sites prior to 1880, when natural disturbance regimes were the primary ecological process.

Designated new construction and reconstruction roads will be abandoned or gated at the discretion of the Wenas Wildlife Area Manager and agency road management objectives. Final road work will be completed after thinning operations have been completed. For roads to be abandoned, this work will include culvert removal, installation of water bars, spreading slash and debris over the road prism at the beginning of the road, and grass seeding with a mix of native species as per Wenas Wildlife Area Manager guidelines. New gates will be built and installed according to meet Wildlife Area Manager and agency road management objectives. All abandonment work will be completed as per DNR road abandonment guidelines for light abandonment.

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 Observatory Forest Health Thinning Project is located approximately 15 Miles West of Ellensburg Washington on the WDFW Wenas Wildlife Area in Kittitas County. The units are located in parts of Sections 12, 21, 22, & 23 of Township 17 North Range 17 East, WM. See attached project maps for the location of individual units.

B. Environmental Elements

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

a. General description of the site:

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

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

65%

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 site primarily consists of various types of Loam ranging from stony to gravelly.

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

There is an old rockslide, approximately 300 plus feet outside of Unit 4 to the North.

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.

None

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

Minor erosion could occur from harvesting equipment and skidders operating in the project area. There may also be minor erosion from roads and rights-of-way due to increased log truck traffic. If erosion does occur, mitigation measures will include installation of straw bales, straw waddles, water bars, drain dips and grass seeding as necessary. Additionally, logging operations and/or log hauling will be temporarily curtailed until mitigation measures are in place and the erosion threat has subsided.

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

None

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

- Ground based equipment will not be allowed on continuous slopes in excess of 60%
- Skid trails on steeper slopes may be water barred following skidding operations as per written instruction and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator
- At the discretion of the WDFW Contract Administrator, exposed skid trails on steeper slopes may be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager and agency guidelines. Grass seeding must be approved by the WDFW Contract Administrator.

- Exposed cut banks resulting from road building and/or maintenance activities will be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager and agency guidelines. Grass seeding must be approved by the WDFW Contract Administrator
- Drain dips and/or water bars will be installed on steeper roads post-harvest as per WDFW Contract Administrator guidelines. Installed water bars must be approved by WDFW Contract Administrator.
- Temporary roads necessary for log hauling operations will be abandoned or gated at the discretion of the Wildlife Area Manager and agency guidelines. Road abandonment must meet or exceed DNR road abandonment guidelines and be approved in writing by WDFW Contract Administrator. Contractor will be required to
- Haul operations will be suspended immediately, until mitigation is approved in writing by the WDFW Contract Administrator, if any delivery to typed waters is observed.

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.

The proposal will result in a temporary increase in vehicle emissions from logging equipment and log trucks. There should be no significant impact to air quality. Slash burning and potential prescribed broadcast burning will be conducted in accordance with provisions stated in the DNR burn permits as well as any smoke management, Department of Ecology and local fire district regulations.

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

None

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

None

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.

There are no named streams within the project area(s). A few seasonal streams have initiation points below the project area(s), but more than 200 feet away.

2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No

3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

None

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

No

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

No

b. Ground Water: [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

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.

None

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.

Spring runoff from snow melt and rainfall runoff could occur on the forest floor, roads, and landings. Water will be dispersed back into undisturbed forest areas for natural filtration through vegetation, slash, and soil. Runoff intercepted by roads and ditches will be diverted

using water bars, drain dips and ditches to the forest floor. If the event of an extreme weather event, runoff could reach nearby streams.

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

There is the remote chance that fuel or oil associated with equipment operations could be spilled and potentially enter ground or surface waters. The contractor will be required to have an approved spill kit on each piece of equipment to contain and clean up spills if they should occur. Fuel storage is only allowed in approved areas. The contractor will be required to contact the WDFW Contract Administrator and the appropriate Department of Ecology Office immediately after a spill occurs.

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

No

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

- Limit ground based equipment operations to slopes less than 40%
- Install water bars and drain dips at appropriate road locations
- Install water bars on skid trails where appropriate after skidding operations
- Minimize rutting of skid trails and remove those ruts at the completion of skidding operations
- Apply certified weed free native grass seed mixtures, approved by the Wenas Wildlife Area Manager, on exposed road cut banks, steeper skid trails, abandoned roads and landings as necessary

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?

A portion of the over story conifer trees greater than or equal to 6" diameter at breast height (dbh) will be removed, leaving approximately 25 to 35 trees per acre greater than 10" dbh post-harvest. Approximately 3,000 thousand board feet (MBF) per acre will be removed from the treatment areas.

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

None

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

None

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

Knapweed, Canada Thistle, Bull 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:
- 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.

None

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

No

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

- Retain snags and wildlife reserve trees (WRT's) where feasible from a safety standpoint (both to the operator and to the public)
- Create snags (in snag deficient areas) by cutting trees 10" dbh and larger, designated with 2 orange bands, at least 10' high
- Maintain and/or improve natural stand openings to promote browse species for large ungulates
- Mark trees with defect characteristics suitable for Wildlife Reserve Trees (wolf tops, fire scars, unique features, etc.) as leave trees with orange paint
- Strategically leave individual trees or clumps of trees with dwarf mistletoe
- Create a post thinning mosaic of treatment and non-treatment areas to create hiding cover, thermal cover and travel corridors for big game species

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

None

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.

No

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.

None

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.

There could be fuel spills when refueling equipment or oil spills while performing equipment maintenance. There is always the risk of fire from equipment operation in the woods. However, equipment will be required to have spark arrestors to reduce the fire risk. In addition, the contractor will be required to monitor and adhere to Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations as required by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Burning of slash piles, resulting in temporary smoke emissions, could occur after harvest operations are completed.

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

None

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

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

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

In the event of a fuel or oil spill, the contractor will be required to immediately contact the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology and the WDFW Contract Administrator. In the event of a wildfire, the contractor will be required to immediately contact the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the WDFW Contract Administrator.

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

The contractor will be required to have an emergency plan approved by the WDFW Contract Administrator prior to commencement of timber harvest activities. This will include:

- Contact information for the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the WDFW Contract Administrator
- Inspection of equipment for spill kits (required for all equipment operating on site)
- Having a fire trailer and necessary fire tools on site during the closed season as required by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources
- Requiring the contractor to keep up to date and in compliance with the latest Industrial Forest Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations during the closed fire season

b. Noise

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

Minimal noise from recreational vehicle traffic.

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)?

During harvest activities there will be some noise associated with chainsaws, skidders, feller bunchers, loaders, and trucks. Typically, this would occur during daylight hours only and when weather conditions allow. Heavy equipment noise may exceed 100 decibels.

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

Requiring equipment operators to maintain mufflers on equipment and wear appropriate ear protection.

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 site is currently being used for wildlife habitat and recreational activities. Adjacent properties are managed as working forests and rural home sites.

- 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 been used for working forest lands. This project will not result in any loss of agricultural or forest land.

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

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

None

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

No

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

Forested

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

Maintaining forest land with an emphasis on wildlife habitat and providing recreational opportunities.

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

Not applicable

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

No

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

The proposal is consistent with the Wenas Wildlife Area Plan and WDFW Forest Management Plan. This proposal will reduce the threat of disease and insect outbreaks that will in turn reduce the fire risk to the property and adjacent landowners. The long term goal is to restore the property to historic tree stocking levels and species composition.

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.

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 [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

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

None

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

None

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?

None

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

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

Hunting, hiking, camping, bird watching, ATV riding, snowmobiling

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

The project could temporarily displace recreational activities.

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

Put up signs at the start of active logging roads informing the public to be aware of log truck traffic on the road with a citizen's band (cb) channel and mile markers posted.

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.

WDFW archaeologists are conducting a cultural resources study meeting DAHP standards, including background review, archaeological survey, and consultation with locally affected tribes and DAHP. As a result of the study, two archaeological sites were identified.

- 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.**

As a result of the professional survey conducted by WDFW archaeologists, no previously unrecorded sites were identified

- 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 archaeologists are conducting a cultural resources study meeting DAHP standards including background review, archaeological survey, and consultation with locally affected tribes and DAHP.

- 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.**

Measures will be implemented to avoid sites in consultation with locally affected tribes and DAHP. No permits will be necessary.

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.**

Log trucks and pickups will be using numerous county roads for the duration of the project. There will be a temporary increase in traffic from these vehicles.

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

No

- c. 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).**

Road maintenance & construction will occur on primitive roads to facilitate log truck traffic. Road maintenance will involve public use green dot roads. Road construction will occur on WDFW management use only roads and the majority of construction will be abandoned after logging operations.

- 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?

None

- 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

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

None

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

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

None

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:

- 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.

None

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 Isaac Nequette

Type name of signee: Isaac Nequette

Position and agency/organization: Statewide Forester / WDFW

Date submitted: 9/3/2024