

SEPA¹ 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.

¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance>

A. Background

[Find help answering background questions²](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

WDFW – Mima Creek Access and Parking

2. Name of applicant:

Katrina Simmons, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

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

600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501

360-870-0694

katrina.simmons@dfw.wa.gov

4. Date checklist prepared:

4/25/2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Construction is anticipated to occur between Fall 2024 and June 2025.

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

There are no plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal.

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

Thurston County Critical Areas report and prairie survey, WDFW wetland delineation, and WDFW Cultural Resources survey.

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.

We are not aware of any other applications pending government approvals.

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

SEPA determination (WDFW is the lead agency), Thurston County Critical Area Review Permit, Thurston County Drainage Plan and Report, Thurston County Habitat Conservation Plan Review (Mitigation Fee Calculator), Thurston County HCP Program Review, Thurston County Master Application, Thurston County Special Use Permit, and Thurston County Traffic Submittal.

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background>

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

WDFW proposes to improve recreational access near Mima Creek within the Black River Unit of the Scatter Creek Wildlife Area located off Gate Rd SW in Olympia, Washington. We propose to construct a 40 ft x 50 ft gravel parking area with a culvert, entrance apron, gate that leads to a leased field that is mowed, barbed wire fence around the parking area (approximately 140 linear ft), and one 6 ft x 8 ft informational kiosk. The culvert and entrance apron will be sized based on Thurston County requirements. This parking area will provide access for hunting, wildlife viewing, and other recreational uses, as well as improve safety on Gate Rd. Currently, vehicles park on the shoulder when accessing the site, which is a safety concern for vehicles traveling Gate Rd.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The site is in Thurston County, approximately 5 mi SW of Littlerock, Washington. The street address is approximately 9158 Gate Rd, Olympia, Washington, 98512. Thurston County parcel number: 09060004000.

Public Land Survey: The SE 1/4 of Sec 17, T 16N, R 3W (46.865785, -123.076607)

Please see the attached site plan and vicinity map in the permit drawings.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

[Find help answering earth questions³](https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth)

a. General description of the site:

The site is a mowed field.

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

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

Approximately 15%

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth>

- c. **What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them, and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.**

According to the USDA NRCS Web Soil Survey: Maytown silt loam (93.6%) and Nisqually loamy fine sand, 3 to 15 percent slopes (6.4%).

- 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.**

Table 1. Cut and Fill Quantities

Purpose	Cut	Fill	Total Area (sq ft)
Parking Area	Below OHWM: 0 Above OHWM: 68 CY (native soils)	Below OHWM: 0 Above OHWM: 68 CY (crushed surface base coat [4 in minus] and crushed surface topcoat [1 1/4 in minus])	2,001
Driveway Apron	Below OHWM: 0 Above OHWM: 20 CY (native soils)	Below OHWM: 0 Above OHWM: 20 (hot mix asphalt)	591

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

Yes, however, the use of best management practices (BMPs) will be used to keep erosion to a minimum. Waters of the state will be protected from erosion during and after construction consistent with permits and regulations.

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

Less than 1% of the parcel will be covered with impervious surfaces upon project completion.

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

BMPs may include straw wattles, silt fences, and seeding of exposed soils. Other measures will be taken as necessary. Permits may require other measures, which will also be followed. Site temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plans will be available.

2. Air

[Find help answering air questions](#)⁴

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

During construction, there will be an increase in dust and vehicle emissions. After construction, vehicle emissions will likely increase from access site use and the addition of parking.

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

None are known.

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

BMPs will be used to control temporary air pollutant emissions in the construction area. Those may consist of requiring proper maintenance of construction equipment, avoiding prolonged idling of vehicles, and spraying water to minimize dust. Standard emission control converters and mufflers will be used by construction vehicles.

3. Water

[Find help answering water questions](#)⁵

- a. **Surface:**

[Find help answering surface water questions](#)⁶

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, Mima Creek and a wetland are located west of the project area within the parcel.

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, the project site is greater than 200 ft from Mima Creek.

⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air>

⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water>

⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water>

- 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 or dredge material will be placed in or removed from surface waters or wetlands.

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

The project will not require surface water withdrawals or diversions.

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

No. Portions of the parcel are within the 100-year floodplain (Mima Creek); however, the parking area proposed is outside the 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 will be no discharge of waste materials to surface waters.

b. Ground:

[Find help answering ground water questions](#)⁷

- 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 material will be discharged into the ground from any sources.

⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater>

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

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

The new gravel parking area and asphalt driveway are the sources of runoff. There are no methods of collection and disposal proposed. Water from the site runs to the southeast corner through native vegetation. The site is over 800 ft from Mima Creek.

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

No waste materials will enter ground or surface waters.

- 3. 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:**

The project will preserve natural dispersion and BMPs may include straw wattles, silt fences, and seeding of exposed soils. Other measures will be taken as necessary. Permits may require other measures, which will also be followed. Site temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plans will be available.

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?**

Grass/sod will be removed to place the parking area.

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

There are no threatened or endangered plant species.

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

No landscaping is proposed.

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

Reed Canary Grass

5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions](#)⁸

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:

According to WDFWs Priority Habitats and Species maps, upland animals within and near the Mima Creek Unit of the Scatter Creek Wildlife Area are Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*) and Oregon Spotted Frog (*Rana pretiosa*). There is a freshwater forested/shrub wetland (further detailed in the wetland report; WDFW 2023). Mima Creek has occurrences of Cutthroat Trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki*), Coho Salmon (*O. kisutch*), and Rainbow Trout/Steelhead (*O. mykiss*).

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

USFWS tools were used to determine that the following species could occur near the project area: Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) (Threatened), Streaked Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*) (Threatened), Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) (Threatened), Northwestern Pond Turtle (*Actinemys marmorata*) (Proposed Threatened), Oregon Spotted Frog (*Rana pretiosa*) (Threatened) and their Critical Habitat, Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) (Threatened), and Taylor's Checkerspot (*Euphydryas editha taylori*) (Endangered).

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

Yes, this site is within the Pacific Flyway (birds), and fish migrate up and down Mima Creek.

⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals>

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

WDFW will avoid disturbance where possible, all required permits will be obtained, and all mitigation measures will be followed. Work will be limited to the time needed for construction. There is no in-water work associated with this project proposal.

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

None are known.

6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)⁹

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

The completed project will not require any sources of energy.

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

There will be no effect on the use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.

None are proposed.

7. Environmental health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)¹⁰

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.

No environmental health hazards are anticipated.

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

None are known.

⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou>

¹⁰ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health>

- 2. Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

None are known.

- 3. Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

During project construction, fuel and other vehicle fluids will be used. Fuel and other vehicle fluids will be present during vehicle use when the project is completed. Fuel spills or vehicle/machinery leaks are possible during construction. No toxic or hazardous chemicals will be stored or produced because of the completed project.

- 4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

No special emergency services are anticipated.

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

The risk of a spill or leak is not likely, but spill kits will be available on-site if a spill should occur.

b. Noise

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

The noise in the area is low and consists of vehicles, hunters, and recreation, but is not anticipated to 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)?**

Noise impacts from the project will occur during the construction phase. Construction noise is to be expected during hours each day of the week allowed by the local noise ordinance. Long-term noise impacts will consist of vehicles entering and exiting the sites during normal operating hours and seasonal firearm use during hunting season (deer/elk hunting from September-November and duck hunting from September-January).

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

Operating hours are limited to day-use at the access site and seasonal firearm use for hunting. No target shooting will be permitted at the site.

8. Land and shoreline use

[Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)¹¹

- 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 Mima Creek Unit of the Scatter Creek Wildlife Area is used for wildlife viewing, hunting, and Oregon Spotted Frog and waterfowl habitat enhancement. The portion of the site where the proposed parking area will be constructed is a mowed field. Adjacent properties are rural/residential.

- 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?**

Yes, WDFW leases a portion of the site to a rancher who mows and uses the hay for cattle. This does not include the project area and no farmland will be converted to nonfarm use.

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

No effects are anticipated.

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

The site has an entrance gate.

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

Yes, the entrance gate will be removed and a gate will be placed on the far side of the parking area for the lessee to access the field to mow.

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

The parcel is zoned Rural 1/20 and Rural Residential/Resource 1/5 (parking area located here)

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

Undeveloped Lands

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

Natural and Conservancy

¹¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use>

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

Some portions of the parcel are classified as critical areas as outlined in the Thurston County Critical Areas Ordinance including Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas, Frequently Flooded Areas, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, and Wetlands.

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

There will be no permanent residents after the project is completed. There is a Wildlife Area Manager who works offsite.

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

The completed project will not displace anyone.

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

None are proposed.

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

The proposed project is permitted by the Thurston County zoning ordinances and the Shoreline Master Program.

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

None are needed.

9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions](#)¹²

- 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 are needed.

¹² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing>

10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)¹³

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

The height of the informational kiosk will be less than 8 feet.

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

Views will not change substantially; grass will be replaced with a gravel parking area.

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

WDFW will use typical building materials and colors that are not anticipated to alter current views.

11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions](#)¹⁴

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

There may be glare from signs and vehicles, but it is anticipated that the impacts will be minimal. There will also be lights from vehicles using the sites.

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

No safety hazards are anticipated.

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

None are known.

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

Limiting the operating hours to day use only will reduce potential impacts from vehicle lights during dark hours.

12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

There is hunting and wildlife viewing in the vicinity of the project.

¹³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics>

¹⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare>

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

No. During construction, no access will be permitted due to safety reasons.

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

This project will enhance existing recreational opportunities at WDFW access sites.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)¹⁵

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 records of recent cultural surveys, 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.

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.

Although the landscape has been identified as a potentially culturally sensitive location; there are no recorded landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation. A review of historic maps and the DAHP database did result in the identification of recorded cultural features near the project area.

Table 2. Previous Cultural Resource Surveys within 1 mile (1.6 km) of the Area of Potential Impact (API).

Date	Author	Report Name	NADB	Positive / Negative	Miles
12/4/2008	Joseph Randolph	Archaeological Test Excavation Results	1352068	Negative	0.65
1/22/2016	David Munsell	NRCS Cultural Resources Survey for the David Seiler Project, EQIP 2015 Project, Contract No. 7405461517f	1687878	Negative	0.45
11/28/2017	David Munsell	NRCS Cultural Resources Survey for the Black River Dairy LLC Project, EQIP 2017 Project, Contract No. 740546170QS	1689847	Negative	0.45

¹⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p>

12/2/2020	Garth L. Baldwin and James J. Schumacher	Resource Assessment of the Fish Passage Enhancement at Mima Gate Road at Baker Creek #63006, Thurston County, Washington	1694486	Negative	0.47
5/3/2021	David Munsell	NRCS Cultural Resource Survey for the Riverbend Properties LLC EQIP 2020 Project, Contract No. 7405462001A DAHP Log No. 2020-08-05236	1695066	Negative	0.70
5/25/2023	Kayley M. Bass	WDFW Mima Creek (Ames) Access and Parking Cultural Survey Report, Thurston County, Washington	1698048	Negative	0.01

- 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 professional archaeologist. The 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. DAHP considers portions of the project to have a high probability of impacting archaeological resources.

- 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 has been reviewed by a WDFW professional archaeologist, who has reviewed DAHP's predictive model and has determined that portions of the project have a high probability of impacting archaeological resources. However, no sites have been recorded within one mile of the API, and there have been surveys near the location.

If culturally significant features are discovered during research, consultation will be carried out with affected Tribes measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources.

The project will operate under WDFW's Inadvertent Discovery Plan, which provides the project proponent with a detailed series of steps to follow upon the unanticipated discovery of archaeological or cultural materials.

14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions](#)¹⁶

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

The project site is located off Gate Rd SW. The closest town is Littlerock, approximately 5 mi NE.

- 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. The nearest transit stop is in the town of Rochester, approximately 4 miles from the project site.

- 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. Improvements are to the driveway entrance into the site only.

- 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 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?**

The estimated number of trips is 1-2 per day or 7-14 per week. These estimates were made by consulting with the WDFW wildlife area manager.

- 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 is not anticipated to interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products.

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

Transportation impacts are anticipated to be low, and no measures are proposed.

¹⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation>

15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions¹⁷](#)

- 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 is not anticipated to increase the need for public services such as police, fire, or EMTs.

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

None are proposed.

16. Utilities

[Find help answering utilities questions¹⁸](#)

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

There are no utilities 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.

¹⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services>

¹⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities>

C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign](#)¹⁹

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 *Katrina Simmons*

Katrina Simmons
Environmental Planner

Type name of signee: Katrina Simmons

Position and agency/organization:

Environmental Planner, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Date submitted: 9/3/2024

¹⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>