WAC 197-11-960 Environmental **checklist.**

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

WDFW MODROW ACCESS - BOAT LAUNCH REPLACEMENT

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Fish and Wildlife

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

Cindy Knudsen
Washington State Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA. 98501

4. Date checklist prepared:

11 30 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Fish and Wildlife

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

Summer 2012 or 2013

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.

A biological assessment for USACE and a Cowlitz County level two Critical Areas Habitat Assessment will be submitted for the proposed project.

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.

A HPA, USACE permits, and applicable Cowlitz County shoreline Substantial Development and Conditional Use permits will be required. This site has a current Kalama River DNR Aquatics Lands Lease No. 20-086129.

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.)

The proposed project will replace a 68 foot damaged precast concrete boat ramp at the WDFW Modrow Access Site on the Kalama River. The new 72 foot long ramp will have a total of 18 precast concrete ramp planks (4 feet x 12 feet x 6 inches). Eight of the planks are 32 feet below Ordinary High Water (OHW), and ten of the planks are 40 feet above OHW. There are nine sections of Armorflex matting surrounding three sides of the new ramp, designed to prevent erosion and provide a safer boat launching surface. Three sections (8 feet x 12 feet x 9 inches) are upstream and six sections are downstream (4 feet x 16 feet x 6 inches). The new ramp will be 4 feet longer than the old ramp, adding an additional 48 square feet over the length of the old ramp.

Other project elements include replacing the existing toilet and information kiosk, paving, placement of barrier rock, installation of level spreader bars used to channel stormwater from offsite sources, and removal of one stump that currently located in the center of the parking lot. Existing riprap materials on the upstream side of the boat ramp, and a pile of rock materials near the old outhouse location will remain on site.

The old toilet will be removed from its present location. A new ADA accessible vault toilet with signage and a paved asphalt parking area (604 square feet) with one (6 foot x 9 inch) wheel stop will be installed closer to the WDFW Modrow Access entrance. The new asphalt paved turnaround area (1,250 square feet) will be placed over the existing gravel turnaround.

The area surrounding two sides of the new vault toilet will be protected with approximately 10 traffic delineation barrier rocks. Additional barrier rocks (approximately 28) will continue along the perimeter of the parking area and across an 8 foot wide existing unpaved road to provide additional traffic delineation, and to prevent offsite access.

Mitigation will involve installation of 5 large woody debris (LWD) placed at OHW along the river bank; three LWD structures are 20 feet x 24 inches and two are 8-10 foot x 24 inches. They will be buried and chained in place on either side of existing LWD materials found on site. Other mitigation includes removal of invasive plants by spraying with herbicide and replanting native plants in two areas (1,525 square feet by the river bank, and 850 square feet in the area where the old toilet is removed), and removal of 2 eco-blocks in the river..

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 proposed project is on the Kalama River at the WDFW Modrow Access site. At this site there is bank fishing and bank access and a boat launch. The site is reached by taking exit 32 off Interstate 5. Turn East on Kalama River Road. Go 1.2 miles. Turn east across Modrow bridge on Modrow Road. Just past the bridge turn left down the road into the access site. The project is located in Cowlitz County, Section 32, Township 7 North, and Range 1 West (46.04720,-122.83701).

. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . .

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

8%

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 prime farmland.

Soils in the vicinity are classified as Pilchuck loamy fine sand.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
No.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The types of fill material used below OHW include precast concrete boat planks (7.1 cubic yards), precast concrete Armorflex mats (8.8 cubic yards), gravel soil mix, and Crushed Base Course (1 ¼ minus gravel) used to establish the boat ramp foundation (7.9 cubic yards). Quarry spalls will be used as a (partial) base material for the end portion of the boat ramp (1.8 cubic yards). Excavation will be performed by a tracked excavator positioned at the top of the bank.

Materials used above OHW include gravel material (4.4 cubic yards). Armorflex and ramp planks (11.9 cubic yards), 3 inch asphalt paving material (1250 square feet), and 5 large woody materials used for mitigation along 50 feet of the Kalama River bank. . Purchased fill materials will come from a local quarry.

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

Erosion could occur due to construction, however BMPs will be used to eliminate any possible erosion and greatly reduce any materials from entering the water.

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

The parking area at the new ADA bathroom facility will be paved (20 feet x 18 feet) – 604 square feet
There will be a new paved area leading to the new boat ramp turnaround area - approximately 1,250 square feet.

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

All proposed project elements are directly in or adjacent to the Kalama River, and within the 100 year floodplain except for the new ADA accessible vault toilet. The new ramp will be placed in the same orientation as the original ramp location to match existing conditions at the site. Excavators, bulldozers, trackhoe, and pickup trucks will be used during construction. Work will be conducted using Best Management Practices (BMPs) during low flow conditions and during approved work windows as required by permits.

Any machines entering the water will be limited to track height. Staging and refueling of machines will be conducted out of the project area with non-toxic lubricants. Fish screening will be done before construction activities are conducted. Turbidity curtains will be installed to prevent any possible species from entering the site during construction, and to prevent siltation from entering the river. Additional siltation prevention BMPs include; siltation fences, and hay bales. At project conclusion, these materials will be removed by hand and the old boat ramp materials will be removed and taken to an approved disposal site out of the flood zone. In the unlikely event that historic artifacts are discovered, construction activities will stop and the proper authorities will be notified.

After the ground surface has been leveled for the new boat ramp, a geotextile mat will be installed. Clean washed gravel material (1 ¼) will be spread and leveled. Precast concrete boat plank materials will be used; no concrete forming will be done on site. The pre constructed boat planks will be lowered onto the site with an excavator or trackhoe and pushed into place from an excavator staged from above OHW.

The new sectioned precast concrete ramp with Armorflex matting on each side will be installed and anchored in place with steel cable and duckbill anchors.

Large woody debris will be located in field by the engineer and anchored in place with ½ inch galvanized chain and screw pin shackles embedded a minimum depth of 6 feet with manta ray M1 anchors. Prewashed quarry spalls required for the level spreader bars and for reinforcing the Armorflex mat at the ramp termination will be obtained from a local quarry. All discarded materials will be staged on site, and taken to an approved landfill out of the flood zone for disposal.

Temporary erosion and sediment control measures will be us during construction as described in the site plans. All exposed soils will be covered with straw mulch and grass seed. Any disturbed plants above OHW will be replanted within the new riparian channel area. If sand bags are used they will be removed by hand, and then the bypass pipe and filter fabric turbidity screening curtains will be removed. All work will be done in accordance with the terms and conditions of required permits. All removed materials will be taken off-site to an approved disposal facility. See site drawings for additional details.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, and industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Low levels of vehicle exhaust emissions and dust from machines used during construction activities are expected during project activities. No long-term effects in air quality are anticipated to result from the completed project.

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

No.

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

None.

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

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. Kalama River is in the project site. The Kalama River flows into the Columbia River.

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 all components of the proposed project are directly adjacent to the Kalama River. See attached site drawings.

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.

The types of fill material used below OHW include precast concrete boat planks (7.1 cubic yards), precast concrete Armorflex mats (6.8 cubic yards), gravel soil mix, and Crushed Base Course (1 ¼ minus gravel) used to establish the boat ramp foundation (7.9 cubic yards). Quarry spalls will be used as a (partial) base material for the end portion of the boat ramp (1.8 cubic yards). Total area below OHW = 704 square feet Materials used will be purchased from a local quarry.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give 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, the entire site is within the 100 year floodplain, except the location for the new vault toilet.

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 waste material will be discharged.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No ground water will be withdrawn and no water will be discharged to ground water.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

No waste materials will be discharged.

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.

Stormwater from the site sheet flows from the parking area and eventually reaches the Kalama River. This project will not change storm water runoff patterns.

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

No.

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

None.

4. **Plants**

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

——— deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

——— evergreen tree: *fir*, cedar, pine, other

__x__ shrubs

_____ grass

_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other

_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

__x__ other types of vegetation

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

Invasive plant materials (knotweed and blackberry) will be removed from the Kalama riverbank by spraying herbicide by a licensed applicator with an aquatic endorsement.

c. List threatened or endangered species (of plants) known to be on or near the site.

There are no threatened or endangered species of plants known to be near this site.

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

There are two areas that will have restoration plantings. Area one is located near the Kalama Riverbank, with 1,525 square feet planted. Area two (old outhouse removal site) will have 850 square feet replanted. Replanting will be according to a three feet on center planting plan using willow stakes, western red cedar, and salal. One Douglas fir tree in the center of the parking lot will be removed. See page 11 of the site drawings for more details.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other): waterfowl
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

Eulachon, Southern DPS (Thaleichthys pacificus) Threatened
Chinook salmon, Lower Columbia River ESU (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Threatened
Coho Salmon, Lower Columbia River ESU (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) Threatened
Steelhead Lower Columbia River DPS (Oncorhynchus kisutch) Threatened
Chum salmon, Lower Columbia River ESU, (Oncorhynchus keta) Threatened

Puget Sound bull trout Coastal Puget Sound DPS are listed in Cowlitz County. They could migrate through the project area; however the onl existing population is known to be in the Lewis River.

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

Chinook, coho, steelhead and chum salmon, along with bull trout, mountain whitefish, largemouth bass and coastal resident cutthroat trout are in the Kalama River and use this site as a migration corridor. Juvenile Coho salmon most likely utilize the Kalama River as overwinter rearing habitat. Rocky Mountain Elk have winter habitat across the Kalama River from the proposed project area. These species are not expected to be at the construction site during the proposed project construction activities.

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

None.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

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

None.

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

No.

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

None.

7. **Environmental health**

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

No.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

None.

b. **Noise**

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

None.

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.

Temporary increases in noise levels during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise will be from 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. No long term change in noise levels in expected from the completed project.

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

None.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

This site is used as a public access area for recreational use for the Kalama River.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

The site has not been used for agriculture.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Structures on this site include an unpaved parking area, riverbank access area, an outhouse, a kiosk, and a boat launch.

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

The old boat ramp concrete sections, the outhouse and kiosk will all be removed from the site and disposed of at an upland location. See site plans for additional details.

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

Conservancy

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

Conservancy

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

Conservancy

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

No.

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

No persons would reside here.

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

No people will be displaced as a result of the proposed project.

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

There are no displacement impacts as a result of this project.

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

Land use will not change as a result of the replaced Modrow boat ramp project. The proposal will not change the current land use

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing units will be provided as a result of this project.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing units will be eliminated as a result of this project.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts as a result of this project.

10. **Aesthetics**

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

The new kiosk is approximately 8 feet tall. See site drawings.

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

No views will be altered or obstructed as a result f this project.

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

None.

11. **Light and glare**

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?

No.

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

None.

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

None.

12. **Recreation**

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

There are fishing opportunities at this site. There are also waterfowl and other bird viewing opportunities.

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

No recreational activities will be displaced. Access to the fishing area will be preserved.

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 replace a boat ramp and restore this site for continuation of recreational opportunities.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

None are known.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Repairs will occur in areas of previously placed fill. Best management practices will be used to reduce impacts from the project.

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

None. If artifacts are discovered, construction activities will stop and the proper authorities will be notified.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Interstate 5 is nearby. Kalama River Road and Modrow Road serve this site.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The nearest public transit stop is unknown.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

This site will continue to have an parking area that includes a turnaround area, however, one new parking space will be paved at the ADA access entrance to the new vault toilet. There will be no elimination of parking spaces.

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No.

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

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

None.

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

None.

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, 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**

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

None.

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

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

Signature: Cynthia Knudsen

Date Submitted: 11/30/2011

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR
AGENCY USE ONLY

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.