Revised Introduction
March 2012

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:
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:

Please complete 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. ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). For nonproject actions.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
   Oneida Access Renovation

2. Name of applicant:
   Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
   600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501: Chris Gourley (360) 902-8392

4. Date checklist prepared:
   7/27/2012

5. Agency requesting checklist:

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

Construction scheduled to begin July 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 may be prepared by WDFW. Wetland delineation may be prepared by a consultant.

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.

None are known at this time.

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

A Wahkiakum County Shoreline Permit, WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval, Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit, and Ecology 401 Water Quality Certification will be needed.

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.)

This project includes the renovation of an existing boat launch ramp and access site on Deep River. This single ramp is scheduled to be repaired and an associated boarding float will be replaced. The parking area will be paved and 2 additional areas will be graveled for additional access, including ADA parking and toilet access. The specific components of this project are:

1. **Rip-rap will be removed and the ramp will be saw cut and removed below elevation 0.00. Armorflex concrete mat will be installed at the sides and at the bottom of the boat ramp at Parking Area 1. This will protect the ramp from premature degradation and undermining.**

2. **Install a "L" shaped boarding float (8' wide by 73' long and 8' wide by 69' long) with grated deck and five steel pilings.**

3. **Install 40' boom log upstream of replaced float, secured with (2) 12" steel piles.**

4. **Pave Parking Area 1 over existing gravel area with grade modifications (171 Cubic Yards asphalt covering 18,465 square feet and 660 cubic yards CSTC fill).**

5. **Place pinned concrete wheel stops and striping.**

6. **Install two ADA accessible asphalt parking stalls (Parking Area 1).**

7. **Install gravel for traffic lane of Parking Areas 2 and 3 (10,470 square feet and 5,086 square feet respectively).**

8. **Install asphalt approach and ADA parking for Parking Area 2 (2075 square feet).**

9. **Install new CXT vault toilet at Parking Area 2.**

10. **An informational kiosk will be constructed at Parking Area 1.**

11. **Mitigation area to be planted with 400 plants and barrier rock installed at edge of mitigation area to prevent vehicle use.**

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, "and county" 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 Oneida Public Access Site is located outside of Rosburg along the Deep River at 424 Oneida Road, Naselle, WA. From I-5, take exit 39 toward Kelso. Turn west onto WA-4 W/Allen St. Turn right onto 5th Ave N and take the third left onto Cowlitz Way. Turn right onto WA-4 W. Turn left onto Oneida Rd. The property is located within Section 31, Township 10 N, Range 8 W. The parcel number is 5609.

B. 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)?
Approximately 50%.

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.
The majority of the soils on the property are classified as Ocosta silty clay loam, a soil that primarily occurs in flood plains and deltas, is poorly drained, and has a parent material of clayey alluvium. Also present is Lytell silt loam on slopes from 8-60%, a well-drained soil primarily found on slumps with a parent material of colluviums derived from sandstone and siltstone. Much of the site is surfaced with imported crushed rock aggregate.

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 purpose of the project is to improve an existing boat launch facility that has become worn and damaged and add ADA access. This will require repair of one existing concrete ramp and a float replacement. Approximately 660 CY of CSTC will be placed at Parking Area 1, along with 171 CY of asphalt, and 18.85 CY cut and fill material includes the removal of rip-rap and the installation of Armorflex mats. Five steel piles (18" diameter) will be installed for stabilization of the "L" shaped float (960sf) and the abutment will be extended to station 0+61 at elevation 12.00. A 40' boom log and 2 - 12" steel piles will also be installed upstream of the replacement float. The installation of gravel on the travel lane of Parking Area 2 will require 32 CY of gravel and the additional 28' parking area along the shoulder will receive 34 CY of gravel. The asphalt apron and ADA accessible parking will require 19.2 CY of asphalt. A CXT Gunnison toilet will also be installed at Parking Area 2. Parking Area 3 will have 194 CY of gravel installed along the travel lane of the parking area. Approximately 202 LF of barrier rock will also be installed around the mitigation area. The mitigation area will be planted with 400 plants. The imported fill will be from a Wahkiakum County approved quarry.

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

Not likely. There will be a minimum of new disturbed areas with all construction occurring within previously disturbed and utilized areas.

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

The site is 54.81 acres. Of that 0.95 acres is impervious or 1.7%. After construction there will be 1.24 acres of impervious or 2.6%. Currently a large portion of the site is wooded and will remain untouched. The access area consists of impervious gravel and grass surfaces. There will be an increase of 20,540 square feet of asphalt on the site due to the paving of Parking Area 1 and the entrance apron and ADA accessible parking area in Parking Area 2, all previously graveled. Additional gravel will be added to cover approximately 15,555 square feet in areas that were previously grass parking to serve as a driving lane for parking areas.

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

Any potential erosion will be prevented using erosion control BMP's.

2. Air

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

Vehicle exhaust and dust from construction is expected. No long-term change in emissions is expected 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:

Standard emission control converters and mufflers would be in use by construction vehicles.

3. **Water**

a. Surface Water:

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.

Deep River is located at the edge of the project site There is also a wetland near Parking Area 3, which will be used as the mitigation area. A small stream separates the mitigation area from the parking area and 3 culverts exist within the site for the stream, with the stream flowing into Deep River beyond a tidal gate. This is an unnamed stream that is classified as a fish-bearing stream.

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

The proposed Armorflex, piles, and float will be placed within Deep River. Mitigation will also occur within the wetland with 400 plants installed and a rock barrier installed to prevent vehicle use. The project description is listed in question 11 and the project plans are attached.

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 removal of rip-rap and installation of Armorflex mats at the bottom and sides of the boat ramp will account for 18.85 cubic yards of cut and fill. A float will also be placed on the Deep River and 5 steel piles (18" diameter) will be installed, as well as 2 steel pipes (12" diameter) to hold a 40' HDPE boom log in place.

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.

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:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give 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 (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.

Not Applicable.

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.

Storm water treatment will not be not changed or affected in any way. Currently storm water is directed to grass filter strips at the edges of the current parking areas including one along the east side of Parking Area 1.

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:

Sediment control BMP's will be in place including use of straw mulch, silt fence around all fill material, and working during the dry summer months will reduce any runoff impacts.

4. **Plants**

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

__x__ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other: **cottonwood**
__x__ evergreen tree: **fir**, cedar, pine, other
__x__ shrubs: **willow**
__x__ grass
_____ pasture
_____ crop or grain
__x__ wet soil plants: cattail, **buttercup**, bullrush, **skunk cabbage**, other
__x__ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
_____ other types of vegetation

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

No vegetation will be removed.

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

The Natural Heritage Program (NHP) databases as well as the federal agency listings (USFWS) were examined for threatened or endangered plants on July 23, 2012. No listings were found.

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

Native shrubs will be planted in the mitigation area, which is approximately 30,000 sf.

Plants already exist on this site, so new plants will be planted around the existing vegetation. Plants include red osier dogwood (50 plants), Pacific ninebark (50 plants), Hookers willow (50 stakes), Sitka willow (50 stakes), Columbia River willow (100 stakes), and Nootka rose (100 plants).

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:
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.

Fall Chinook and winter Steelhead utilize the Deep River.

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

Many migratory bird species use this area as part of a migration route along the Pacific Flyway.

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

To preserve fish and wildlife resources, WDFW will time this project to have minimal impact upon fish species.

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 are needed.

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 are included.

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.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

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

Avoid use of toxic chemicals and materials.

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.

Increased levels of noise during construction activities are expected from this project. Hours of increased noise levels will be 7am to 6pm. No change in noise level is expected from the completed project.

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

No special noise reduction efforts are planned.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

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

The current use is a public boat launch with trailer and vehicle parking. The adjacent properties include a private home site and vacant forested areas.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

This site has a boat ramp, an existing float, an established gravel parking area, and two overflow parking areas (one of which is partially graveled). North of Parking Area 2 is a garage/ maintenance building.

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

None.

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

Rural Shoreland

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

Rural Shoreland

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

Rural shoreland and conservancy aquatic lands

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

None.

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.

9. **Housing**

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**

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

The tallest new structure would be a new eight-foot vault toilet. The principle building material will be concrete.

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**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? **None.** What time of day would it mainly occur?

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?

The area is used for fishing, swimming, and boating.

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

No.

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

None.

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.

No.

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

Not Applicable.

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

Keep project within the proposed footprint.

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.

Oneida Road provides direct access to this site. No modifications will be made to the existing road, however, access traffic lanes will be graveled for improved access for parking.

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

The site is not served by public transit. The nearest stop is approximately 7 miles away at Rosburg.

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

The completed project will add 3 dedicated ADA parking spaces for a total of 18 designated parking spots. Currently the site does not have parking spots delineated. More parking area will be made available with the addition of gravel traffic lanes.

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.

No additional vehicular trips are anticipated.

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**

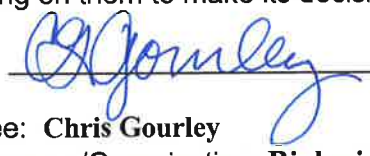
a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: **No utilities exist at this site.**
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

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.

No utilities are planned this site.

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: 

Name of signee: **Chris Gourley**
Position and Agency/Organization: **Biologist, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Date Submitted: **July 27, 2012**

Appendix A Project Drawings