

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: [\[help\]](#)

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 [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)
[Scotch Creek & Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas Management Plan](#)
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)
[Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife](#)
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

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4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#) November 23, 2016
5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#) Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)
Final plan will be published on WDFW website early in 2017.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)
Yes, specific projects or actions may be taken to implement elements of this plan. Where appropriate, project specific SEPA analysis will occur.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#) N/A
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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#) N/A
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.) [\[help\]](#)

This is a new management plan for the Scotch Creek & Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas. Over the next 10 years the plan will direct management activities on the following areas:

1. Scotch Creek (8,694 acres)
2. Chesaw (4,351 acres)
3. Pogue Mountain (1,196 acres)
4. Tunk Valley (1,399 acres)
5. Similkameen-Chopaka (1,139)
6. Charles & Mary Eder (5,739 acres)
7. Ellemehan (1,462 acres)
8. Sinlahekin (14,314 acres)
9. Chiliwist (4,890 acres)
10. Driscoll-Eyhott Island (325 acres)
11. McLoughlin Falls (165.5 acres)
12. Carter Mountain (2,000 acres)
13. Horse Spring Coulee (850 acres)
14. Buzzard Lake (840 acres)

Proposed uses include sharp-tailed grouse protection and enhancement; recreation and wildlife conservation; protection and restoration of shrub-steppe, forest and riparian habitat. There are 10 agriculture leases and 13 grazing leases. The leases provide food and cover for wildlife and as well as revenue. Under the direction of the new plan, management activities will remain as they have over the past 10 years.

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. [\[help\]](#)

- Scotch Creek (Okanogan County)
 - From Omak head northwest on the Conconully Highway toward the town of Conconully. At the junction with the Happy Hill road (approximately m.p. 14) and continue 1 mile to the wildlife asrea headquarters at 1514 Conconully Road.
 - Legal Description
 - T35N, R25E, Portions of Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, and 35,
 - T35N, R26E; Portions of Section 7
 - T34N, R25E, Portions of Sections 2 and 24,
- Chesaw (Okanogan County)
 - From Oroville Washington, travel east on the Chesaw road approximately 15 miles. Turn left on Mary ann Creek road, the Byers road out of Chesaw, or continue on the Bolster road. Access to the remote WLA is adjacent to these three roads. Two small parking areas have been fenced and signed adjacent to Mary Ann Creek and Byers road.
 - Legal Description
 - T40N R30E, Portions of Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 29, and 30
 - T40N R29E, Portions of Section 24
- Pogue Mountain (Okanogan County)
 - From Okanogan take the salmon creek road approximately 8 miles. Turn right on Green lake road and continue approximately 4 miles to Green Lake. There is parking and a campground on the left. No legal public access is available from the east, south or north bordering this unit. The areas are bordered with private property and permission must be acquired before crossing.
 - Legal Description
 - T34N, R26E, Portions of Sections 17, 18, 19, and 20
 - T34N, R25E, Portions of Section 13 & 24
- Tunk Valley (Okanogan County)
 - From Omak drive north on Hwy 97 approximately 5 miles and turn right into Riverside road. Continue across the Okanogan river and turn left on Tunk Valley road, continue driving approximately 15 miles. Turn right at the WLA entrance sign and continue uphill to the parking area.
 - Legal Description
 - T35N, R28E, Portions of Sections 7 and 18
 - T35N, R27E, Portions of Sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 24

- Similkameen-Chopaka (Okanogan County)
 - From Tonasket, take the Loomis highway northwest to Loomis. Stay right as the road turns north and continue past Palmer Lake 1 mile. Turn left on Chopaka road and continue north for 3 miles to the main parking area next to the Oxbow pond.
 - Legal Description
 - T40N R25E Sections 8, 9, 16, 17, 20 and 21.
- Charles & Mary Eder (Okanogan County)
 - Drive north on Highway 97 to the town of Oroville. In the center of town, turn right on Central Avenue. In .3 miles turn left on Cherry Street, which turns into Chesaw Road. Continue another .4 mi and turn left on Eastlake Road. Continue 1.6 mi and turn right onto Eder Road, county road enters the wildlife area in .5 miles.
 - Legal Description
 - T40N R27E Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 22, 23 and 24
 - T40N R28E Sections 6, 7, 8, 18 and 19
- Ellemeham (Okanogan County)
 - From the center of Oroville: Turn west on old Highway 7. Cross the river and head south for approximately 1 mile. Turn right on Ellemeham Road and continue .5 miles. Turn right on Ellemeham Mountain road. Continue on for approximately 6 miles. The first of two WDFW parking lots will be on your right.
 - Legal Description
 - T40N R26E Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 17, 20, and 21
- Sinlahekin (Okanogan County)
 - From Tonasket head west on 4th Avenue and go across the Okanogan River to the Highway 7 Junction. Turn right (north) on Hwy 7 and proceed north to the Loomis Highway Junction continuing on (west) to Loomis. Drive through Loomis and proceed straight (west) into a sweeping left turn onto Broadway Street which turns into Sinlahekin Road. Proceed south on Sinlahekin Road about 3 miles to where the road enters the WLA.
 - Legal Description
 - T38N R25E Sections 11-15, 24-26, 34-36
 - T37N R25E Sections 2, 3, 9-11, 14-16, 19-22, 27, 28, 32, 33
 - T36N R25E Sections 2-4, 6-10, 14-16, 18, 22-23, 26, 27, 35
 - T35N R25E Section 2
- Chiliwist (Okanogan County)
 - Headed north from Brewster on Old Highway 97 about 2 miles southwest of Malott, turn left (west) onto Chiliwist Road. Proceed uphill about 1 mile to the Chiliwist WLA. Headed south from Malott on Old Highway 97 about 2 miles southwest of Malott, turn right (west) onto Chiliwist Road. Proceed uphill about 1 mile to the Chiliwist WLA.
 - Legal Description
 - T33N R24E Sections 26, 34, 35
 - T32N R24E Sections 1-3, 12, 13, 24
 - T32N R25E Sections 5-8 and 18
- Driscoll-Eyhott Island (Okanogan County)
 - From Oroville drive south on SR 97. Watch for a Public Access sign on the right (west) side of the highway about .25 miles after crossing the Okanogan river. Turn right (west) just before the sign and cross the railroad tracks turning right into the parking lot.

- Legal Description
 - T40N R27E Sections 33, 34
 - T39N R27E Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10
- McLoughlin Falls (Okanogan County)
 - The unit is located about 6 miles south of Tonasket along the Okanogan River.
 - Legal Description
 - T36N R27E, Sections 16 and 21
- Carter Mountain (Okanogan County)
 - From Tonasket, drive south on Hwy 97 approximately 7 ¼ miles. Turn right onto the gravel road just past wide a pull-out lined with poplar trees and proceed about 100 yards to the parking area on the right.
 - Legal Description
 - T36N R26E Sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 24
 - T36N R27E Sections 6, 7, and 8
- Horse Spring Coulee (Okanogan County)
 - From Tonasket head west on 4th avenue across the Okanogan River to the Hwy 7 Junction. Turn left (south) on Hwy 7 and proceed 1 mile to North Pine Creek Road. Turn right (west) and drive 3 ½ miles to the intersection of Horse Spring Coulee Road. Turn right (west) and drive approximately 100 yards to where the right shoulder widens and park.
 - Legal Description
 - T37N R26E Sections 13, 14, and 24
- Buzzard Lake (Okanogan County)
 - From Okanogan follow highway 20 west toward Twisp approximately 10 miles. Turn right onto Buzzard Lake Road. Drive approximately 4 miles on Buzzard lake Road (keep to the right). A camping area and boat launch will be on the left.
 - Legal Description
 - T34N R25E Sections 20, 21, 28, and 29

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site: [\[help\]](#)

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

The terrain ranges from flat to mountainous with steep slopes, elevations range from 860 – 4,689 feet).

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#)

N/A

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. [\[help\]](#)

Soils in the region primarily reflect weathering of intrusive or metamorphic parent material and deposition of volcanic ash, glacial drift, or alluvium. Ash deposits are thought to originate from eruptions of Glacier

Peak, Mount Mazama, and Mount St. Helens that occurred since glaciation ended, approximately 10,000 to 12,000 years ago, in the area. Soil thickness varies depending on land surface gradient and geologic unit type.

Large areas remain covered with rocks and other sediments deposited by these glaciers or by rivers and lakes that formed when the glaciers began to melt. While most soils are coarsely textured and fast draining, volcanic ash and fine-textured sediments have contributed to less permeable soils in some areas. Units such as Driscoll-Eyhott Island, Similkameen-Chopaka, and McLoughlin Falls are Quaternary alluvium – fine-grained materials, such as silt and sandy loam, deposited by flowing water. These soils provide conditions for growing a variety of agricultural crops. Most management units have a significant amount of Pleistocene continental glacial drift – materials transported by the Cordilleran Ice Sheet during the 3 million years of glaciation ending approximately 12,000 years ago. These soils are commonly well-drained and consist of sandy, silty, loamy or gravelly materials, individually or in combination (i.e. sandy-loam, gravelly ashy loam, etc.). Scotch Creek, Sinlahekin, Eder, and Tunk have expansive soils of this type. There are also many areas where soils are shallow or nonexistent, and metamorphic rock outcrops dominate. These areas are common throughout the Okanogan. Management units such as Chesaw, Tunk Valley, Chiliwist, and Buzzard Lake have numerous areas where these rocks are prevalent.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

2. Air [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

3. Water [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

The units of the Scotch Creek and Sinlahekin wildlife areas fall within the boundary of the Okanogan Watershed Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 49. The only exception is the Chesaw Unit, which is within the Kettle WRIA 60. These units delineate the state's major watersheds, which are defined as areas draining into a river, lake or other waterbody.

Two principal rivers, the Okanogan and the Methow, drain Okanogan County.. These rivers flow into the Columbia River and finally into the Pacific Ocean. Originating in British Columbia, the Okanogan River flows south into Okanogan County through Osoyoos Lake. It is slow flowing, meandering through, and draining, the eastern part of the county. The Methow River is a clear, fast-flowing stream that drains the area to the west of the wildlife areas. The Similkameen River, the principal tributary of the Okanogan, has two tributaries (the Pasayten and Ashnola rivers) that drain an area of about 300 square miles in northwestern Okanogan County and flow north into British Columbia before returning to Washington.

- Chesaw: Mary Ann Creeks flows in a south and easterly direction through the unit.
- Scotch Creek: Scotch Creek is a spring-fed stream originating approximately three miles west of the unit. The creek travels for approximately 10 miles before it turns into a marsh at the eastern boundary of the wildlife area. There are no inlets, outlets, or tributaries to this perennial stream. Several springs and three lakes are also located on the unit.
- Pogue Mountain: Several seasonal streams, seeps, and springs are found on the unit. Hunsinger Lake is located near the top of Pogue Mountain.
- Tunk Valley: Tunk Creek flows for about two miles through the unit.
- Similkameen-Chopaka: The Similkameen River flows south into Okanogan County from Canada.
- Charles and Mary Eder: The east half of the Eder Unit faces west and Nine-mile Creek bisects the unit as it flows west toward Lake Osoyoos. Tonasket Creek follows the southern boundary of the unit.
- Ellemeham: The Similkameen River flows southward into Okanogan County from Canada and subsequently eastward to join the Okanogan River. The Similkameen is the northern boundary of the Ellemeham Unit.
- Sinlahekin is within the Sinlahekin Creek and the Coulee Creek Watersheds. Sinlahekin Creek Watershed includes all drainages and tributaries north of and starting from Blue Lake including Sinlahekin Creek, Sarsapkin Creek, Cecile Creek and numerous other unnamed tributaries. Coulee Creek Watershed includes the Spikeman Creek and Gibson Creek drainages, and the Hicks Canyon aka "Stalder" Creek/Sasse Pond drainage. Fish Lake and Doheny Lake are also within this watershed.
- Chiliwist: Chiliwist Creek, an unnamed creek in Frazier canyon and approximately 20 springs, in varying states of flow, are located on the unit.
- Driscoll-Eyhott Island: The Driscoll-Eyhott Island Unit is bordered by the Similkameen River to the west and the Okanogan River to the east. The two converge on the

southern end of Eyhott Island. To the north of Driscoll Island is an east-west channel that connects the two rivers. A smaller channel separates Driscoll from Eyhott Island. Depending on snowpack and spring runoff, both islands can get partially inundated by high water during the spring and early summer. The unit also contains a number of seasonal "overflow" channels and depressions.

- McLoughlin Falls: The Okanogan River meanders north to south and borders the unit to the west for approximately one mile. McLoughlin Falls itself tumbles through the canyon a half mile south of the unit. There is also a perennial wetland east of the railroad tracks (which run down the middle of the unit).
- Carter Mountain: There are two unnamed creeks that flow through the Carter Mountain Unit. Both creeks flow from west to east through the unit and disappear underground before reaching the eastern boundary. This unit also has a few seasonal ponds near the northwest corner.
- Horse Spring Coulee: A few seasonal ponds persist for a couple months if winter and spring provide enough moisture, and during the wet years can maintain a small stream for a few weeks. It starts in the north part of unit and runs south toward the coulee.
- Buzzard Lake: Buzzard Lake is fed by small intermittent tributaries to the north of the lake. Little Loup Loup Creek flows from the south end of Buzzard Lake. Various smaller, seasonal creeks run toward the lake from the west and north and usually dry up before mid-summer. There are also a few wetlands or marshes within the unit.

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

Portions of each unit have areas that lie within the 100 year floodplain. Those areas adjacent to perennial streams or rivers will have the potential to overflow their banks and flood low lying areas. Generally that area is small due to the arid climate and few perennial streams in this portion of Okanogan County.

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

b. Ground Water:

- 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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

Two units of the ScotchCreek complex have ground water rights. The Scotch Creek unit has two wells for irrigation. One is for 260 acre feet per year and the other is for 184 acre feet per year. In addition the HQ has a residential well for the residence and office. The Similkameen – Chopaka unit has two ground water rights for 483 acre feet per year and 232 acre feet per year.

Numerous – Sinlahekin (1 Domestic Well supplies the complex: residence, bunkhouse and shoper) ~ 10 Acre Feet per year -AFY); Chiliwist (1 Well for agriculture 44 Acres @ 160 AFY), Driscoll Island (3 Wells – 2 for Agriculture – 465 AFY for 155 Acres & 300 AFY for 55 Acres - and 1 for shrub plot – 2 AFY) and McLoughlin Falls (1 domestic-general @ 2 AFY).

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The Scotch Creek complex has three separate septic systems for residential use at three residences. The Sinlahekin has 3 septic systems also: residence, bunkhouse and shop.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Surface water run off originates from precipitation and snow melt.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No waste materials will be produced by actions of this management plan.

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#) None

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

4. Plants [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- X deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- X evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- X shrubs
- X grass
- X pasture

- X crop or grain
 - X Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops. [McLoughlin Falls has an orchard which is under agricultural lease.](#)

 - X wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
 - X water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 - X other types of vegetation
- Scotch Creek WLA includes: shrub-steppe, grassland, conifer forest, riparian.
 Sinlahekin WLA includes: shrub-steppe, wetlands, riparian, dry forest (ponderosa pine Douglas fir).

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#) None

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Columbia sharp-tailed grouse (ST), bull trout (FT/SC); steelhead (FT/SC); western gray Squirrel (ST); fisher (SE); gray wolf (FE/SE); grizzly bear (FT/SE).

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Restoration activities are identified in the plan in Appendix A and they include the following activities: restoring shrub-steppe habitats to protect sharp-tailed grouse and mule deer; forest restoration to benefit western gray squirrel. A whole suite of native wildlife species benefit from managing lands to improve ecological integrity.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

- Bladder Senna (*Colutea arborecens*)
- Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
- Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Common Mullein (*Verbascum Thapsus*)
- Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
- Dalmatian Toadflax (*Linaria dalmatica* ssp. *Dalmatica*)
- Diffuse knapweed (*Centaurea diffusa*)
- Hoary Alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)
- Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- Houndstounge (*Cynoglossum officinale*)
- Musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*)
- Plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*)
- Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
- Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*)
- Russian knapweed (*Acroptilon repens*)
- Russian Thistle (*Kali tragus*)

Scotch thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
Spiny Sandbur (*Cenchrus longispinus*)
St. Johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
Whitetop (*Cardaria draba*)
Wild Four-o'clock (*Mirabilis nyctaginea*)

5. Animals [\[help\]](#)

- a. **List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.** [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

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

See comprehensive list of 2016 documented species on wildlife area website.

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Columbia sharp-tailed grouse (ST), bull trout (FT/SC); steelhead (FT/SC); western gray Squirrel (ST); fisher (SE); gray wolf (FE/SE); grizzly bear (FT/SE).

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Migration corridors for mule deer, sharp-tailed grouse, tiger salamander and steelhead. Including migratory birds – waterfowl and neotropical songbirds.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Restoration activities are identified in the plan and they include recovering Columbian sharp-tailed grouse populations and enhancing shrub-steppe and riparian habitats to support them. Improve ecological Integrity to support native wildlife.

- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

European starling
Eastern Gray Squirrel
Norway rat
Wild turkey
Gray partridge
Chukar
Ring-necked pheasant
Eastern brook trout
Smallmouth bass
Largemouth bass

6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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: [\[help\]](#) N/A

7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

The current uses of WDFW wildlife areas are recreation and wildlife conservation. Adjacent lands are either private lands (agriculture/grazing), other public lands (Bureau of Land Management, Department of Natural Resources or Forest Service).

- 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 as a result 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? [\[help\]](#)

The wildlife area has a prior history of agriculture, grazing and logging. Grazing and agriculture currently exist on specific units of the wildlife area. See the wildlife area management plan for specific details.

- 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: [\[help\]](#) None

- c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)

Scotch Creek WLA: most of the facilities are located at headquarters including office, barn, garage, residence, shop, equipment storage buildings and bunkhouse. The Chesaw Unit has a residence, two barns and numerous outbuildings.

Sinlahekin WLA: most of the facilities are located at headquarters including a residence, office/bunkhouse, equipment shed, workshop and storage building. The Chiliwist and McLoughlin Falls units include outbuildings. Chiliwist Unit has a small storage shed plus hay barn. The McLoughlin Unit has a 'rustic' storage shed

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)

One of the open storage facilities is scheduled to be replaced in the next two years.

- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Rural 20

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Rural 20

- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Conservation, natural and rural resource.

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#) No
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

Seven employees of the WDFW will work on these projects. Two will reside on these properties.

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#) None
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Measures identified in this plan are compatible with local land use regulations.

- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Measures identified in the plan are compatible with nearby agricultural land use and forest lands.

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

*** residences exist on these areas. No additional housing is expected under the new management plan.

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#) None
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)
N/A
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)

Hunting, wildlife viewing, hiking, fishing, camping, horseback riding, mountain and dirt biking, photography, dog training, walking, boating, Nordic skiing, snowshoeing and trapping.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
None

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Recreational opportunities will be maintained and/or enhanced in this plan. Please see Appendix A in the Plan for Scotch Creek and Sinlahekin Wildlife Areas goals, objectives for recreation activities.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Specific project locations have not yet been identified. When these are identified, WDFW will conduct a cultural review of each project. Reviews will be designed to identify existing 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. [\[help\]](#)

Specific project locations have not yet been identified. When these are identified, WDFW will conduct a cultural review of each project. Several surveys have been conducted on or near the WLA. The results of these surveys are on file with the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and WDFW and will be used to inform project design.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

As specific projects are conceived, they will be reviewed by WDFW. Project reviews will be informed by the results of prior archaeological and historic research, a review of ethnographies and ethnographic information, information provided by the Tribes during consultation, the results of coordination with stakeholders and wildlife area staff, regional land use practices, local and regional geomorphological conditions, and regional settlement patterns. As needed, WDFW will conduct cultural resource surveys of project area to assess the potential of the project to impact cultural resources, to characterize the impacts, if any, and to make recommendations about reasonable options to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources should any be present at the project location.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Specific project locations have not yet been identified. As specific projects are designed, they will be reviewed by WDFW as described above. The project reviews will be used to inform project plans. In every case, WDFW will adopt all reasonable measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources should any be present at the project location.

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)
See attached maps for street names and highways
- 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? [\[help\]](#)
This area is not served by public transit.
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- d. 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). [\[help\]](#) N/A
- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- f. 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? [\[help\]](#)

No information exists for vehicle use per day. Peak volumes will coincide with hunting and fishing seasons, and no commercial and nonpassenger vehicles will be used.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? **No** If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? **No** If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)
None

16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____

Electricity, water, refuse service, telephone, septic system, propane tank and internet service.

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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

C. Signature [\[help\]](#)

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 Gauni Vigne

Position and Agency/Organization Environmental Planner - WDFW

Date Submitted: 11/23/16

D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[help\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to 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? [N/A](#)

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: [N/A](#)

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

[The goals of this wildlife area management plan are to:](#)

[Maintain or improve the ecological integrity of priority sites](#)

[Achieve species diversity at levels consistent with healthy ecosystems](#)

[Maintain and enhance game and upland bird habitat](#)

[Recover sharp-tailed grouse populations in the wildlife area to healthy, self-sustaining levels](#)

[Improve the distribution and abundance of western gray squirrel populations in suitable habitat](#)

[Manage wolf-livestock conflicts to minimize livestock losses, while not impacting the recovery of a sustainable wolf population.](#)

[Support and maintain appropriate recreation opportunities.](#)

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

[See Appendix A for a complete list of goals, objectives and performance measures for the management plan.](#)

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

[N/A](#)

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

[N/A](#)

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?

The goals of this plan (outlined above) provides protection and enhancement for fish and wildlife including sharp-tailed grouse, western gray squirrel, mule deer, loon, butterflies, amphibians, big-horn sheep and elk.

Appendix A includes restoration activities for the wildlife area for the next 10 years that will enhance threatened and endangered species habitat, wetlands and floodplains. Cultural resource sites will be protected as described in 13C.

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

See Appendix A in the Plan (Goals, objectives, and performance measures) for Scotch Creek and Sinlahekin WLAs.

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?

This management plan provides protection and enhancement measures for shorelines including riparian and wetland systems located on all two wildlife areas.

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

Agricultural setbacks, proper grazing management

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

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

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

This management plan meets all federal, local and state requirements for protection of the environment.