

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Teanaway Family Farm Restoration Project

2. Name of applicant:
Washington Dept of Fish & Wildlife

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

201 N Pearl St Ellensburg, WA 98926

Melissa Babik 509-925-6746

Noel Winegeart 509-899-3428

4. Date checklist prepared:

March 9, 2018

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Dept of Fish & Wildlife (owner of entire project site)

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

The restoration of the Teanaway Valley Farm property will be phased as we acquire funding. We are currently seeking funding for the installation of groundwater monitoring wells. The current agriculture field will be converted to desirable grasses and woody vegetation in a staged effort and as funding is acquired. The first phase (already funded) will consist of chemically fallowing and reseeding the field with desirable grasses in 2019. Woody vegetation will be installed after several years of broadleaf control. Boundary fencing, parkinglot construction, and structure demolition will occur in 2018 (funded).

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

We are seeking funding for restoration of the eastern and western creeks that cross the property to correct a fish passage barrier, agrade an eroded channel, improve instream habitat, and reconnect them with their floodplain.

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

A draft cultural review has been prepared by:

Northwest Cultural Resources Services

Richland, WA 99352

DAHP Site# 45KT4028

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.

Permit for removing a house and out buildings

Permit for removing the asbestos siding and interior floor of the house

Permit for an entrance road to a parking area

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 will construct a parking area 70'x100' with a 140' in length access road leading from the county road. The parking area will accommodate 20 cars and provide room for trucks with trailers to turn around. Surface will be compacted angular rock. Boulders will be placed around perimeter in a manor that will contain all vehicles to the parking area. A readerboard will be constructed at the south end of the parking lot.

A new wildlife friendly, barbless wire, fence will be constructed along property boundaries and county right of ways. The top wire of the fence will be less than 4' from the ground and the total fence length will be roughly a mile. The fence will include a gap for public access and a gate for administrative access to an agricultural field.

This project will remove 4 buildings, 1 yard fence, and remnants of an old corral.

- 1 house, 1681 square feet, built in 1948.
- 1 shed, ~500 square feet, built in 1948.
- 1 pump house, ~100 square feet.
- 1 outdoor oven made of cinder block with a tin roof, ~20 square feet.
- 1 corral remnant made entirely of wood, ~70 linear feet which includes the loading chute.
- 1 yard fence which encompasses the house, ~600 linear feet.

The project will convert a 38 acre hay field to a proper functioning floodplain and grassland. This will include chemically removing weedy species and reseeding with desirable species.

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 property is located in Kittitas County at address, 6670 Teanaway Road, Cle Elum, WA 98943

The entire project is within section 10 of Township 20, Range 16

B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

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

a. General description of the site:

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

Fence site is 60 percent mountainous with one shallow ravine and 40 percent flat open area in valley bottom.

Building sites are flat at the outer edge of valley bottom.

Rehabilitation field is 40 percent flat with a slight incline as it extends to the north.

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

New fence will pass through areas with:

- 25 to 50 percent slope (50 percent of fence line)
- 25 to 45 percent slope (11 percent of fence line)
- 0 to 3 percent slope (39 percent of fence line)

Building removal sites

- 0 to 3 percent slope

Field restoration site

- 0 to 5 percent slope

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.

No soil will be removed from these project sites.

The area has silty clay loam and clay loam soils

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

No

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The 70'x100' parking area, and ~140'x16' entrance road, will be graded and covered with ~3/8" angular rock. No soil will be added.

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

No

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

None

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

Bare ground areas where structures were located will be seeded and managed for weeds. This is a long term approach that includes multiple control methods and consistent monitoring.

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.

Only emissions from the combustible engines of the tractors and trucks used during building demolition, parking lot construction, field restoration, and fence construction.

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:

No

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

a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

There are two seasonal creeks that run north/south along the eastern and western property boundaries. The creeks drain into the Teanaway River. The DNR Forest Practices Typing System classifies the streams as type F. One local source refers to the eastern creek as John's Creek and the western creek as Fred's Creek.

- 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, culverts may be removed in the future. Plans are not currently available.

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

None

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

Approximately 5 acre of the ag field falls within the 100-year floodplain

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

No

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

No groundwater will be withdrawn

- 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 material 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.

No runoff

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

No

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

No

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

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

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

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

Small amounts of vegetation will be lost in the parking lot and entrance road areas. That vegetation is primarily patches of non-native grasses such as orchard grass, reed canarygrass, and cultivar wheatgrasses, and a few weeds such as Canada thistle and diffuse knapweed.

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

O. mykiss and gray wolf have been seen on the property.

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

Native grasses will be planted within the footprint of house and shop after they are removed. Native grasses will be planted within the current stand of grasses occupying the agricultural field and shrubs will be

planted strategically throughout the project site.

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

- Diffuse knapweed (*centaurea diffusa*)**
- Spotted knapweed (*centaurea stoebe*)**
- Meadow knapweed (*centaurea x moncktonii*)**
- Downy brome (*bromus tectorum*)**
- Canada thistle (*cirsium arvense*)**
- Sulfur cinquefoil (*potentilla recta*)**
- Reed canarygrass (*phalaris arundinacea*)**

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.

Mammals: elk, mule deer, cougar, bear, wolf, coyotes

Birds: eagles, songbirds, hawks, turkey, grouse, merganser, wood ducks, geese, osprey

Fish: O. mykiss

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

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

Steelhead and gray wolf have been seen on the property.

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

The project site has regular concentrations of mule deer during winter months as snow makes foraging difficult at higher elevations. The area is also located within the Yakima Elk Herd Area and is part of a migration route between summer and winter grounds.

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

Rehabilitate agricultural field to a proper functioning condition focusing on vegetation species richness and diversity, and habitat requirements for brood rearing and wild ungulate foraging.

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

- **Barred owls are know to be in the area**
- **Starlings are know to be in the area**

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.

The project will not require energy. There will be no buildings, lights, or water on site.

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:

No energy conservation features included or needed

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.

No

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

None

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

None

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

None

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None

5) 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.

One to two tractors will be operating at any given time during daylight hours. A dump truck will make several trips to the site to remove old building materials and deliver gravel for parking lot, also during daylight hours.

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

No impact will occur

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.

The project site is currently vacant with no use taking place. Adjacent properties are forest to the north and south, and private property to the east and west. The private property consist of agricultural fields along the southern half of the project area and two residences along the north half. The agricultural fields are cut for hay and the residences are out of site from the construction areas of the project area.

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?

A 38 acre, hay field will be converted to wildlife habitat.

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

No

c. Describe any structures on the site.

- **1 house, 1681 square feet, built in 1948.**
- **1 shed, ~500 square feet, built in 1948.**
- **1 pump house, ~100 square feet.**
- **1 outdoor oven made of cinder block with a tin roof, ~20 square feet.**
- **1 corral remnant made entirely of wood, ~70 linear feet which includes the loading chute.**
- **1 yard fence which encompasses the house, ~600 linear feet.**

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

All structures will be removed

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

Agriculture 20, Forest and Range

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

Rural Working

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

No shoreline design

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

The entire area has a Kittitas County PHS Site Name of "Teaway Elk Calving Area"

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

None

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

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

No units will be provided.

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

The residence being demolished is not suitable for residential occupancy in the current state.

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

There will be no impact and so no measures

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?

The tallest height will be of a readerboard that will peak at 7'

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

None

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

None

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

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

No light or glare

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 [\[help\]](#)

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

Hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, wildlife watching, hunting, fishing, swimming.

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:

The project complements recreation in the local area. There are no negative impacts, but rather establishes access to the adjacent public lands.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

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 located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

Aside from the WDFW survey currently underway, there are no records of any recent cultural surveys on or near the Area of Potential Effects (APE) that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers. The buildings and structures on site do meet the minimum age threshold for consideration for listing on the National Register; an evaluation is underway, but has not yet been completed.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

Although the landscape has been identified as potentially culturally sensitive location; there are no recorded landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation within or near the APE. A review of historic maps and the DAHP database did not result in the identification of any recorded cultural features within the project area. A historic trail, presumed to also have been in use prior to colonization is recorded on early maps in the approximate location of the current road, which divides the northern and southern portions of the APE.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

The project was reviewed by the WDFW archaeologist who recommended additional survey and an evaluation of the Nation Register eligibility of existing building stock. WDFW contracted for the services of a professional archaeologist and architectural historian to conduct the archaeological and built-environment survey, which is currently underway. Context for project evaluation was derived from a review of survey and site documents available on DAHP's WISAARD database, a review of DAHP's predictive model. Portions of the project have a high probability to impact historic building stock; however, the expectation is low (overall) that the project will affect significant archaeological resources. Survey of the project is underway, and the results of these investigations will be used to inform final project design (Sharpe, Harvey, Moose and DeMaris 2018).

Tribal consultation will be carried out with the Colville and Yakama tribes, and the Wanapum Band to identify the potential for impacts to cultural resources. The results of the consultation will be used to inform final project design.

- 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.

WDFW had contracted for professional services to conduct a review of the project under Section 106 and EO 05-05; the contractors will survey, assess the eligibility of any archaeological sites identified as well as the historic building stock. WDFW's federal partner will conduct consultation with the affected tribes. If historic properties are identified and the proposed project is determined to have an adverse effect, WDFW and its federal partner will work with DAHP, affected tribes, and WA Trust (and other identified stakeholders) to identify measures to minimize and/or mitigate the effects.

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.

The Teanaway road is the only public access to the site location. A 20' asphalt apron will be constructed at the point the parking lot entrance that meets the Teanaway road.

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

No

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

The area used for parking will not change. The quality of the area will be improved.

- 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).

No

- e. Will the project or proposal 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 or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

The project site is located along the route to the Teanaway Community Forest. The proposed parking area would accommodate additional parking for users interested in accessing the Teanaway Community Forest.

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? If so, generally describe.

No

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

None

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)? If so, generally describe.

No

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

None

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

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

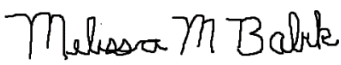
None

c. 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 being proposed and none will be needed

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 _____Melissa M. Babik_____

Position and Agency/Organization _L.T. Murray Wildlife Area Manager_____

Date Submitted: _3/16/2018_____