

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: [\[help\]](#)
Kendall Creek Bridge Maintenance
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)
600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501; Anna Sample, WDFW Biologist (360) 902-8429

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)
3/9/18

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)
WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)
Project is planned to begin summer 2018.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)
No.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)
SEPA Checklist, WDFW Hydraulic Approval, WDFW Internal Cultural Review

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. [\[help\]](#)
None are known at this time.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)
Anticipated permits include WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval.

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

Kendall Creek Hatchery Bridge is a 52' long steel girder and concrete deck structure spanning Kendall Creek in North Central Whatcom County. This bridge is the only crossing and sole entrance access into the Kendall Hatchery. Maintenance and repair is needed and WDFW proposes the following repairs: Rebuild and bolster sloughing shoulders on road approaches either end of bridge. This task will likely entail slightly widening the road prism and installing some means of retaining the gravel road fill, such as minimal low concrete retaining wall or bulkheads along the shoulders on both sides of each approach for a total of four retaining walls. Minimal excavation of the road shoulder fill will be necessary. It's estimated that up to approximately 12CY of material will be excavated from each corner shoulder and temporarily stockpiled on site. Maintenance activities will also include replacing damaged guardrails at bridge approaches (both ends of bridge) and replacing/repairing damaged utility conduits. Replacement conduits will be supplied and installed in kind by licensed in-house (WDFW) electricians using hand labor and hand tools only.

No work will occur on the bridge itself. The conduits will be replaced/repared from the bridge deck. If risk of material (drill hole debris, epoxy, or other materials) falling into the creek is determined, a tarp will be placed below the work area to prevent materials from entering the waterbody. All other work

will be done on either end of the bridge, at minimum 10 ft away from the creek OHWM. Work done to rebuild the sloughing shoulders and road approaches will occur from the existing gravel road. Any necessary BMPs, such as silt fencing, will be implemented to reduce the risk of material (dirt, gravel, construction debris) from entering the waterbody.

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. [\[help\]](#)

7100 Hatchery Rd, Deming WA 98244, Whatcom County

Parcel Number: 3905033552950000, 3905033062390000

T39N, R5E, Section 3

Driving Directions: Heading North on I-5 take Exit 255. Turn right onto E Sunset Dr and continue for 8.83 miles. Enter the roundabout and take the 2nd exit onto Mt Baker Hwy/WA-542. Pass through one roundabout. Continue for 12.23 miles and take a slight right onto Hatchery Rd. Continue for .22 miles, the driveway to the hatchery is on the right.

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

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

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

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

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

0-2% slopes

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. [\[help\]](#)

100% Clipper silt loam, drained

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

This project proposes to rebuild and bolster sloughing shoulders on road approaches at either end of the bridge. This task will likely entail slightly widening the road prism and installing some means of retaining the gravel road fill, such as minimal low concrete retaining wall or

bulkheads along the shoulders on both sides of each approach for a total of four retaining walls. Minimal excavation of the road shoulder fill will be necessary. Approximately 12 CY of material will be excavated from each corner shoulder and temporarily stockpiled on site (approximately 48 cy total excavation including all four corner shoulders). Retaining walls will be pre-cast and hauled onto site and installed using either a mobile crane or tracked excavator. Stockpiled material will then be hauled back to the retaining wall where it will be installed in lifts and compacted between lifts using a gas-powered walk-behind plate compactor.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, erosion at the work site is possible during the excavation of each corner shoulder and the installation of the pre-cast corner walls. After construction is complete, however, the possibility of erosion is decreased due to the fact that excavated material will be contained by the retaining wall.

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

No new impervious surface will be added.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Erosion possibilities are minimal during construction of the corner shoulder. However, any necessary BMPs needed to reduce risk of erosion, such as straw wattles or silt fence will be implemented.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Air emissions may increase slightly due to construction equipment during construction.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Standard emission control converters and mufflers will be used by construction vehicles.

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 bridge spans over Kendall Creek, which is a year-round stream that flows into the Nooksack River.

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

Yes, this project will occur within 200 ft of Kendall Creek OHWM. There will be no in water work. The electrical conduit replacement will take place over the creek, accessed from the bridge deck.

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

None.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

No.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, the work site is located in 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. [\[help\]](#)

None.

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. [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

None.

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. [\[help\]](#)

There is no stormwater/runoff collection plan proposed. To reduce erosion during construction, appropriate BMPs will be implemented.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)
Yes, but risk of waste materials entering ground or surface waters is low. Best management practices will be implemented during maintenance construction of the corner shoulders on the bridge road approaches to ensure waste materials from vehicles/machinery does not enter the creek.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
No.

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

Any Best Management Practices necessary to reduce runoff will be implemented. These may include straw wattles, straw bales, filter fence or silt fencing.

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

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

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? [\[help\]](#)
Some grass may be removed during excavation of the corner shoulders.

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

Large-awned Sedge (*Carex macrochaeta*) – Threatened

Western Jewel-weed (*Impatiens noli-tangere*) – Threatened

Canyon Bog-orchid (*Platanthera sparsiflora*) – Threatened

Lowland Toothcup (*Rotala ramosior*) – Threatened

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

None are proposed.

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

Reed canary grass, Himalayan blackberry

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 _____

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

Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*) – Endangered

North American Wolverine (*Gulo gulo luscus*) – Proposed Threatened

Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*) – Threatened

Streaked Horned Lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*) – Threatened

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*) – Threatened

Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) - Threatened

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

No.

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

No equipment will operate in-water and minimal damage to shoreline vegetation is expected near Kendall Creek. Maintenance activities to the bridge road approaches should cause little to no disturbance to species present at the time of work.

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

None are known.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The completed project will not require any source of energy.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties?

If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No, the proposed project will have no effect on any use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?

List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed.

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. [\[help\]](#)

There is possible risk of fuel or vehicle/machinery fluid spills or leaks due to the fact that machinery will be operating in the work area. The risk of a spill or leak is not likely and spill kits are available at the project site if a spill should occur. Fueling of vehicles and machinery is completed upland and away from the water body.

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

[\[help\]](#)

No sources of contamination are known at this site.

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

None are known at this site.

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

Typical construction of this project will use gasoline or diesel powered equipment and some hand tools. The finished project will not require any source of toxic or hazardous chemicals. Best Management Practices will be used during construction to protect any introduction of foreign substances to the construction area.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)

No special emergency services are anticipated.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Fueling will be done off site to prevent any source of fuel from entering surface waters. A spill kit will be available on site in the event of an accidental spill.

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

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

No noise will be generated by this project after maintenance activities are completed.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Short- term noise will be created from machines used during maintenance activities, limited to typical working hours of 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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 site is currently used as a WDFW salmon hatchery. The adjacent properties are private residential and rural farm land. This project will not affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties.

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? [\[help\]](#)

No.

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: [\[help\]](#)

No.

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

The 52' single lane vehicle bridge is the only structure in the work area. The hatchery facility on the property includes concrete ponds, storage buildings and a residence.

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

No.

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

Rural-R5A

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

Rural

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

Conservancy

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)

HCA 2 – State and Federal listed Species Have a Primary Association

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The proposed project will be conducted in accordance with required Whatcom County permits and conditions.

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

The proposed project will have no affect to agricultural or forest lands.

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

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

None.

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: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed.

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? [\[help\]](#)

None.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

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? [\[help\]](#)

None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)
No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)
None are known.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None are proposed.

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

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)
WDFW Salmon Hatchery, fishing in the Nooksack River at Public Access Sites.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None are proposed.

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. [\[help\]](#)
No.

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. [\[help\]](#)
No known landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation exist on the site.

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. [\[help\]](#)

An Internal Cultural Review by WDFW is expected to occur prior to construction. A WDFW inadvertent discovery plan will be in place so that if any cultural resources are identified during construction, construction activities will stop and the inadvertent discovery plan will be followed.

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. [\[help\]](#)

An Internal Cultural Review by WDFW is expected to occur prior to construction, which will include measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. A WDFW inadvertent discovery plan will be in place so that if any cultural resources are identified during construction, construction activities will stop and the inadvertent discovery plan will be followed. All conditions of federal, state, and local permits will be followed to help reduce or control impacts to cultural and historical resources.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The project site is accessed by Hatchery Rd and the Mt Baker Hwy (542).

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? [\[help\]](#)

No.

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

No.

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

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? [\[help\]](#)

Vehicle usage on the bridge is not expected to change.

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. [\[help\]](#)

No.

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

None proposed.

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. [\[help\]](#)
No.

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

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

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)
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. [\[help\]](#)
No utilities are needed for this project.

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 _____ Anna Sample _____

Position and Agency/Organization _____ Biologist 3/WDFW _____

Date Submitted: _____ 3/19/18 _____