

# 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: [\[help\]](#)  
**Lewis Butte Trail**
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)  
**WDFW – Methow Wildlife Area**  
**Brandon Troyer, Manager**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

350 Bear Creek Rd.  
Winthrop, WA 98862  
(Office) 509-996-2559  
(Cell) 509-429-2624

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)

4/11/2018

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

WDFW

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)

**Site preparation for this project will begin in May of 2018. It's expected that at least 75% of the project will be completed within the calendar year. Any remaining work and maintenance will likely occur over the course of the next 2-3 years.**

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. The second phase of this project involves rerouting another section of trail on the north side of Lewis Butte and connecting it to an equestrian trailhead near the Haas homestead. This phase will require the rehabilitation of a parking area at the Haas homestead, and the installation of fencing and signage to protect cultural resources at the site. The third phase of this project involves converting user created trails that encircle Riser Lake into a well-developed loop trail that meets industry standards for sustainability and use by multiple user groups. 75% of this work is expected to be completed in 2018 with future completion and maintenance extending for an additional 2-3 years.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

None.

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. [\[help\]](#)

No.

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

[\[help\]](#)

None.

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 project will include -**

- **Construction of approximately 2.5 miles of new trail using a mini-excavator and crews with hand tools.**

- **Placing erosion control measures (water bars, deflections, rolling dips, etc.) where needed along the trail.**
- **Cutting brush where needed to improve usability (within 1 yard of trail corridor).**
- **Placing informative or safety signs where needed.**
- **Decommissioning existing user created trails and restoring using native vegetation and seed mixes.**
- **Decommissioning an old jeep trail and rehabilitating with native vegetation and seed to address erosion concerns.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**Nearest Street Address:  
145 Gunn Ranch Rd.  
Winthrop, WA 98862**

**The Rendezvous Unit of the Methow Wildlife Area is located approximately 3 miles northwest of the town of Winthrop, Okanogan County. The project site is located on the southern slopes of Lewis Butte. The trailhead is located on Gunn Ranch Road directly across from the WDFW parking area at Riser Lake and extends north for approximately 0.75 miles to the peak of Lewis Butte.**

**All lands pertinent to this project on the Rendezvous Wildlife Area are located in T35N R21E sections 20, 21, 28, 29 and 33.**

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

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

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

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

**The wildlife area is characterized by moderately steep, rolling hills rising from the Chewuch River valley to the east and the Methow River valley to the west with an elevation ranging from 2,400 feet to over 3,300 feet. The proposed trail corridor consists of a series of switchbacks that repeatedly cross the southeastern and southwestern aspects of Lewis Butte as it gently climbs to the peak (see attachment C).**

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

**40%**

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 of the Rendezvous Wildlife Area have been mapped. The soil map is available on the NRCS Soil Data Website (see link below). Soils present in the proposed trail corridor are as follows:**

- *Lithic Haploxerepts-Newbon Complex, 15 to 45% slopes*
- *Newbon gravelly loam, 0 to 8% slopes*
- *Newbon gravelly loam, 8 to 25% slopes*
- *Newbon gravelly loam, 25 to 45% south slopes*
- *Newbon very gravelly loam, 25 to 65% slopes, eroded*

**Other soils in the area that the proposed trail corridor does not cross are as follows:**

- *Conconully gravelly ashy loam, 0 to 8% slopes*
- *Conconully gravelly ashy loam, 8 to 15% slopes*
- *Conconully gravelly ashy loam, 15 to 25% slopes*
- *Newbon gravelly loam, 25 to 45% north slopes*
- *Newbon gravelly loam, 0 to 45% slopes, extremely stony*

**For more information visit this link: <http://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>**

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

**No. However, much of the soil is very sandy and/or gravelly making erosion possible during intense, infrequent rainfall events.**

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

**There will be considerable grading along the new trail corridor at an average slope of 5-7% with a width of 2-4 ft. depending on the type of equipment used. Some excavation, filling, and grading may be used to mitigate erosion on steeper sections of the existing jeep trail. Any fill material will be sourced from soils directly adjacent to the jeep trail. The total area affected is approximately 4.5 acres.**

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

**While some erosion may occur on the new trail, the alignment has been designed to industry standards to ensure that it requires the least maintenance possible. The proposed alignment avoids crossing intermittent streams and wet areas whenever possible and incorporates water control features such as grade reversals to ensure that erosion is kept to a minimum. Decommissioning and rehabilitation of the existing user trails and jeep trail will specifically address the erosion problems that have occurred as a result of their use. Overall the net effect of this project should significantly reduce erosion in the project area.**

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

**None.**

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

- **adding water bars and reinforced grade dips. per USFS/WADNR standards as needed along the trail segment. [http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE\\_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5343897.pdf](http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5343897.pdf)**
- **allow existing native vegetation to take hold and flourish following construction.**

- retain the option to close trail during sensitive times during the year to reduce erosion potential.
- use crushed rock to create reinforced crossings where intermittent streams cross the trail.
- decommission and rehabilitate user trails and jeep trail with an emphasis on reducing future impacts from erosion.

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

**Short-term emissions from volunteer vehicles and a trail dozer will occur for the duration of the project, but will be minimal outside of the primary construction period in May 2018. Use of small gas engines for trail clearing will be minimal.**

- 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: [\[help\]](#)  
**Run equipment only when necessary. Work in a manner that will minimize impacts from dust.**

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

**Yes. The trail corridor crosses several small seasonal streams, all classified as "U" and considered non-fish. These streams run meet and run along the south side of Gunn Ranch Road before emptying into the Methow River. The identification codes for the streams are as follows (WC-LLID-NR / WC-ID):**

- 1202142485094 / 1070276
- 1201956484824 / 4800446
- 1202129485053 / 1070333
- 1202083485039 / 1070059
- 1202172485137 / 1070060
- 1202180485077 / 1070308
- 1202145485062 / 1070314
- 1202097485086 / 1070169

**Riskier Lake (Waterbody ID 9532) is in the immediate vicinity of the project site, but work on the trail around the lake will occur at a later time.**

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

**Water only exists in the stream for roughly 2-3 months and is not a shoreline of the state.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**No.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**No.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**NO WASTE MATERIALS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PROJECT.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**The natural flow of runoff will not be altered.**

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

**No.**

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: [\[help\]](#)

**Comply with all federal, state and county laws regarding the impacts of runoff waters.**

#### 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 removal of sagebrush, bitterbrush and various native and non-native bunchgrasses will occur within the proposed trail corridor. Re-generation from adjacent, healthy populations will occur over time. A native seed mix (bunchgrasses and forbs) will be planted where disturbance has occurred as part of the trail project. The proposed trail corridor was specifically designed to minimize the removal of important forage shrubs such as bitterbrush and to avoid areas with high densities of native forbs.**

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

**No T&E species are known to occur at these sites.**

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

**Native seed mixes will be used in the restoration of existing user trails, the jeep trail, and areas impacted by equipment during the construction of the new trail.**

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

**Diffuse Knapweed, Cheatgrass, Houndstongue, Yellow Sweet Clover**

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

**birds: red-tailed hawk, w. meadowlarks, bluebirds, magpies, grouse, etc.**  
**mammals: mule deer, coyotes, cougars, etc.**  
**Other: Pygmy short-horned lizards, rattlesnakes, numerous butterflies, ant ssp, etc.**

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

**No T&E species are known to occur at these sites, however:**

Gray Wolf – This area is not included in ‘core zone’ habitat for this species, as defined by WGA, and recent wolf sightings or evidence of wolf activity have not been reported in the area - ([http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/gray\\_wolf/reporting/sightings.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/gray_wolf/reporting/sightings.html)). However, as wolf populations are recovered, the Rendezvous Unit will likely be suitable dispersal and seasonal foraging habitat for this species.

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

**The general area and most of the wildlife area is used as a mule deer winter migration route.**

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

**By concentrating users to one trail this project will minimize the effects of disturbance on this area of the unit. Seasonal closures will also be enacted upon the District Biologist’s recommendation.**

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

**None 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. [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

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

**Does not apply**

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: [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

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

**No.**



- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [\[help\]](#)  
**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. [\[help\]](#)  
**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. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**

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

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

**The site is near two county roads with low to moderate vehicle traffic but this should not affect the project.**

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

**Work crews are expected to travel to and from the proposed site on existing roads periodically over the summer months in the morning (between 7:00-9:00 AM) and evening (4:00-6:00 PM) creating low levels of noise. Ground-based equipment will generate low amounts of noise throughout the work periods. More noise will be generated during the daylight hours of May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> when we expect to have upwards of 75 volunteers working at the site.**

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

**Properly maintained equipment with mufflers will reduce noise impacts.**

## 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 managed for wildlife, their associated habitats, and public recreation. Adjacent properties are primarily low density residential and will not be significantly impacted by this project.**

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

**Although some of the land around the project site was once used for grazing and as an apple orchard, it has not been in production for many years and is not of long-term commercial significance. The proposed trail will have very limited connectivity to or in the vicinity of these old grazing and agricultural areas.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**No structures on site.**

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

**Not applicable.**

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

**The proposed trail corridor crosses back and forth between Low Density Residential (LDR) and Methow Review District Uplands 20 (MRD UL20) zones.**

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

**The site is designated as rural according to the Okanogan County Comprehensive Plan Map of 3/15/2014. Additional information available at <https://www.okanogancounty.org/planning/>.**

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

**Not Applicable**

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

**The Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife considers the entire Wildlife Area as environmentally sensitive. It was acquired in 1993 to preserve mule deer habitat.**

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

**Does not apply**

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

**Does not apply**

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

**Does not apply**

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

**Proposed measures are congruent with the WDFW Wildlife Management plan and are supported by Wildlife Manager and WDFW staff.**

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

**Not applicable.**

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

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

**Does not apply**

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

**Does not apply**

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

**Does not apply**

**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? [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)

**None.**

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

**Does not apply**

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply**

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

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

**Many forms of recreation including, but not limited to: hunting, hiking, mountain biking, wildlife viewing, and horseback riding.**

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

**No. This project will enhance all users who want to access the wildlife area (hunters, horseback riders, wildlife photographers, etc.)**

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

**A well-constructed, easily accessible trail into the wildlife area will increase the enjoyment of this site significantly. This project will gather those who access the wildlife area from multiple locations and focus them to this user-friendly site.**

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

**The Everett and Vera Johnson House (168 Gunn Ranch Rd., Winthrop; Field # AHA-2016-MWA6) – also known as the Haase homestead - is located directly to the northwest of the project site and is visible from sections of the trail. This site was inventoried in the 2016 Architectural History & Archaeology! (Sharley and Hamilton) report which concluded that “this house is not associated with historically significant events and people...in addition the property contains no historically important information. This building, then, lacks the historical significance and physical integrity required for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or in the Washington Heritage Register.” (Sharley and Hamilton 2016: 22). While this phase of the project does not entail any work in close proximity to the home, future plans to add an equestrian trailhead and parking area would occur in the immediate vicinity of the homestead. This phase of the project would most likely incorporate fencing and signage to protect what remains of the homestead.**

**Immediately to the southeast of the project site are the remains of the Methow Trading Company Orchard House and Bunkhouse and the remnants of a small orchard. These buildings were constructed around 1915 by Guy Waring who is widely acknowledged as the founder of Winthrop. “Although these buildings now lie in ruins, his parcel with its remnant orchards illustrates the efforts of Guy Waring and the Methow Trading Company to promote and develop the Methow Valley. The building ruins are recommended eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic**

Places under Criterion A” (Sharley & Hamilton 2016: 20). The property would also qualify for Washington Heritage Register listing. While the proposed trail will offer sweeping views of the buildings and orchard remnants, it is more than half of a mile from the structures and should not have an impact on the historic site.

Sharley, Ann M.A., and Hamilton, Fran M.A. 2016 Methow Wildlife Area Historic Buildings and Structures Inventory, Okanogan County, Washington. Prepared by Architectural History and Archaeology! LLC for WDFW. On file at DAHP, Olympia, and WDFW-Methow Wildlife Area, Winthrop.

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

**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. A review of historic maps and the DAHP database did not result in the identification of any recorded cultural features within the project area.**

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

**The project was reviewed by WDFW staff. 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 may have a low probability to impact archaeological resources. Those locations will be surveyed to clarify the expectations for intact archaeological resources.**

**Tribal consultation will be carried out with the Confederated Colville Tribes to identify the potential for impacts to cultural resources.**

**The results of these investigations 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. [\[help\]](#)

**The project has been reviewed by WDFW staff, who has determined that portions of the project may have a low probability to impact archaeological resources. Those locations will be surveyed to clarify the expectations for intact archaeological resources. The results of these investigations will be used to inform final project design.**

**If cultural significant features are discovered during research, consultation will be carried out with affected Tribes measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources.**

**The project will operate under WDFW's Inadvertent Discovery Plan, which provides the project proponent with a detail series of steps to follow upon the unanticipated discovery of archaeological or cultural materials**

**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 proposed trail connects to an existing trailhead at the WDFW-maintained parking area at Riser Lake located on Gunn Ranch Rd. (county). Future plans include the development of a parking area for horse trailers near the historic Haas homestead at the end of a short unnamed road managed by WDFW.**

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. Rural.**

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)

**No additional parking spaces are included in this phase of the project.**

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 IMPROVEMENTS TO ROADS ARE INCLUDED IN THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT.**

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? [\[help\]](#)

**The number of trips per day may increase (not known how much) with a better developed trail becoming available. Peak volumes will most likely occur during the spring and fall during various hunting seasons (Sept. – mid Nov.). Traffic is likely to decrease during the hottest parts of the summer.**

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: [\[help\]](#)

**Crews will carpool and limit trips to the work site when feasible.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**Not Applicable.**

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

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,  
other \_\_\_\_\_

**Does not apply.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**Does not apply.**

**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 Brandon Troyer

Position and Agency/Organization WDFW-Methow WLA, Manager

Date Submitted: April 11, 2018