

## **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:

**Colockum-Stemilt Forest Restoration Project**

2. Name of applicant:

**Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**

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

**Matt Ruggirello**

**303 S. Mission St. Suite 200, Wenatchee, WA 98801**

**Matthew.Ruggirello@dfw.wa.gov**

**509-699-9662**

4. Date checklist prepared:

**12/13/2018**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**

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

**April 2019 – November 2019**

**Cultural resource survey to take place as soon as snow melts. Thinning operations will begin in the drier of the two units (section 28) in May and move into the wetter unit (section 20) in June or July when conditions are suitable for heavy equipment. Operations will continue until complete or until the first substantial snow limits access to the area.**

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

- A. Slash Disposal: debris from timber harvest operations (limbs, tops, etc.) will be piled and trailed at landings in preparation for burning. Slash burning will be carried out after the timber harvest work has been completed. All slash burning will be completed as per Department of Natural Resources and Department of Ecology regulations.**
- B. Regeneration Method: there is currently an abundance of natural regeneration on the site including ponderosa pine, western larch, Douglas-fir and grand fir. Following harvest operations, there will be no need to plant any additional seedlings.**
- C. Possible prescribed fire in selected units dependent upon management needs and available funding.**
- D. To maintain desired stand conditions, pre-commercial thinning and/or slashing may be used either to complement prescribed fire or replace it where prescribed fire is not feasible.**

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

- **WDFW Priority Habitat and Species Management Recommendations**

- **Maps showing: soil type, erosion potential, soil stability, and hydrologic maturity from NRCS County Soil Survey data**

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

**None**

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

**A. DNR Forest Practice Application (FPA)**

**B. Road Abandonment Plan**

**C. State and tribal cultural/ archaeological survey and protection plan 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.)

**The primary goal of the WDFW Stemilt Restoration Thinning Project will be to begin the process of restoring two units within the Stemilt Basin to their historic range of variability. This will be achieved through cutting trees using a combination of Individual, Clumps and Openings (ICO) techniques and stocking/spacing strategies. Both units have been intensively managed and “high graded” for several decades. The resulting stands are over-stocked with a high proportion of shade tolerant species (primarily grand fir). The goal will be to reduce stocking levels closer to the historic range of variability of 30 to 35 trees per acre. Ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas-fir will be favored to leave.**

- **All unit boundaries have been clearly delineated with pink ribbon.**
- **The maximum width RMZ, as per Forest Practice Rules, have been delineated with pink ribbon as no harvest areas for all type NP and F waters within the unit boundaries. An additional 10’ of buffer width has been added to the maximum width RMZ. This will provide additional stream habitat protection.**
- **Road reconnaissance has been included with orange ribbon, identifying pre-haul and post-haul maintenance needs, and completing a GPS traverse.**
- **Leave trees have been designated with orange paint, with one complete band around the tree at eye level and one mark at the base of the tree on the downhill side.**
- **Species preference, in declining order of preference, include ponderosa pine, western larch, Douglas-fir and grand fir. Leave all stand alone or small clumps of western larch.**
- **Leave all “unique” species that are limited to micro-sites in the stand (e. g. western red cedar and Engelmann spruce).**
- **All hardwoods will be automatic leave trees. Do not mark hardwood leave trees.**
- **Leave large diameter “legacy” trees over 24” dbh.**
- **Leave trees with good growing characteristics (good crown ratios and relatively free of pathogens and/or insect attack).**
- **Leave defective trees with unique characteristics (trees with cat faces, “wolfy” crowns, large limbs, etc.) for Wildlife Reserve Tree (WRT) recruitment.**

- In areas with less than 4 snags (WRT's) per acre, the contractor must mark at least 2 and no more than 4 trees 10" dbh and greater with defect in the butt log with 2 orange bands at eye level for WRT recruitment. This indicates to the logging contractor that he needs to "snip off" the tree as high as he can reach with the harvester (at least 10' tall) to create a WRT.
- Leave dense pockets of trees (up to 10 acres) as complex patches for wildlife habitat where appropriate.
- In general, attempt to leave a residual stand with a post-treatment stocking level of between 30 (average 38' spacing) and 35 (average 35' spacing) TPA. Realize that these stocking/spacing guidelines are only intended as a spatial reference starting point. The contractor is expected to constantly adapt the marking strategy to account for changes in timber types and micro-site conditions.
- In protected north facing slopes and draws, the contractor shall leave between 35 and 40 trees per acre.
- For type NS riparian areas (30' ELZ's), increase the leave tree density to approximately 40 TPA.
- Scatter tree clumps (2 to 10 trees per clump) across the unit (e.g. desirable tree species, legacy trees, unique trees, etc.) where appropriate.
- Create small openings (0.5 to 1 acre) across the unit where appropriate. Take advantage of pre-existing openings with good production of browse species where appropriate.
- Minimum diameter for leave trees is 6" dbh.
- In general, leave all trees >24" dbh unless they pose a safety threat (e. g. tree is at risk of falling over a main line road) or they are a non-preferred species with preferred species surrounding (e.g. grand fir surrounded by ponderosa pine, western larch or Douglas-fir).
- Snags will not be marked as leave trees with orange paint. All snags that do not pose a safety threat, as per L & I guidelines, are required to be left by the logging contractor. Those snags dropped for safety reasons by the logging contractor will be left in place.
- Dwarf mistletoe infected trees provide important habitat to a variety of wildlife species and will be left individually or in clumps strategically across the unit (lower hillside, adjacent to non-impacted tree species, draw bottoms, etc.). The goal is to provide habitat benefits from dwarf mistletoe infected trees while minimizing impacts to other leave trees in the unit.
- The WDFW Contract Administrator worked closely with tree markers to make sure that the marking strategy was fully understood and implemented consistently across the landscape.
- All employees and/or sub-contractors involved with marking leave trees were certified by the WDFW Contract Administrator.
- After unit boundaries have been delineated and leave trees have been marked, Northwest Management will cruise cut and leave trees as per specifications of the WDFW Contract Administrator.

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 proposed Stemilt Restoration Thinning Project is located approximately 15 miles southwest of Wenatchee in the upper portion of the Stemilt Basin in Sections 20 and 28 of Township 21 North, Range 20 East WM. Unit 1 (section 20) comprises approximately 230 acres and Unit 2 (section 28) comprises approximately 188 acres. The primary forested ecological system in both units is the Northern Rocky Mountain Dry-Mesic Montane Mixed Conifer Forest dominated by ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir.

Chelan County

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

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

a. General description of the site:

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

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

**35%**

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.

**Quaternary mass-wasting deposits: rock glaciers, landslide deposits, talus, colluvium, protalus ramparts. Soils are generally dry and rocky, supporting mainly mixed-dry conifer species.**

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.

**Portions of the mainline will be filled with fine materials surrounding the road in areas of particular concern for undesired water runoff. Quarry rock (4" minus or smaller) might also be brought in to armor drain dips and reduce the threat of sediment delivery to typed streams. Main line roads will be graded as necessary to fill in potholes, re-establish the road crown and maintain existing ditches. The impacts from these road maintenance activities will be minimal and provide overall benefit to the larger surrounding ecosystem.**

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

**Spots along roads that could result in potential source of sediment delivery have been identified. Rolling dips, using existing material along the road or quarry rock, will be maintained and or installed as necessary. Clogged culverts will all be opened up to reduce the threat of sediment delivery and damage to the road prism.**

**Minor erosion could occur from harvesting equipment and skidders operating in the project area. There may also be minor erosion from roads and right-of-ways due to increased log truck traffic. If erosion does occur, mitigation measures including installation of straw bales, straw waddles, water bars, drain dips and grass seeding will be used as necessary. Additionally, logging operations and/or log hauling will be curtailed until mitigation measures are in place and the erosion threat has subsided.**

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

**Zero**

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

**Spots along roads at risk of erosion have been identified and adding rolling dips, aggregating these spots with rocks/fine fuels, and unclogging existing culverts will all be used to prevent excessive water runoff and consequential erosion. Additionally:**

- **Ground based equipment will not be allowed on continuous slopes in excess of 40%.**
- **Skid trails on steeper slopes will be water barred appropriately following skidding operations as per written instruction and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.**
- **At the discretion of the WDFW Contract Administrator, exposed skid trails on steeper slopes will be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager's recommendations and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.**
- **Exposed cut banks resulting from road building and/or maintenance activities will be grass seeded with certified weed free seed as per Wildlife Area Manager's recommendations and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator.**
- **Drain dips and/or water bars will be installed on steeper roads post-harvest as per written instruction and approval of completed work from the WDFW Contract Administrator .**
- **Temporary roads necessary for log hauling operations will be abandoned at the discretion of the Wildlife Area Manager. Road abandonment must be approved in writing by WDFW Contract Administrator.**
- **Haul operations will be suspended immediately, until mitigation is approved in writing by the WDFW Contract Administrator, if any delivery to typed waters is observed.**

## **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.

The proposal will result in a temporary increase in vehicle emissions from logging equipment and log trucks. There should be no significant impact to air quality. Slash burning will be conducted in accordance with provisions contained in the DNR slash burning permit as well as any smoke management, Department of Ecology and local fire district regulations.

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:

None

### 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 four wetlands under .5 acres, two of which are forested, Steffen reservoir, and Milo Pond within the project area. These bodies of water have been flagged with 75 foot buffers where no logging activity will be allowed. There are several non-fish permanent and fish permanent streams as well as an irrigation ditch running through the site. These have been designated as riparian management zones and have 50 foot site index RMZ buffers laid out along their courses respectively. These streams eventually filter into the Columbia River. Road surface water will be dispersed back into undisturbed forest areas for natural filtration through vegetation and soil. Runoff intercepted by roads and ditches will be diverted through existing culverts, water bars, drain dips and ditches to the forest floor.

- 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.

Work will not occur within the buffered RMZ's described above, but will occur within 200 feet of the water. Work in section 20, the wetter of the two sections, will begin later in the season as well (July/August) to minimize potential for water disturbance. In addition to maintaining activity buffers around water additional steps will be taken to limit potential disturbance to streams, wetlands, ponds, and reservoirs, such as:

- Limiting ground based equipment operations to slopes less than 40%.
- Installing water bars and drain dips at appropriate road locations.
- Installing water bars on skid trails where appropriate after skidding operations.
- Minimize rutting of skid trails and remove those ruts at the completion of skidding operations.
- Improving and clearing existing culverts and adding new culverts as needed.
- Suspending work in certain areas as needed due to increased risk of disturbance to water.

- **Leave a greater density of trees per acre surrounding stream buffers.**

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.

**No - See Chelan County's Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan for more details: ([http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/files/flood-control-zone-district/ChelanCoFloodPlan\\_PublicReviewDraft\\_Chelan\\_2016-12-23.pdf](http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/files/flood-control-zone-district/ChelanCoFloodPlan_PublicReviewDraft_Chelan_2016-12-23.pdf))**

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**

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.

**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.

**Surface water will be redirected away from typed waters using appropriate road construction techniques, such as water bars, drain dips, and clearing of existing culverts. Maximum width RMZ buffers, with an additional 10' of buffer width added to type NP or F streams, have been delineated with pink ribbon to limit the potential runoff to streams, wetlands, ponds, and reservoirs.**

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

**There is the remote chance that fuel or oil associated with equipment operations could be spilled and potentially enter ground or surface waters. The contractor will be required to have an approved spill kit in each piece of equipment to contain and clean up spills if they should occur. Fuel storage is only allowed in approved areas. The contractor will be required to contact the WDFW Contract Administrator and the appropriate Department of Ecology Office immediately after a spill occurs.**

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:

- **Limit ground based equipment operations to slopes less than 40%.**
- **Install water bars and drain dips at appropriate road locations.**
- **Install water bars on skid trails where appropriate after skidding operations.**
- **Minimize rutting of skid trails and remove those ruts at the completion of skidding operations.**
- **Improving and clearing existing culverts and adding new culverts as needed.**
- **Suspending work in certain areas as needed due to increased risk of disturbance to water.**

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

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

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

- **Ponderosa pine, western larch and Douglas-fir will be favored to leave. True fir and less vigorous/suppressed pine, larch, and Douglas-fir will also be removed. Species preference, in declining order of preference, would include ponderosa pine, western larch, Douglas-fir and grand fir. Leave all stand alone or small clumps of western larch.**
- **Leave all “unique” species that are limited to micro-sites in the stand (e. g. western red cedar and Engelmann spruce).**
- **All hardwoods will be automatic leave trees. Do not mark hardwood leave trees.**
- **Leave large diameter “legacy” trees over 24” dbh.**
- **Leave trees with good growing characteristics (good crown ratios and relatively free of pathogens and/or insect attack).**
- **Leave defective trees with unique characteristics (trees with cat faces, “wolfy” crowns, large limbs, etc.) for Wildlife Reserve Tree (WRT) recruitment.**
- **In areas with less than 4 snags (WRT’s) per acre, the contractor must mark at least 2 and no more than 4 trees 10” dbh and greater with defect in the butt log with 2 orange bands at eye level for WRT recruitment. This indicates to the logging contractor that he needs to “snip off” the tree as high as he can reach with the harvester (at least 10’ tall) to create a WRT.**
- **Leave dense pockets of trees (up to 10 acres) as complex patches for wildlife habitat where appropriate.**
- **In general, attempt to leave a residual stand with a post-treatment stocking level of between 30 (average 38’ spacing) and 35 (average 35’ spacing) TPA. Realize that these stocking/spacing guidelines are only intended as a spatial reference starting point. The contractor is expected to constantly adapt the marking strategy to account for changes in timber types and micro-site conditions.**
- **In protected north facing slopes and draws, the contractor shall leave between 35 and 40 trees per acre.**

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

**None**

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

**Release existing, native larch, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir from intense competition.**

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

**Knapweed, Thistle, Hounds Tongue**

## 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.

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.

**Northern Spotted Owl marginal habitat and non-habitat, potential for future habita (Forest Practices GIS layer). Spotted Owl Buffer layer – resident territorial and single unknown.**

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

**No**

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

- **Protect snags and wildlife reserve trees (WRT's) where feasible from a safety standpoint (both to the operator and to the public).**
- **Create snags (a target of 8 per acre in snag deficient areas) by cutting trees 10" dbh and larger designated with 2 blue bands at least 10' high.**
- **Create small patch cuts (1/2 to 1 acre in size) to promote browse species for big game species.**
- **Mark trees with defect characteristics suitable for Wildlife Reserve Trees (wolf tops, fire scars, unique features, etc.) as leave trees with orange paint.**
- **Strategically leave trees or clumps of trees with dwarf mistletoe.**
- **Create a mosaic of treatment and non-treatment areas to create hiding cover, thermal cover and travel corridors for big game species.**
- **Create generally more open forest conditions better suited for cavity nesting birds foraging and large mammal browse, for example.**
- **Add an additional 10' to the maximum width Riparian Management Zone (RMZ) buffer for Non-Fish Perennial (Type NP) and Fish (Type F) streams.**
- **Mark additional leave trees (approximately 5 more trees per acre) in type NS Equipment Limitation Zones (ELZ's).**

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

**None**

## 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.

**Automotive fuel**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

**No**

- b. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

**None**

**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.

- 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.

**There could be fuel spills when refueling equipment or oil spills while performing equipment maintenance. There is always the risk of fire from equipment operation in the woods. However, equipment will be required to have spark arrestors to reduce the fire risk. In addition, the contractor will be required to monitor and adhere to Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations as required by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. Burning of slash piles, resulting in temporary smoke emissions, could occur after harvest operations are completed. Additional temporary smoke emissions could be possible if prescribed fire is used as a management tool post treatment.**

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**In the event of a fuel or oil spill, the contractor will be required to immediately contact the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology and the WDFW**

**Contract Administrator. In the event of a wildfire, the contractor will be required to immediately contact the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the WDFW Contract Administrator.**

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

**The contractor will be required to have an emergency plan approved by the WDFW Contract Administrator prior to commencement of timber harvest activities. This will include:**

- **Contact information for the nearest office of the Washington State Department of Ecology, Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the WDFW Contract Administrator.**
- **Inspection of equipment for spill kits.**
- **Having a fire trailer and necessary fire tools on site during the closed season as required by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.**
- **Requiring the contractor to keep up to date and in compliance with the latest Industrial Forest Precaution Level (IFPL) regulations during the closed fire season.**

*b. Noise*

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

**Minimal noise from recreational vehicle traffic**

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.

**During harvest activities there will be some noise associated with chainsaws, skidder, loader, and trucks. Typically this would occur during daylight hours only and when weather conditions allow. Heavy equipment noise may exceed 100 decibels.**

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

**Requiring equipment operators to maintain mufflers on equipment and wear appropriate ear protection.**

**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 site is currently being used for wildlife habitat and recreational activities. Adjacent properties are managed as working forests, a ski resort, fruit orchards, and rural home sites.**

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?

**The project site may have been used for grazing and as working forest lands. This project will not result in any loss of agricultural or forest land.**

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.

**No structures present**

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

**No**

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

**Forest land**

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

**Maintaining forest land with an emphasis on wildlife habitat and providing for recreational opportunities.**

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

**Not applicable**

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

**No**

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:

**N/A**

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

**N/A**

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

**The proposal is consistent with the Colockum Wildlife Area Plan and WDFW Forest Management Plan. This proposal will reduce the threat of disease and insect outbreaks that will in turn reduce the fire risk to the property and adjacent landowners. The long term goal is to restore the property to historic tree stocking levels and species composition.**

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

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

**N/A**

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

**N/A**

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

**N/A**

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

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

**No structures being erected.**

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

**None**

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

**Project will return forest to historic stand conditions, eventually resulting in a park-like forest appearance.**

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

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

**None**

- 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:

**N/A**

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

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

**Hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, ATV riding, snowmobiling**

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

**The project could temporarily displace hunters and campers.**

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

**Put up signs at the start of active logging roads informing users to be aware of log truck traffic on the road with a citizens band (cb) channel and mile markers posted. Recreational opportunities will eventually be increased. Restoring these stands to historic conditions will ultimately improve line of sight for hunters and provide more open conditions in which to hike and camp.**

**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.

**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.

No

- 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.

**A professional archaeological crew will be completing an archaeological survey and report for the project area in the spring. This will include a review of historic maps and GIS analysis as well as a field survey in which the crew will grid the project area looking for cultural artifacts and will dig soil probes where new roads will be constructed. Representatives from the Yakama and Colville nations have also been made aware of the proposal and given the opportunity to comment.**

- 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.

**Working alongside the archeological crew, foresters will bound out significant cultural resources from the project area as instructed by the agency archeologist and professionally contracted crew.**

#### **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.

**Log trucks and pickups will be using numerous county and state roads, including the Stemilt Loop rd., Orr Creek rd., west Basin road, Jumpoff rd., state highways 2 and 97, and I-90 for the duration of the project. There will be a temporary slight increase in traffic from these vehicles in Central Washington.**

- 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?

None

- 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).

**State access roads, namely Orr Creek road and west Basin road, will be improved and extended at spots within the project area. Overall, road improvements and extensions will be minimal as the road network necessary to complete the project is already in place. Proper road construction and maintenance techniques, including the use of rolling dips and the implementation of new culverts and the improvement of existing ones will be implemented to minimize impacts of road use.**

- 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?

**None**

- 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:

**Advise public through signs and public outreach of forest thinning activities in the area.**

**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**

- 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.

**Minimal forest road construction and reconstruction as detailed previously**

**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: Matt Ruggirello

Position and Agency: Project Forester, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Date: 12/13/2018