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:
   - Salish Sea Transboundary Action Plan for Invasive European Green Crab (Plan)

2. Name of applicant:

- Allen Pleus

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
   - PO Box 43150, Olympia, WA 98504-3150, 360-902-2724

4. Date checklist prepared:
   - February 12, 2019

5. Agency requesting checklist:
   - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
   - 2019-2021

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain:
   - This is a state biennium plan with an expected update for the 2021-2023 biennium.

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

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

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

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)
   - The purpose of the Plan is to establish and implement a coordinated and collaborative response to incursions of invasive European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*; "EGC") that pose a risk of harming or threatening the environmental, economic, or human resources within the shared waters of the Salish Sea.
   - Management actions are limited to trapping EGC using a variety of smaller trap types depending on targeted life stage and water depths. These are low-impact methods with the training and implementation priority to minimize risk of harm to native species, habitats and other natural or cultural resources.
   - Plan is based on six objectives: a) collaborative management; b) prevention of human-mediated introduction and spread; c) early detection; d) rapid response; e) control of infested sites; and f) strategic research to improve adaptive management.

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 shared marine and estuary waters of the Salish Sea covers those waters in Washington State (Puget Sound and Strait of Juan de Fuca) and the province of British Columbia in Canada (Strait of Georgia, Strait of Juan de Fuca).
- In Washington State, these waters are within Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, Kitsap, Thurston, Pierce, King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island, and San Juan counties.
- WDFW authorities under Chapter 77.135 RCW for invasive species management do not extend to tribal or federal lands. WDFW and Plan partners will invite tribal governments and federal agencies to work cooperatively on Plan implementation.

B. Environmental Elements [HELP]

1. *Earth* [help]

a. General description of the site:

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

- other (marine/estuary waters)

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

- N/A

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

- Tidal flats ranging from muck to rocky

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

2. Air [help]

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

- N/A

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

- N/A

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

- N/A

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.

- Proposal covers hundreds of potential tidal and sub-tidal nearshore sites located along the shoreline of the Salish Sea.

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.

- All proposed work is within the waters of the Salish Sea. The work is setting traps for monitoring presence/absence of EGC, rapid response trapping over several days where detected, and potential long-term seasonal trapping where larger populations warrant. All EGC captured are humanely euthanized.

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.

- N/A

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

- N/A

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

- N/A

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.

- N/A

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.

- N/A

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.

- N/A

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.

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

4. Plants [help]

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

____deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
____evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
____shrubs
____grass
____pasture
____crop or grain
____ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

_X_water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
____other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?
- N/A

c. List threatened and endangered plant species known to be on or near the site.
- A list of all potential threatened and endangered plant species for entire Salish Sea that may be at any given action site is not practical.
- WDFW and Plan partners will review all relevant information and notices regarding threatened and endangered species on specific sites prior to implementation of Plan actions.

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

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive plant species known to be on or near the site.
- A list of all potential noxious weeds and invasive plant species for entire Salish Sea that may be at any given action site is not practical.
- All WDFW and Plan partners will be trained in decontamination of field equipment after every use to prevent the unintentional spread of invasive plant species.

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 _____

- All species of birds, mammals, and fish that utilize the marine and estuarine waters of the Salish Sea.

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.
- A list of all potential threatened and endangered species for entire Salish Sea that may be at any given action site is not practical.
- WDFW and Plan partners will review all relevant information and notices regarding threatened and endangered species on specific sites prior to implementation of Plan actions.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
- WDFW and Plan partners will review all relevant information and notices regarding species migration routes and potential impact on specific sites prior to implementation of Plan actions.

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

- COORDINATION WITH WDFW WILDLIFE EXPERTS AND LOCAL STAKEHOLDERS TO MINIMIZE DISTURBANCE DURING PERIODIC TRAPPING WINDOWS.

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

- Depending upon site: The only AIS classified as prohibited is the European green crab; Regulated non-beneficial AIS of concern include Batillaria, and various non-native tunicates.
- All WDFW and Plan partners will be trained in decontamination of field equipment after every use to prevent the unintentional spread of other invasive animal species.

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.

- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

7. Environmental Health [help]

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

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

- Plan actions may occur in contaminated sites, but this does not affect the Plan except for ensuring crew safety. Protocols for setting/baiting traps does not introduce contamination.

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.

- Plan actions may likely not occur on sites with existing hazardous chemicals/solutions, unless we can ensure crew safety.

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.

- N/A

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

- N/A

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

- N/A

b. Noise

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

- N/A

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

- Minor fieldwork noises of accessing sites, setting traps, and collecting data during daylight hours.

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

- N/A

8. Land and Shoreline Use [help]

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

- Plan actions are not expected to affect current land or shoreline uses

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?

- N/A

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:

- N/A

c. Describe any structures on the site.

- Sites may include common structures found along marine and estuary shorelines such as marina docks, pilings, etc.

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

- N/A

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

- Sites will be within various zones

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

- Sites will be within various comp plan designations

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
- Sites will be within various SMP designations

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.
- Sites will contain various critical areras including Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, wetlands, frequently flooded areas and geologically hazardardous areas.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
- N/A

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
- N/A

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:
- WDFW and Plan partners will contact affected marine and estuary shoreline owners/stakeholders for permission to access work sites and to ensure Plan actions are compatible with their needs/operations.

m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:
- Successful Plan actions will benefit aquacultural operations by eliminating/minimizing risk of EGC impacts.

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?
- N/A

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

- N/A

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

- N/A

11. Light and Glare [help]

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

- N/A

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

- N/A

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

- N/A

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?

- Varied across the Salish Sea

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

- N/A

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

- Successful Plan actions will help maintain/improve recreational harvest of native shellfish species such as oysters, clams, Dungeness crab, and Red Rock crab.

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.

- The project lies wholly within the intertidal zone where very few historic structures remain. These include parts of bulkheads and other hardened surfaces that the crab trapping activity will not adversely affect.

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.

- WDFW and Plan partners will work closely with affected tribes and federal landowners as necessary for permission to access work sites and to ensure Plan actions do not adversely effect historic and cultural resources. The project activities are limited to trapping EGC using a variety of

smaller trap types depending on targeted life stage and water depths. These are low-impact methods with the training and implementation priority to minimize risk of harm to native species, habitats and other natural or cultural resources. The potential for actions to cause adverse effects to cultural resources is very low. The only ground penetrating activity is the insertion of a stake, approximately ½" in diameter, into the intertidal substrate comprised of saltwater sediments that range from very small soil particles to small sands in most instances.

- Consultation with interested tribes has been on-going since the inception of the project, and will continue as noted below.

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.

- Impacts to cultural or historic resources could occur as sampling teams move to and from the crab traps. While the potential to adversely impact these resources from the walking activity of project team members is very low; consultation with representatives of potentially affected tribal areas will be undertaken as stated below.
- WDFW and other Plan partners will contact affected marine and estuary shoreline owners/stakeholders for permission to access work sites and to ensure Plan actions are compatible with their needs/operations.
- WDFW will evaluate each new area of investigation to assure that local tribes have been notified. Consultation with tribes will be recorded as the project moves to different locations in the Salish Sea prior to entering a new project location.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

- WDFW and other Plan partners will review the SSTAP Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) as each partner joins as project participants. The IPD shall be included as a formal part of the SSTAP; and the core WDFW SSTAP management team will routinely review the IDP with staff and all partners.
- The IDP will include a listing of tribes that will be contacted based on the geographic areas of interest communicated to WDFW by consulting tribes residing in the Salish Sea.
- Any inadvertent discoveries will be reported to affected tribes, WDFW archaeologists, and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Certain discoveries would necessisitate contacting the jurisdiction's coroner, as outlined in the IDP.

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.

- All potential streets and highways serving the Salish Sea area. Frequency of use is general one to three days at any given site.

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?

- N/A

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

- 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).
   - N/A

e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
   - EGC trapping sites could briefly occur near water and rail infrastructure.

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?
   - Frequency of vehicular trips around Salish Sea dependent upon number of partners that agree to help implement Plan – passenger vehicles only.

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.
   - N/A

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:
   - N/A

15. Public Services [help]

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.
   - N/A

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

16. Utilities [help]

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

c. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.
   - N/A

C. Signature [HELP]

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: 

Name of signee: Allen Pleus

Position and Agency/Organization: Aquatic Invasive Species Unit Lead, WDFW

Date Submitted: ___February 14, 2019_____

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [HELP]

(**IT IS NOT NECESSARY** to use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?
   - N/A

   Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?
   - Positive impact to native aquatic species by preventing the successful establishement of highly invasive and destructive EGC.

   Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:
   - WDFW and other Plan partners will contact affected marine and estuary shoreline owners/stakeholders for permission to access work sites, assess protection measures needed, if any, and to ensure Plan actions are compatible with their needs/operations.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?
   - N/A

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

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?
   - Positive impact to native aquatic species by preventing the successful establishement of highly invasive and destructive EGC.

   Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:
   - WDFW and other Plan partners will contact affected marine and estuary shoreline owners/stakeholders for permission to access work sites, assess protection measures needed, if any, and to ensure Plan actions are compatible with their needs/operations.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?
   - Successful Plan actions will benefit land and shoreline use by preventing/minimizing impacts of EGC including maintenance of healthy ecosystem (e.g. eelgrass beds and estuarine habitat that support other species) and species of harvest and conservation interest (e.g. clams, oysters, Dungeness crabs, salmon, shorebirds, etc.).

   Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:
   - Plan focus on EGC trapping is a low-impact activity. All Plan partners will be trained to minimize habitat impacts from trapping actions and to minimize bycatch impacts by checking traps during everly low tide cycle during sets.

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

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

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.
   - Successful Plan actions are intended only to benefit and promote protections for the environment by preventing the harmful impacts of EGC if they were to become established.