

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: [\[help\]](#)

Mount St Helens Wildlife Area Management Plan

2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

Lauri Vigue
P.O. Box 43141
Olympia, WA 98504-3200
306-902-2549

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#) February 19, 2019
5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#) Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)
Final plan will be published on WDFW website June 2019.
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, specific projects or actions may be taken to implement elements of this plan. Where appropriate, project specific SEPA review will occur.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#) 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.) [\[help\]](#)
This is a new management plan for the Mount St Helens Wildlife Area. Over the next 10 years the plan will direct management activities on the following wildlife area units:
 1. Mud Flow (2,773 acres)
 2. Hoffstadt (3,816 acres)
 3. Merrill Lake (1,453 acres)
 4. Gardner (43 acres)
 5. Hall Road (132 acres)
 6. Canal Road (141 acres)
 7. Carnine (37 acres)
 8. Fisher Island (259 acres)
 9. Abernathy Creek (101 acres)
 10. White Island Natural Area Preserve (186 acres)
 11. Altoona (177 acres)
 12. Nelson (55 acres)
 13. Cedar Creek (139 acres)
 14. Eagle Island (279 acres)
 15. Jenny Creek (20 acres)
 16. Two Forks (49 acres)

17. Duck Lake (39 acres)
18. Nellie Corser (58 acres)

Proposed uses include recreation and wildlife conservation; protection and restoration of forest, aquatic and riparian habitat. Examples of management activities under this plan include: weed management, riparian and wetland restoration (e.g. stabilization of the river bank along the North Fork Toutle River), acquiring lands, rare plant surveys, forest management, Columbian white-tailed deer protection and management, develop and implement habitat management measures for game species, amphibian surveys, and coordinating with partners on salmon recovery projects.

Recreational projects include: participate in recreational planning and development projects with partners, create ADA access opportunities, maintain annual lake fishing at Merrill, Silver and Kress lakes, address Oneida county road issues by 2020, improve recreational signage for the public, and explore opportunities to provide camping on the wildlife area.

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. [\[help\]](#)

- **Abernathy Creek Unit (Cowlitz County)**
 - The unit is located west of Longview in Cowlitz County, upstream of the confluence of Abernathy Creek and Columbia River. Located 10 miles west of Longview along State Route 4.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 8N Range: 4W Sections: 3,10

- **Altoona Unit (Wahkiakum County)**
 - The unit is located in Wahkiakum County and is comprised of two different parcels along Grays Bay and Deep River. The western parcel along Deep River is a 57-acre unit located along Oneida Road, and the Oneida Access Site is within this unit. Route 1 to the tidelands and Oneida Boat Launch: From Skamokawa, travel west 18 miles on State Highway 4 to Oneida Road. Turn south on Oneida Road and drive two miles to the Oneida Access Site and boat launch. The tideland parcel starts half-mile downstream on Deep River.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 10N Range: 8W Section: 32

- **Canal Road Unit (Cowlitz County)**
 - The unit is located in eastern Cowlitz County along the eastern side of Silver Lake, south of Toutle. From SR 504 in the town of Toutle turn South onto Sightly Rd and travel about 1 3/4 miles to Canal Rd. Turn right and travel about 1/2 mile.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 9N Range: 1E Section: 6

- Carnine Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit includes two parcels totaling 37 acres overlooking Silver Lake, west of the town of Toutle in Cowlitz County. No public access.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 9N Range: 1W Section: 6

- Cedar Creek Unit (Clark County)
 - The unit is located east of Woodland and west of Amboy. The unit is located off of Cedar Creek Road east of the intersection with Pup Creek Road on the south side of Cedar Creek. From the west: Interstate 5 exit 21 (Woodland Cougar exit), turn east onto Highway 503, then south on NW Hayes Rd, which will cross the North Fork of the Lewis River. Continue east on NW Hayes Rd. which becomes Cedar Creek Rd. About 12 miles from Woodland the wildlife area will be on the east side of the road just before Cedar Creek Road crosses Cedar Creek and joins with Pup Creek RD.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 5N Range: 2E Section: 11

- Duck Lake Unit (Clark County)
 - The unit is located in the floodplain of the East Fork Lewis River, upstream of La Center in Clark County. Accessible only by boat. About 2 miles upstream from the LaCenter Bridge on the East Fork Lewis River then a short walk across County Park lands to the site (not marked).
 - Legal Description:
Township: 4N Range: 1E Section: 11

- Eagle Island Unit (Clark and Cowlitz counties)
 - The unit is located along the North Fork Lewis River in both Clark and Cowlitz counties, approximately five miles east of Woodland. This unit is only accessible by boat or by wading across the river from the Island Boat Ramp during low flow periods in the summer. The Island Boat Ramp is located approximately 5 miles east of Woodland along Lewis River Road/State Highway 503. Launching a boat during low flow periods at the Island Boat Ramp is not advised due to the shallow depth of the river adjacent to the launch area.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 5N Range: 1E Section: 4, 8, 9

- Fisher Island Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - Fisher Island is accessible only by boat in the Columbia River, downstream of Longview. Access by boat from the Willow Grove boat launch on the Columbia River. The island is just upstream from the ramp.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 8N Range: 3W Sections: 20,21,22

- Gardner Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit is located at the confluence of the North and South Fork Toutle rivers near Toutle in Cowlitz County, and adjacent to Harry Gardner Park. From State Route 504 in the town of Toutle turn south onto S. Toutle River Road and travel about 1/2 half mile. Access is through Harry Gardner Park on north side of the road.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 10N Range: 1E Sections: 20,29

- Hall Road Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit is located along the northern shore of Silver Lake west of the town of Toutle. The site straddles State Route 504 at about MP 10 in Cowlitz County. Most of the site is within Silver Lake.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 10N Range: 1W Sections: 25,26

- Hoffstadt Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit is located along the North Fork Toutle River, approximately 20 miles east of Toutle. Access to unit properties on the north side of the North Fork Toutle River: From Castle Rock drive east on Highway 504/Spirit Lake Highway approximately 25 miles. The unit does not border the highway and a Weyerhaeuser Access Permit may be required to access this portion of the Hoffstadt Unit.
 - Legal Description:
T24 N R19 E Section 32, 33;
T23N R19 E Section 5

- Jenny Creek Unit (Clark County)
 - The unit is located north of La Center. From I-5 North, take Exit 21 (Woodland), turn north 1 block, to East CC St. and go over bridge. Turn south onto NW Pacific Highway and go 4 miles to NW Bolen St. Turn east onto NW Bolen St. and go 0.25 miles and turn north onto NW 14th Ave. Go 0.30 miles on NW 14th Ave. There is a parking area on the eastside of the road at the top of the hill.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 5N Range: 1E Section: 33

- Merrill Lake Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit is located north of the town of Cougar. It lies along the northern shores of Merrill Lake. From Interstate 5, take exit 21 in Woodland and head east 27 miles on State Highway 503 towards Cougar. Turn north on U.S. Forest Service Road 81 towards Merrill Lake and Kalama Horse Camp, drive seven miles to a large, gated pullout on west side of road. This is the old Weyerhaeuser 7500 Road. There is no vehicle access onto the Merrill Lake Unit.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 7N Range: 4E Section: 5, 6, 7, 8, 17

- Mud Flow Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit is located in northeast Cowlitz County, approximately 20 miles east of Toutle. From Interstate 5 at Castle Rock turn east on Highway 504. The area is approximately 30 miles east of Castle Rock south of the highway along the North Fork of the Toutle River. The unit is approximately 1.5 miles south of the highway on the valley floor.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 10N Range: 3E Sections: 28-35
Township: 9N Range: 3E Sections: 1-4

- Nellie Corser Unit (Skamania County)
 - The unit is located north of State Highway 14 at the end of Duncan Creek Road in southern Skamania County along the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area. From State Route 14 just west of the Skamania Store, turn north up hill on Duncan Creek Road, go 3 miles across bridge stay left on dirt road. Roadside parking about 1/4 mile from end of pavement.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 2N Range: 6E Sections: 20,21

- Nelson Unit (Cowlitz County)
 - The unit contains two separate parcels for a total of 20 acres located on the Columbia River, and a 35-acre lease with the Port of Kalama along the Kalama River just upstream of the confluence with the Columbia River. The unit is a very small site at downstream tip of the Port of Kalama area. Accessible only by boat.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 7N Range: 1,2W Sections: 25,30

- Two Forks Unit (Clark County)
 - The unit is located at the confluence of the North and East forks of the Lewis River in northwest Clark County, west of Interstate 5 and south of Woodland. From the town of Woodland, cross the Lewis River and travel south on NW Pacific Highway about two miles to Toenjes Rd. Turn right. Site is about 1/4 mile on right just after crossing under Interstate 5.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 5N Range: 1E Section: 32

- White Island Natural Area Preserve (Wahkiakum County)
 - This Columbia River island is in Wahkiakum County south of Cathlamet, just upstream of Puget Island. The unit can only be accessed by boat and the Puget Island water access site provides a boat launch to the site.
 - Legal Description:
Township: 8N Range: 5W Section: 29,30

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

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

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

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

The terrain ranges from sea level to mountainous with steep slopes, elevations range from sea level – 1,850 feet).

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

Many different soil types are present on the Mount St. Helens Wildlife Area Units. They range from loam, silt, sand, and gravels in the upland and riparian areas, to clay and muck in the intertidal areas in the Lower Columbia River Units. Although some of the units have agricultural type soils there is no long-term commercial agricultural use on any of the sites, and none of the soils are in danger of being removed or lost from any of the actions outlined in the management plan.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#) N/A

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

a. Surface Water:

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

The majority of the Mount St Helens Wildlife Area falls under WRIA 25, 26, 27 and 28.

- Mudflow and Hoffstadt units fall within the Toutle basin. The Toutle drains the north and west sides of Mount St. Helens and flows generally westward towards the Cowlitz. The watershed contains three main drainages: the North Fork Toutle, the South Fork Toutle, and the Green River. The Sediment Retention Structure spans the North Fork Toutle

River, both units are impacted by this dam. Bear and Deer creeks flow through the Mudflow Unit. Alder and Pullen creeks flow through the Hoffstadt Unit.

- Merrill Lake Unit is located on the Kalama River and WDFW property includes the northern shore of Merrill Lake and uplands. The agency neither owns nor maintains the lake.
- Gardner Unit is within the floodplain of the North Fork Toutle River. The unit is located at the confluence of the North and South Fork Toutle Rivers near Toutle.
- Silver Lake Units (Hall Road and Canal Road units) - the Hall Road unit is located along the northern shore of the Silver Lake. The Canal Road Unit is located along the eastern side of Silver Lake. Both units include wetland habitat. The lake ultimately flows into the Toutle River.
- Carnine Unit – located upland from Silver Lake, and southwest of Salmon Creek.
- Fisher Island – is a forested floodplain located along the Columbia River, adjacent to the unit is a large sheltered wetland owned by DNR.
- Abernathy Creek Unit – located upstream of the confluence of Abernathy Creek and the Columbia River along Abernathy and Cameron creeks.
- White Island Natural Area Preserve – Located along the Columbia River upstream of Puget Island. The island contains freshwater wetlands. A narrow slough separates White Island from Puget Island.
- Altoona Unit – This unit includes two land parcels and one tideland and mudflat parcel; located between the Deep and Grays rivers.
- Nelson Unit – two parcels located along the Columbia River, one parcel is located along the Kalama River, just upstream of the confluence with the Columbia River. Both parcels have wetland habitat.
- Cedar Creek Unit – located along the south side of Cedar Creek. The unit contains mineral springs.
- Eagle Island Unit – located along the North Fork Lewis River. The unit contains mature floodplain and riparian forest. Side channel habitat is managed for salmonids.
- Jenny Creek Unit – located along Jenny Creek and contains one mineral spring.
- Two Forks Unit – located at the confluence of the North and East forks of the Lewis River.
- Duck Lake Unit – located in the floodplain of the East Fork Lewis River and provides wetland habitat.
- Nellie Corser Unit – located along Duncan Creek, a tributary of the Columbia River.

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

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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)
There are no surface water withdrawals or diversions with this proposal.

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

[\[help\]](#)

Many of the Mount St Helens units or portions of units do lie within a 100-year floodplain. The following units are at least partially within the 100 year floodplain: Mudflow, Hoffstadt, Merrill, Gardner, Canal Road, Hall Road, Fisher Island, Abernathy Creek, White Island, Altoona, Nelson, Eagle Island, Two Forks, and Duck Lake. Actions in the proposal should not affect any of the surface or groundwaters on or adjacent to the sites.

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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

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 groundwater will be withdrawn from any of the units for any purpose.

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 material will be discharged into the ground.

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. [\[help\]](#)

All runoff on the sites would be from rainfall. All surfaces within the units are permeable and most of the water should be collected naturally by the ground or flow into small stream, lakes, and rivers.

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

There are no waste materials on site that could enter ground or surface waters.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#) N/A

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

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

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

X deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, cottonwood, other

X evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

X shrubs

X grass
pasture

X wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

X water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

X other types of vegetation

Mount St Helens Wildlife Area includes: tidal mudflats, wetlands, riparian, old-growth forest, early seral mixed forest, open grasslands.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)

N/A

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

Unknown, rare plant surveys are planned under the management plan.

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

Forest restoration activities are described in the Forest Plan including restoration activities for the next 10 years on the Hoffstadt and Merrill Lake units. Riparian streambank protection and river channel stabilization projects have been ongoing on the Mudflow Unit to improve habitat for elk and ESA listed salmonids.

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

Weed species of concern on the Mount St Helens Wildlife Area include but are not limited to:

State designation	Weed Species
Class A	No known Class A weeds
Class B	Mouse-ear Hawkweed, Yellow Hawkweed, Meadow knapweed, Purple loosestrife, Japanese Knotweed, Scotch broom
Class C	English ivy, English holly, reed canary grass, Canada thistle, Himalayan blackberry

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

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

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

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

See Table 6 state and federal conservation status, SGCN, WDFW Priority Habitat and Species criteria and

priority areas for species that may occur on the wildlife area and Appendix A, wildlife area management plan.

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

Marbled murrelet (FT/ST), northern spotted owl (FT/SE), streaked horned lark (FT/SE), bull trout (FT), Chinook salmon (FT), chum (FT), coho (FT), eulachon (FT), green sturgeon (FT), steelhead (FT), Columbia white-tailed deer (FT/SE), gray wolf (FE/SE), Oregon spotted frog (FT/SE), American white pelican (ST), and sandhill crane (SE).

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

Migration landscapes are provided for elk, salmon, amphibians.

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

See wildlife area management plan's goals and objectives.

Examples of measures include: continue to seek opportunities to stabilize the river bank along the Mudflow, Hoffstadt and Gardner units; conduct rare plant surveys, pursue acquisitions to enhance the wildlife area and secure public access; promote diversity of early and late successional forest habitat by identifying planned areas for forest treatment; implement seasonal road closures to limit disturbance to wildlife; develop a strategy for riparian/wetland restoration projects to benefit fish and wildlife species; implement recommendations from the Population and Habitat Viability Assessment for the Columbia white-tailed deer.

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

Common and Grass carp would be on the sites associated with Silver Lake and the Columbia River. Nutria could also be present in the Silver Lake and Columbia River sites.

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. [\[help\]](#) N/A

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

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.
[\[help\]](#) N/A

- 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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. [\[help\]](#)
N/A
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)
N/A

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

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#)

The current uses of WDFW wildlife areas are recreation and wildlife conservation. Forestry is the dominant land use surrounding the wildlife area. Commercial forestlands make up over 90 percent of the Toutle Basin and 96 percent of the Kalama Basin. The U.S. Forest Service manages Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, which encompasses much of the upper basin around the wildlife area. Agriculture and residential activities occur in the valley bottoms.

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

Some of the units have a prior history of farming and logging, however none of the lands are currently farmed and WDFW plans to conduct logging practices as feasible on some of the units to improve the overall health of the forest.

- 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: [\[help\]](#) N/A

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

The Altoona Unit has a boat launch, vault toilet and a storage building and parking area.

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

N/A

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

Abernathy Creek – N/A

Altoona – N/A

Canal Road – N/A

Carnine – N/A

Cedar Creek – Agri-Wildlife (AG/WL)

Duck Lake – AG 20

Eagle Island – Forest – 40

Fisher Island – N/A

Gardner – N/A

Hall Road – N/A

Hoffstadt – N/A

Jenny Creek – Parks/Open space, Parks/Wildlife Refuge

Merrill Lake – N/A

Mudflow – N/A

Nellie Corser – SMA forest

Nelson – N/A

Two Forks – AG-20

White Island – N/A

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

Abernathy Creek - Economic Resource Land- Forest, Rural

Altoona – N/A

Canal Road – Remote

Carnine – Rural

Cedar Creek – Parks/open space

Duck Lake – Agriculture

Eagle Island – Forest Tier 2

Fisher Island – Remote

Gardner – Small hold – suburban

Hall Road – Suburban, rural, urban, remote

Hoffstadt – Remote

Jenny Creek – Parks/Open space

Merrill Lake – Economic Resource Lands – forest

Mudflow – Remote

Nellie Corser – SMA forest

Nelson – Remote

Two Forks – Agriculture

White Island – N/A

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

Abernathy Creek – Rural Conservancy
Altoona – Conservancy, Rural, Natural
Canal Road – Rural Conservancy
Carnine – N/A
Cedar Creek – Rural Conservancy Resource Land
Duck Lake – Rural Conservancy Resource Land
Eagle Island – Natural, Aquatic
Fisher Island – Rural Conservancy, Natural
Gardner – Rural Conservancy, Natural
Hall Road – Rural Conservancy
Hoffstadt – Rural Conservancy
Jenny Creek – N/A
Merrill Lake – Rural Conservancy, Natural
Mudflow – Rural Conservancy
Nellie Corser – Conservancy
Nelson – Rural Conservancy, High intensity
Two Forks – Rural Conservancy, Resource Land, Aquatic
White Island – Conservancy

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

1. Wetlands

YES (see previously submitted information)

2. Areas with a critical recharging effect on aquifers used for potable water

YES (see Canal Rd for example)

3. Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas

YES (see previously submitted information)

4. Frequently flooded areas

YES (Eagle Island for example)

5. Geologically hazardous areas

YES (Slopes >80% and volcanic hazards on Mount St Helens Unit for example)

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

None

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

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

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

Measures identified in this plan are compatible with local land use regulations.

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

Measures identified in the plan are compatible with nearby agricultural land use and forest lands.

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

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

No additional housing is expected under the new management plan.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)
Hunting, wildlife viewing, hiking, fishing, limited camping, horseback riding, wildflower viewing, mountain biking, photography, walking, shed antler hunting, swimming, kayaking, canoeing.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
None

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Recreational opportunities will be maintained and/or enhanced in this plan. Please see the recreation goals, objectives list in the management plan for details.

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. [\[help\]](#)

There are no buildings or structures on the areas, however some of the units do contain historic homestead sites.

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. [\[help\]](#)

There are no known landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian use or occupation at any of the sites.

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. [\[help\]](#)

As specific projects are conceived, they will be reviewed by WDFW. Project reviews will be informed by the results of prior archaeological and historic research, a review of ethnographies and ethnographic information, information provided by the Tribes during consultation, the results of coordination with stakeholders and wildlife area staff, regional land use practices, local and regional geomorphological conditions, and regional settlement patterns. As needed, WDFW will conduct cultural resource surveys of project area to assess the potential of the project to impact cultural resources, to characterize the impacts, if any, and to make recommendations about reasonable options to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources should any be present at the 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. [\[help\]](#)

Specific project locations have not yet been identified. As specific projects are designed, they will be reviewed by WDFW as described above. The project reviews will be used to inform project plans. In every case, WDFW will adopt all reasonable measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts to any archaeological or cultural resources should any be present at the project location.

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. [\[help\]](#)

See attached maps for street names and highways

- 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? [\[help\]](#)
None of the Mount St Helens units are served by public transit. The distance to the closest transit stop from any of the units is likely more than 10 miles.
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). [\[help\]](#) 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. [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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? [\[help\]](#) N/A
- 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? **No** If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#) 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)? **No** If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)
N/A

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

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

Position and Agency/Organization _____

Date Submitted: _____

Laurel Vigne
LAUREL VIGNE
Environmental Planner/WDFW
2/27/19

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: N/A

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?

The goals of this wildlife area management plan are to:

Improve ecological integrity of forests while maintaining and/or improving habitat for wildlife

Maintain or improve the ecological integrity of priority sites

Achieve species diversity at levels consistent with healthy ecosystems

Maintain and restore riparian and instream habitat for steelhead, chinook and coho.

Support and maintain appropriate recreation opportunities.

Manage roads to minimize unacceptable impacts to fish and wildlife

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

See management plan for a complete list of goals, objectives and performance measures.

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:

N/A

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?

The goals of this plan (outlined above) provides protection and enhancement for fish and wildlife including band-tailed pigeon, streaked horned lark, chinook salmon, chum salmon, coho salmon, eulachon, green sturgeon, steelhead, Columbia white-tailed deer, elk, Oregon spotted frog.

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:

See management plan (Goals, objectives, and performance measures) for Mount St Helens Wildlife Area.

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?

This management plan provides protection and enhancement measures for shorelines including riparian and wetland systems located on all units of the wildlife area.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: N/A

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: N/A

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

This management plan meets all federal, local and state requirements for protection of the environment.