

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 [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:** Middle Hutchins Phase 2 Forest Restoration Thinning

2. **Name of applicant:** Leland Lauffer

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

1130 West University Way Ellensburg WA, 98926
Leland Lauffer 360-584-8180

4. **Date checklist prepared:**

04/5/2024

5. **Agency requesting checklist:**

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

May 30th, 2023 – November 30th, 2023

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

- Pre-Commercial Thinning/Slashing: The area will be monitored after harvest operations have been completed to assess the need for pre-commercial thinning and/or slashing. A separate SEPA review will take place if future conditions necessitate further pre-commercial thinning/slashing.
- “Middle Hutchins Phase 2 Forest Restoration Thin” is related to “Middle Hutchins Forest Restoration Thin” DNS 23-014. Both SEPA submissions are the same with scope of work and geographically. Forest restoration project area was too large for one calendar year and was broken into two separate phased projects.

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.

WADNR Forest Practice application and Cultural Resource consultation.

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

A. DNR Forest Practice Application (FPA)

B. State and tribal cultural/ archaeological survey and protection plan approval

11. Give a 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.)

This is the second project phase of the “Middle Hutchins Forest Restoration Thin” DNS 23-014 which was completed in 2023. “Middle Hutchins Phase 2 Forest Restoration Thin” project consist of 310 acres involving selective mechanical thinning operations within the L.T. Murray Wildlife area. WDFW has ownership of said property. Thinning project will result in improved forest health, reduced wildfire risk in the Taneum and South Ellensburg Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), restoring forest closer to the “historic range of variability”, improved habitat for wildlife species including large ungulates, small mammals, and avian species. Debris/slash from timber harvest operations (limbs, tops, etc.) will be piled and trailed at landings in preparation for burning.

Slash burning will be carried out within wet seasons after timber harvest work has been completed when the threat of escapement is low. All slash burning will be permitted and conducted as per Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) conditions and regulations. Pile burning is expected to occur sometime between the end of November and the first week of December 2024 when conditions are optimal. Approximately 2 years post-harvest (2026) prescribed burning will take place within the project area and will be permitted and conducted as per Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE).

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 Hutchins Thinning project is located approximately 7 miles west of the Joe Watt entrance to the LT Murray Wildlife Area on Hutchins Road. The project is located in parts of Sections 3, 4, 9, 10 of T18R16E WM Kittitas County. See attached maps for physical locations of the units and vicinity.

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](#)

a. General description of the site:

Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

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

45%

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.

In general, soils are sandy loams with minimal to moderate potential for erosion, rutting and compaction. Although the risk of is relatively low, these potential issues (if they occur) will be mitigated through measures described below in item h.

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

Incised NP stream channel has inner gorge traits on east and west side of unit. Northern boundary has bedrock hollow traits. South and Southeast unit boundary has talus slopes present. Web soil survey has shown no glacial soils are present within or around project area. Two tree crown wide no entry buffer will be implemented on all identified features.

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, no fill will be required.

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

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)?

None

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

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 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 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
- Two tree crown wide no entry buffer will be implemented on all possible rule identified landforms.

2. Air [Find help answering air questions](#)

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.

None

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

None

3. Water [Find help answering water questions](#)

a. Surface Water: [Find help answering surface water questions](#)

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 x5 NP (Non-fish perennial) streams (Stream I.D. S1, S2, S3, S4, and S5) that reside within the project. Per eastside forest practice rules, a 50ft buffer with 30ft ELZ (Equipment Limitation Zone) is required for NP streams. There is x1 perennial initiation point (PIP) associated with S5 which requires a 50ft no cut buffer.

- S1 type NP stream will have a no entry no entry 50ft buffer.
- S2 type NP stream will have a no entry no entry 50ft buffer.
- S3 type NP stream will have a no entry no entry 50ft buffer.
- S4 type NP stream will have a no entry no entry 50ft buffer.
- S5 type NP stream will have a no entry no entry 50ft buffer.
- PIP will have no entry and no cut 50ft buffer.

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.

Yes, work will only be adjacent and adhere to the Eastside Forest Practice regulatory buffers. Please review attached map for feature locations.

2. 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

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

No

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

100-year floodplain and abnormally high water mark has been considered in delineation of all hydrology. Implemented RMZ and WMZ encompass these areas and are excluded from the project area.

5. 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: [Find help answering ground water questions](#)

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 a 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 (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.**

Spring runoff from snow melt and rainfall runoff could occur on the forest floor, roads and landings. 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. If the event of an extreme weather event, runoff could reach nearby streams.

- 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

- 4. 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 said ruts at the completion of skidding operations as well as seed exposed skidding surface with seed provided by WDFW Wildlife Manager.
- Improving and clearing existing culverts and replacing culverts as needed.
- Install of sediment trap along road drainages at appropriate locations.

- Suspending work in certain areas as needed due to increased risk of disturbance to water.

4. Plants [Find help answering plants questions](#)

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
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Scope of work calls for restoration thinning (primarily from below) of over-stocked fire-intolerant mixed conifer forest types greater than or equal to 6" diameter at breast height (dbh). Project units include large diameter trees in the overstory canopy layer (generally well stocked) and shade tolerant coniferous species (generally over-stocked) in the secondary canopy layer. The goal will be to reduce stocking levels closer to the historic range of variability of 30 to 35 trees per acre. Ponderosa pine and western larch will be favored to leave as well as all hardwoods. To maintain species diversity in the stands western white pine, lodge pole pine, and Douglas-fir will generally be retained as leave trees. Two primary species to be extracted are shade tolerant grand fir and over-stocked Douglas-fir. A portion of the over story conifer trees, leaving approximately 30 to 35 trees per acre greater than 8" dbh post-harvest. Approximately 2 to 3 thousand board feet (MBF) per acre will be removed from the treatment areas. Scope of work calls for restoration thinning (primarily from below) of over-stocked fire-intolerant mixed conifer forest types.

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.

Areas where an abundance of edible flower, shrub, or tree species are present (goose berry/currant, elder berry, thimble berry, tall Oregon grape, huckleberry/blue berry, manzanita, straw berry, bitter/choke cherry, western spring beauty) planting of a few extra leave trees will take place to enable reasonably good shade cover and to deter machinery from adversely disturbing area.

Areas where Western Larch is present, two tree-canopy wide eradication of competitive tree species surrounding individual or clumps of Western Larch will be implemented to

give Western Larch re-prod a chance to establish and flourish.

Seeding of native grass species as well as native shrub and wildflower species (Aforementioned species) will occur on abandoned roads and landings.

- e. **List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**
Chicory, Knapweed, thistle

5. **Animals** [Find help answering animal questions](#)

- a. **List any birds and other animals that 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: coyote, bobcat, cougar
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. **List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

None

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

No

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

- SECTION 11 WHICH IS ADJACENT TO SECTION 10 WITHIN THE PROJECT BOUNDARY HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS NORTHERN GOSHAWK FORAGING GROUNDS. AT THE RECOMMENDATION OF AGENCY BIOLOGIST AS WELL AS YAKAMA NATION BIOLOGIST, MARKING PRESCRIPTIONS COINCIDE WITH MANAGEMENT METHODS FOR THE NORTHERN GOSHAWK FORAGING AREAS (LARGER DIAMETER TREES, SPACE TO FORAGE, CLUMPS AND EXTRA SHORT SNAG RECRUITMENT FOR DESIRABLE PREY ITEMS) FOR SECTION 10 WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA.
- GOLDEN EAGLE HAS BEEN OBSERVED BY WDFW BIOLOGISTS NEAR THE BOUNDARY OF PROPOSED PROJECT AREA. IT HAS BEEN VERIFIED BY WDFW BIOLOGISTS THAT NO GOLDEN EAGLE NEST SITE IS PRESENT WITHIN OR AROUND THE PROJECT AREA.
- ANY BEDDING AREAS FOR UNGULATE SPECIES WILL BE BOUNDED OUT WITH PINK FLAGGING TO INDICATE A NO-ENTRY LEAVE-TREE PATCH OR HEAVILY PAINTED WITH LEAVE TREES. PROTECTION OF SNAGS AND WILDLIFE RESERVE TREES (WRT'S) WHERE FEASIBLE FROM A SAFETY STANDPOINT (BOTH TO THE OPERATOR AND TO THE PUBLIC). CREATING SNAGS (IN SNAG DEFICIENT AREAS) BY CUTTING TREES 10" DBH AND LARGER DESIGNATED WITH 2 ORANGE BANDS AT LEAST 10' HIGH WHILE CREATING SMALL PATCH CUTS (1/2 TO 1 ACRE IN SIZE) TO PROMOTE BROWSE SPECIES FOR BIG GAME SPECIES. MARKING OF TREES WITH DEFECT

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

None

6. Energy and Natural Resources [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)

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.

None

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

No

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.

None

7. Environmental Health [Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)

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

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.

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

None

a. 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

b. 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.

None

c. 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.

d. 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 [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)

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.

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 because 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 historically 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.

None

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?

N/A, no shorelines are within or around project area.

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.

None

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

None

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

None

9. Housing [Find help answering housing questions](#)

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

None

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

None

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

None

10. Aesthetics [Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)

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

None

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

None

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

None

11. Light and Glare [Find help answering light and glare questions](#)

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?**

No

d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.**

No

12. Recreation [Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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 cb channel and mile markers posted.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)

- 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.**

None

- 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 archaeologists have completed a background review and archaeological survey. Records indicate there are no previously recorded cultural resources within the project area. No new cultural resources were identified as a result of the survey.

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.

WDFW archaeologists are in consultation with DAHP and the locally affected tribes. WDFW archaeologists have completed a cultural resources survey report and have circulated it to DAHP and tribes.

- c. **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's Inadvertent Discovery Protocol will be in place during all ground disturbing work.

14. Transportation [Find help with answering transportation questions](#)

- 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 roads, I-90 and I-84 for the duration of the project. There will be a temporary 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. **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).**

NONE

- d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No

- e. 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

None

- f. 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

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any.

None

15. Public Services [Find help answering public service questions](#)

- 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 [Find help answering utilities questions](#)

- 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.

None

C. Signature [Find help about who should sign](#)

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.

4/10/2024

X Leland Lauffer

Signed by: Lauffer, Leland C (DFW)

Type name of signee: Leland Lauffer

**Position and agency/organization: Statewide Forester Washington Department of Fish and
Wildlife**

Date submitted: 4/10/2024