

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

The proposal/project is an ordinance which if adopted as proposed would close the following roads to use by wheeled all-terrain vehicles:

- Road 3817 Knox Road from milepost 0.000 – 1.590
- Road 3819 Knox Road Extension from milepost 0.000 – 1.029
- Road 3822 Ed Figlenski Road from milepost 0.000 – 1.827
- Road 3833 J H Green Road from milepost 0.000 – 6.985

The roads were previously opened to WATV use through the adoption of ordinance 2017-4. The proposed closure is due to environmental concerns caused by the possibility of illegal riders leaving the roadway and causing damage to critical areas and private property. The roads provide no connectivity to other routes.

(See attached map)

2. Name of applicant: Okanogan County Public Works

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

Josh Thomson, County Engineer 509-422-7300 1234A 2nd Avenue South, Okanogan, WA 98840^h

4. Date checklist prepared: December 14, 2017

5. Agency requesting checklist: Okanogan County Planning

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

It is anticipated notice of the proposal will be published on December 27, 2017. A 14 day comment period for the SEPA determination will be conducted with review of the comments received immediately following. The subsequent final determinations and the schedule for a public hearing on the proposal will be determined based on review of the comments received. If it is adopted the ordinance will be effective immediately.

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

The County Commissioners intend to review roads suitable for use by WATVs in each of the three commissioner districts. Roads primarily in District 3 were reviewed and an ordinance adopted on November 27, 2017. Roads in commissioner districts 1 and 2 will follow as time and staffing allows.

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

An MDNS was prepared and adopted with Ordinance 2017-4. The critical areas map was imposed over the map of proposed roads. The objective was to identify areas where the proximity to critical areas would lead to a high likelihood that damage could be caused by illegal riders leaving the roadway. This information was used and will be used to inform the final decision on which roadways will be opened to WATV use and placing of signs on opened roadways. Any additional environmental information will be prepared as necessary to respond to issues identified during the comment period.

This environmental checklist was prepared for the proposal to close the 4 roads. Critical Areas Maps, Wildlife Habitat Maps, and Wetlands Maps were consulted in relation to this proposal.

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.

There are no other applications pending or necessary to implement this proposal.

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

There are no other approvals or permits necessary to implement this proposal.

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.)

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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 current proposal will involve closing 4 roads to WATV use that are located primarily in county commissioner district 3 specifically the area of Tunk Valley.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

The roads are graded to county specifications. Surrounding terrain is best described as hilly with steep slopes.

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
90%

- 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 prime farmland.

283 Haley Ashy Fine Sandy Loam 0-8% slopes
373 Mobu Silt Loam 3-8% slopes
513 Synarep-Colville-Xerofluvents Complex 0-4% slopes
Disautel Silt Loam 0-25% grade extremely stony

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

The road surfaces are unpaved and compacted from traffic. Surrounding areas vary from flat benches, rolling hills, and steep slopes. Local vegetation is predominately grassland and shrub-steep. Where soil has been disturbed on steep areas erosion is likely to occur. Damage to surrounding areas from illegal WATV operators could result in this type of soil disturbance.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

No fill or grading will be necessary to implement this proposal.

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

Closing the roadways to WATV use will not cause erosion.

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

There will be no impervious surfaces created as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no measures proposed to control erosion or impacts to the earth associated with this proposal.

a. **Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

This proposal will not generate air emissions.

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

No off-site sources of emissions or odors will affect this proposal.

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

There are no measures proposed to reduce or control emissions.

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

- 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.

Tunk Creek is in the vicinity of the roads to be closed. The Okanogan River is several miles away. Type 9 and Type 5 waters are in the surrounding area.

- 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.

There will be no construction work as a result of this proposal.

- 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.

There will be no fill or dredge work as a result of this proposal.

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

There will be no surface water withdrawals or conversions as a result of this proposal.

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

The roadways do not cross the 100 year flood-plain

- 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.

There will be no discharge of waste materials to surface waters as a result of this proposal.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

There will be no groundwater withdrawn as a result of this proposal.

There will be no water discharged to groundwater as a result of this proposal.

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.

There will be no waste materials discharged into the ground as a result of this proposal.

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.

There will be no increase in run-off or any alteration in the method of collection as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no waste materials generated or discharged as a result of this proposal.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, or run-off water impacts, if any:

There are no measures proposed to reduce or control surface, ground, or run-off water impacts.

4. **Plants**

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

X_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

X_____ shrubs

X_____ grass

X_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

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

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

X_____ other types of vegetation

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

No vegetation will be removed or altered as a result of this proposal.

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

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife maps of the areas neighboring the 4 roads proposed to be closed to WATV use show sharp tail grouse, mule deer, and golden eagle habitat.

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

There will be no landscaping as a result of this proposal.

5. **Animals**

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

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

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

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

Eagles, songbirds, hawks and other type of birds such as sharp tail grouse live in the area.

Deer, bear, elk, and small mammals are known to live in the area.

Trout and other fish are found in Tunk Creek.

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

Sharp tailed grouse

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

WDFW maps of the area show mule deer range. (see attached map)

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

There are no measures to preserve or enhance wildlife as a result of this proposal.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

- 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.

There are no increased energy needs as a result of this proposal.

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

This proposal does not impact the potential use of solar energy on any property in the county.

- 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:

There are no energy conservation features associated with this proposal.

7. Environmental health

- 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.

There are no environmental health hazards as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no special or additional emergency services as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards.

b. Noise

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

There are no noise types in the area that will affect this proposal.

- 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.

The proposal will not result in the creation of any noise.

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

There are no measures proposed to reduce or control noise impacts.

8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The site of this proposal is currently used as county roads. The adjacent properties are grazing land, shrub-steep terrain and habitat as noted above. There are residential and accessory structures located in the project area.

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

The adjacent properties have been used for agriculture such as grazing and grasslands.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The only structures on the site (proposed roadways) are road surface treatments, and regulatory and advisory roadway signs. Residential structures and accessory and/or agricultural buildings are located on adjacent properties.

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

No structures will be demolished as a result of this proposal.

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

Zoning is primarily R-5.

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

The comprehensive plan designation is primarily Rural and Resource Recreation.

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

There is no shoreline designation

- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

There are no environmentally sensitive areas as defined in WAC 173-360-510

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

There are residential structures located in the vicinity of the roads. Actual residents is unknown.

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

The proposal will not displace any people.

- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

There is no proposed measure to mitigate displacement impacts.

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

The proposal will not result in any activities that are not compatible with current zoning or comprehensive plan designations.

9. **Housing**

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

The proposal does not impact housing. No additional housing units will be provided.

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

The proposal does not eliminate any housing units.

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

There are no measures to reduce or control housing impacts associated with the proposal.

10. Aesthetics

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

There are no structures associated with this proposal other than existing or new roadway signs.

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

No views will be altered as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no proposed measures to control aesthetic impacts.

11. Light and glare

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

The proposal will not produce any light or glare.

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

This proposal does not create any light or glare.

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

No off-site source of light or glare will affect this proposal.

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

There are no proposed measures to control light or glare impacts.

12. Recreation

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

The proposal involves roadways that are adjacent to mostly private property. The roads associated with this proposal offer no connectivity to other WATV routes or areas where riding off the roadway is allowed. There are no identified recreational opportunities impacted by the proposal other than the loss of these roads to WATV riding.

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

Closing the listed roadways to WATV use will displace that recreational opportunity.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreational opportunities.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

There are no registered sites next to the roadways.

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

None are known.

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

There are no measures proposed to reduce or control impacts to historic or cultural resources.

14. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The proposal involves closing 4 existing county roads to WATV use. The roads serve as local access roads to mostly private property. The roads will remain open to vehicles other than WATV's.

- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

Residents in this area are served on demand on a limited basis by public transit agencies. There are no transit stops on the roads associated with this proposal.

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

There will be no parking spaces created or eliminated as a result of this proposal.

- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

There will be no new roads or improvements to existing roads as a result of this proposal.

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

The proposal does not involve roads in the vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

There will be no vehicular trips generated as a result of this proposal.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts.

15. Public services

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

The proposal will not result in an increased need for public services.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce impacts to public services.

16. Utilities

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

Electricity and telephone. The residences are served by OSS systems and private wells.

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.

No utilities are proposed for this project.

C. SIGNATURE

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: Perry D. Huston

Date Submitted: 12-21-17

(do not 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?

The proposal will not increase discharges to water or the production, storage, or release of hazardous substances.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

There are no measures proposed to avoid or reduce such increases.

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

The proposal will not affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

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

There are no measures proposed to protect and conserve plants, animals, fish or marine life.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?

The proposal will not deplete energy or natural resources.

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

There are no proposed measures to protect or conserve energy or natural resources.

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 proposal will not use or affect environmentally sensitive areas.

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

There are no proposed measures to protect such resources.

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?

The proposal will not affect land and shoreline use.

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

There are no proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline use.

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

The proposal will not result in increased demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demands.

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

The proposal will not conflict with local, state, or federal laws.