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KITTITAS COUNTY
CDS

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
UPDATED 2014

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: [\[help\]](#)

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: [\[help\]](#)

Dry Creek Bridge Replacement – Trista Zellmer

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

Trista Zellmer (Contact)

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

2450 Lyons, Ellensburg WA 98926 509-929-5042

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)

11-12-2014 (11-19-2014 Update)

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)

Kittitas County Community Development Services

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)

December 2014, No phasing, Approximately 5 day construction process

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)

No

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

Permit application to WDFW for HPA. Not aware of any other environmental work

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. [\[help\]](#)

Permit to WDFW will be submitted sumitaneously with KCCDS building permit and SEPA

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)

WDFW Hydrualic Project Approval

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) [\[help\]](#)

The proposed bridge is part of a driveway that serves one residential parcel. A bridge in the same location was burned in the Taylor Bridge Fire. Three culverts and fill were installed soon after the fire. WDFW approved the culverts and fill as a temporary access. This project will removed the culverts and fill, construct new abutments, place a railcar bridge on the abutments and construct approaches to each abutment.

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. [\[help\]](#)

THE PROPERTY ADDRESS IS 16801 HIGHWAY 97, ELLENSBURG WA. PARCEL #307734.

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

1. Earth

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

The project location is on a residential parcel approximately 11 acres in size. The majority of the parcel serves as pasture for a few horses. There is one manufactured home with small sheds. There is one access road from Highway 97. See attached map.

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

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

Portions of the banks of the creek are vertical, approximately 2 feet high.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The fill that will be removed is gravel/cobble material.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

No signs of instability other than slight erosion from normal stream migration.

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. [\[help\]](#)

The total footprint of the project will be less than a 0.1 of an acre. Total excavation including the fill currently between the streambanks, excavation for abutment construction and rip rap protection will be less than 150 CYD's. Approximately 100 CYDS of that material is fill that was placed for the temporary culvert crossing. All material excavated will remain on site and be used for construction of the approaches for the bridge. Rip rap for abutment protection will come from a pit within Kittitas County.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Minor erosion could occur from general construction activities. Machinery will be working from the existing driveway as much as possible to minimize potential erosion.

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

The driveway will remain gravel upon completion. The bridge deck will be constructed up wood decking with spaces between each one. No impervious surface areas will increase.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The majority of work will be performed from the existing gravel road. Undisturbed soil will be avoided to the greatest extent possible. Work is proposed for a time period when Dry Creek has no flow.

2. Air

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. [\[help\]](#)

Minor dust may occur from digging operations. Exhaust from construction equipment will occur for approximately 5 days.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

Loading of rip rap and transportation of construction supplies will produce exhaust from vehicles and construction equipment.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)
Modern equipment with emission control devices will be used for construction.

3. Water

a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

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

Dry Creek is an intermittent stream that typically doesn't flow once spring runoff is completed.

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. [\[help\]](#)
Work will occur adjacent, in and over the water body. Abutments will be constructed adjacent to the stream. Fill will be removed from within the streambed. A bridge will be placed over the stream.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Approximately 100 CYDS will be removed from within the stream banks. Approximately 20 CYDS of material will be removed from the stream bank for rip rap placement. Approximately 30 CYDS of material will be removed outside of the stream banks for abutment construction.

Approximately 20 CYDS of rip rap will be imported from a local pit.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

No

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

No

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. [\[help\]](#)

No

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

The expected construction period is 5 days. If storms are forecast, work will be delayed. The project will be constructed during a time when no storms are expected. If a storm occurs, work will stop. Work will be performed from the existing driveway as much as possible.

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)
The potential of waste material to enter surface waters is minimal.
- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

The proposed bridge will provide for improved drainage and eliminate obstructions to flow within Dry Creek.

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

Work will be performed during a time when no storms are forecast.

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

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

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? [\[help\]](#)

Some grasses may be damaged during excavation and general movement of construction equipment.

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

None known

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

No landscaping proposed.

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

Thistle, knapweed

5. Animals

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

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

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

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

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

None known

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

No

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

NONE

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

None

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. [\[help\]](#)

None

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

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: [\[help\]](#)

Nono

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. [\[help\]](#)

None

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

None known

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

None known

- 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.

None known

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
None expected to be needed.
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
None

b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#)
The project is located adjacent to Highway 97. Traffic noise could potentially affect communication at the work site.
- 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. [\[help\]](#)
Noise from construction equipment will occur during daylight hours.
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None proposed.

8. Land and shoreline use

- 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 site currently serves as a residential driveway. No change is expected.
- 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? [\[help\]](#)
A portion of the parcel serves as pasture for less than 5 horses. No other ag use occurs.
 - 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. [\[help\]](#)
Three culverts where the bridge will be placed.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)
No
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)
Ag-20
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)
Rural Working
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)
N/A
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)
High Hazard Roof, Seismic D1, Wildland urban interface IR1, BPA ROW
Type 2 Stream, Ellensburg mule deer wintering Range
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)
Population will not be affected.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)
Population will not be affected.

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

Population will not be affected.

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

None

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

None

9. Housing

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

N/A

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

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

The bridge deck will be approximately 6 feet above the streambed

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

Views from the road may be altered

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None

11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)

None

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

No

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

None

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

None

12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)

Hunting

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

No

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None

13. Historic and cultural preservation

- 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 located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe. [\[help\]](#)

None listed

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

None

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

Landowner communications

- 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.

None

14. Transportation

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

Highway 97

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

No

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)

None

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). [\[help\]](#)

No

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

No

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? [\[help\]](#)

Same as pre projet.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None

15. **Public services**

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. [\[help\]](#)

No

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)

None

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,
other _____

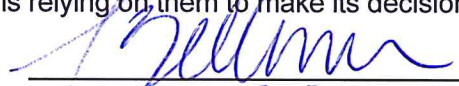
No utilities are available at the bridge site. Typical utilities serve the home several hundred feet away from the bridge.

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. [\[help\]](#)

None

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 Trista Zellmer

Position and Agency/Organization _____

Date Submitted: 12/19/14

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?