STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT
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:
   Non-project action: Kittitas County Proposed Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan & Kittitas County Code to be compliant with the Growth Management Act.

2. Name of applicant:
   Kittitas County
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
   Kittitas County Community Development Services
   Robert “Doc” Hansen, Planning Official
   411 N. Ruby Street
   Ellensburg, WA 98926
   (509) 962-7506

4. Date checklist prepared:
   August 15, 2013

5. Agency requesting checklist:
   Kittitas County

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
   All proposed Countywide Planning Policies, Comprehensive Plan and County Code amendments are scheduled to be adopted on October 12, 2013.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
   It is anticipated that property owners in the study areas may propose development or redevelopment of their property throughout the County in the future. Future project specific development proposals within County areas will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code. The County is also in process of updating its Shoreline Management Program and Critical Areas Ordinance which could be affected by this Plan and regulations.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
   Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan Final EIS, June 17, 1996
   Kittitas County SEPA Addendum to Final EIS, October 3, 1997
   Kittitas County Environmental Checklist and Threshold Determination October, 2010
   Kittitas County Environmental Checklist and Threshold Determination November 19, 2012 for Comprehensive Plan/KCC amendments to meet compliance to GMA

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.
   None

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
    
    - Approval of the proposed Comprehensive Plan and County Code amendments by the Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners.
    - Review by the Washington State Department of Commerce as required by the Washington Growth Management Act.
    - Finding of Compliance from the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board.
The proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, implementing regulations, and associated maps bring the Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations into compliance with the Growth Management Act. The amendments resolve issues raised by the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board on March 31, 2013 including not providing adequate “measures” within the plan policies which will protect rural character as required in RCW 36.70A.070. The Hearings Board also found that the County, through its amendments, may have affected uses allowed within identified Limited Areas of More Intense Development (LAMIRDs), and requested the County to show how these changes did not affect the protection of the rural character of the areas.

After granting extension to the County in addressing an issue of non-compliance to GMA regarding the protection of water quality and quantity, the County proposes adoption of limiting water use to new uses not subject to RCW 90.44. Following is a summary of the proposals being made to address the Hearings Board concerns.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2 OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

Proposed amendments to the Land Use Element (Chapter 2) in Section 2.2.2 relating to “Water.” This proposed section would replace existing language requiring the demonstration of water adequacy and availability before land use and building actions are accepted.

The proposed amendments to the policies within Chapter 8 provide the “measures” within the Plan protecting the rural character within Kittitas County which the Hearings Board requests. Staff proposes changes to the Rural Non-LAMIRD use tables and setbacks for development in the Forest and Range zone adjacent to the Liberty Historic overlay zone.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CODE OF KITTITAS COUNTY IN REGARD TO LAMIRDS**

Staff proposes changes in the zoning maps and the allowed use tables in KCC 17.15.060 for LAMIRDs located in the County. A number of uses allowed within the LAMIRD matrix are recommended to be changed to assure that the uses allowed within the LAMIRD are rural in character. Zoning maps for LAMIRDs are proposed to be changed to classifications existing in 2009 even when parcels are divided by designated LAMIRD lines in order to maintain consistency with classifications compliant to the GMA.

Proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Maps reflect the amendments proposed to the existing maps and provide location of the newly proposed Rural Residential, Rural Working, Rural Recreational and Rural LAMIRD designations discussed above.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE KCC PROTECTING WATER QUANTITY AND QUALITY**

Amendment to Kittitas County Code administered by the Department of Health and Community Development Services is proposed in order to insure that adequate water quantity and quality exists within the County.
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 proposed amendments to ordinances and County Plan will affect the “rural” areas of Kittitas County, Washington. These are lands located primarily within the valley areas of the County and Limited Areas of More Intensive Rural Development (LAMIRD) which are not within the designated Urban Growth Areas (UGA). The proposed amendments will not affect those lands zoned Commercial Agriculture or Commercial Forest.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.
Rural areas within Kittitas County contain all of the above characteristics listed above. More mountainous areas exist in the western portion of the County, more “rolling” areas exist in the middle and eastern areas of the County, and flat areas exist within the “lower” or eastern farming areas of the County.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
Slopes within the County range from 6% slope in the valley areas to over 200% in the upper mountainous areas.

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.
Soils types includes ashy sandy loam, stony ashy loam and rock outcrops in the Nimue, Chinkmin, and Vabus series. Most common soil classifications are for rocky outcrops and gravelly loam in the Malaga series and the Drino Forteday complex, Sagehill-Timmerman complex and the Forteday Drino Nevo complex. Typical soils in the agricultural areas consist of alluvium soils mixed with volcanic ash. Soils series include Mitta, Opnish, Nack and Bricknell.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
Unstable soils are expected to exist throughout the County. Future project specific development proposals within the study areas will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and the Kittitas County Code, which includes provisions for development on or near unstable soils.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
As a non-project action, the proposal does not propose fill or grading. Future project specific development proposals within the study areas that may include fill or grading will be reviewed.
consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code and State regulations.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. Please see the response to question 1.e, above.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? Please see the response to question 1.e, above.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
   As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to the earth. No mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed pursuant to SEPA and any County Codes relevant to the project.

2. 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.
   As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly result in impacts to air quality. Future project-specific development proposals within the study areas that may result in air quality impacts will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

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:
   As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to the air quality. No mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed pursuant to SEPA and the County Environmental Policy (KCC Title 15) to identify potential environmental impacts and applicable mitigating measures.

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.

   Gold Creek, Coal Creek, Tunnel Creek, are headwater tributaries to Keechelus Lake. Two other major lakes, Kachess and Cle Elum exist in the western portion of the County fed by numerous other small lakes and streams. Yakima River and Manashtash Creek are the two major rivers in the area designated rural. Water channels used for irrigation, floodplains and wetlands exist throughout the rural area and valley floor in Kittitas County.
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.

   As a non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in or adjacent to water bodies. Future project specific development proposals within the study areas that may include work over, in or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

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.

   Please see the response to question 3.a.2 above.

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

   Please see the response to question 3.a.2 above.

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

   Floodplains exist throughout the Kittitas County rural areas. Most exist along major rivers and tributaries.

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.

   Please see the response to question 3.a.2 above

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.

   As a non-project action, the proposal will not withdraw or discharge to groundwater. Future project specific development proposals within the study areas that may impact groundwater will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

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.

   Please see the response to question 3.b.1 above.

d. Water runoff (including stormwater):

   As a non-project action, the proposal will not withdraw or discharge to stormwater or produce additional surface water runoff.
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.

As a non-project action, the proposal will not result in water runoff.

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

Please see the response to question 3.d. above.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to surface, ground or runoff water. No mitigating measures are proposed.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle 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
   - wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
   - water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
   - other types of vegetation

Forest areas with various types of evergreen trees exist throughout the mountainous areas in western and northern areas of Kittitas County. Various shrub species are prominent in eastern Kittitas County. Wetland areas, existing throughout the County’s valley and mountain areas are characterized by open water, emergent and shrub-scrub vegetation communities. Agricultural vegetation exists throughout the eastern valley areas. Riparian vegetation is found in the wetlands along the Columbia River.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal will not remove or alter vegetation. Future project specific development proposals within the study areas that may remove or alter vegetation will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

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

As a non-project action, there is no “site” being considered. The WDNR Natural Heritage Inventory database contains 2004 records of swamp gentian (Gentiana douglasiana) and 1994 and 2003 records of few-flowered sedge (Carex pauciflora) in and around the northern end of the western section of the Snoqualmie area. Both species are listed as State Sensitive species. Few-flowered sedge occurs in wet acidic environments; in Kittitas County swamp gentian also occurs in wet boggy areas that are undergoing a transition to conifer forest.
d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to vegetation. No mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed pursuant to SEPA and the County Environmental Policy (KCC Title 15) to identify potential environmental impacts and applicable mitigating measures.

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:

Fish: bass, chinook salmon, coho salmon, steelhead, bull trout, cutthroat trout, herring, shellfish, other
Amphibians: Pacific treefrog, red-legged frog, northwestern salamander, long-toed salamander, other
Reptiles: lizards, common garter snake, northwestern garter snake, painted turtle, other
Birds: red-tailed hawk, great blue heron, bald eagle, songbirds, ducks, crows, waterfowl, northern flicker, other
Mammals: raccoon, opossum, deer mouse, vagrant shrew, Townsend’s vole, Townsend’s mole, little brown rat, black-tailed deer, bear, elk, beaver, other

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

Grizzly bear and gray wolf, both of which may inhabit the North Cascades and move through the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area (Singleton and Lehmkuhl 1999) exist in the northwestern portions of the County. Spotted owl sitting has occurred also in the northwestern areas of the County within heavy forested areas. Snoqualmie Pass has been identified as a ‘fracture zone’ between the Central and South Cascades that is permeable to grizzly bear movement between areas of suitable habitat (Peter H. Singleton, William L. Gaines, John F. Lehmkuhl 2004). The Columbia River is a migration corridor for both Columbia River bull trout and Middle Columbia River steelhead.

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

It is likely that portions of the County areas are part of one or more migratory routes. Elk are prominent throughout the County particularly in the southern range and hill areas. The Columbia River a migration corridor for migratory fowl, the Columbia River bull trout and the Middle Columbia River steelhead.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal will not impact wildlife.

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.

As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly result in any additional need for energy. Future site-specific developments may use electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, or solar energy sources.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not affect the use of solar energy

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:

As a non-project action, the proposal does not directly impact energy consumption.

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.

As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to cause environmental health hazards. Use of any hazardous materials on a project-by-project basis would be subject to federal and state law and the County Building Code (KCC Title 14).

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.
No special emergency services are required for this non-project proposal.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
As a non-project action, the proposal will not result in increased 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)?

Kittitas County is primarily a rural county with very low noise levels that would be expected in a rural environment. Existing noise levels in the study areas range from very low levels in undeveloped rural lands to noise levels typical to small communities and along highways and arterials.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not directly impact noise levels and no mitigation is proposed.

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

As a non-project action, no measures are proposed to reduce or control noise.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

Predominant land uses in the western County area include recreation, vacation and cabin homes, commercial, and public lands. Undeveloped land is located throughout the County, particularly to the east where farms are predominant. A few small parcels of single family and multifamily are found along local roads.
The eastern area of the County contains public uses, including the Gingko Petrified Forest State Park’s boat launch and park area, some foothills territory and the Columbia River water. The
rural area consists primarily of agricultural uses, mining activities, sparse residential development and some commercial and industrial land uses.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.
   The middle and eastern areas of the County in the valley areas are currently and historically been used for agriculture purposes.

c. Describe any structures on the site.
   Please see the response to Question 8.a, above.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
   No structures will be demolished as part of the non-project proposal.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
   All zone classifications existing within the current Kittitas County Code occur throughout the rural area. A number of the zones that currently exist within the proposed rural area are proposed to be eliminated including the Agriculture 3 and Rural 3 zones. Proposed zones, if adopted, will likely reduce the density of potential development.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
   The Comprehensive Plan for the County has four designations within the rural area—“Rural Working,” “Rural Residential,” “Rural Recreation,” and “Rural Resource”

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
   There is no “site” to this proposal. All shoreline designations exist throughout the area being proposed for amendment.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
   A number of environmentally sensitive areas exist throughout the areas being proposed for amendment including steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains, floodways, and aquifer recharge areas. As a non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in or adjacent to any specific “sensitive” area.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
   Not Applicable as a non-project proposal

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
   The non-project proposal is not expected to displace any residents.

k. Describe proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
   As a non-project action, no mitigation is proposed.

l. Describe proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
   The proposal is intended to ensure that the Countywide Planning Policies, Comprehensive Plan and County Code are consistent and compatible.

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

The proposed policies in the Comprehensive Plan and proposed amendments to regulations are expect to decrease the growth of housing activity in the designated rural areas.

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

The non-project proposal is not expected to eliminate any housing units.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not result in housing impacts and no mitigation is proposed.

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?

The proposal is a non-project action that does not include any proposed structures.

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

The proposal is a non-project action that will not alter or obstruct views.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not result in aesthetic impacts and no mitigation is proposed.

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 is a non-project action that would not directly produce light and glare or be affected by light.

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

See response to Question 11.a, above

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

See response to Question 11.a, above

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not result in light and glare impacts and no mitigation is proposed.

12. Recreation

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

A major portion of the economy for Kittitas County depends upon the recreation activity that occurs. Winter activities are prevalent in the Upper Kittitas, or western, area with abundant hiking, skiing, camping, fishing and tourist opportunities. Rock-climbing/mountain climbing opportunities are recognized nationally and internationally. Streams and rivers provide boating
and fishing opportunities existing throughout the County in centralized locations. All of the study areas offer local recreation opportunities for area residents.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not displace existing recreational uses.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal would not result impacts on recreational opportunities and no mitigation is proposed.

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.

Sites with national, state and local preservation exist throughout the County. Including

- The Lake Keechelus Snowshed Bridge, located on I-90 near Snoqualmie Pass (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- The Cabin Creek Historic District, located west of Easton (National Register, Washington heritage Register)
- The Thorp Mill at Thorp Highway off of US 10 (National Register, Washington heritage Register)
- The Thorp Grade School, Washington historic Register)’ Barn located at 1011 Sisters Road (Washington heritage Barn Register); Barn located at 683 Goodwin Road (Washington Heritage Barn Register)
- The Kittitas Depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad, locate in the City of Kittitas (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- First railroad Avenue Historic District, Downtown Ellensburg Historic District

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

There are no known landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific or cultural importance known in the study areas.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to impact historic or cultural features and no mitigation is proposed.

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.

I-90, I-82 and St.Rt. 97 provide the predominant transportation routes within the County. County and State roads 3, 7, 821, 906, and 907 also carry a significant portion of the County’s traffic.

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

Public transit exists between Yakima and Ellensburg to serve the Central Washington University.

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

The non-project proposal would not provide or eliminate parking spaces.

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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).

   As a non project action, the proposal will not impact transportation and no mitigation is proposed.

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

   The non-project proposal would not use 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.

   The non-project proposal would not generate vehicular trips.

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

   As a non-project proposal, no mitigation for transportation control is proposed.

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 non-project proposal would not directly result in an increased need for public services.

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

   As a non-project action, the proposal would not result in public service impacts and no mitigation is proposed.

16. Utilities

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

   Not Applicable

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.

   Within the unincorporated county: electricity, fossil fuels, refuse service, telephone, and private and community water are used. No new utilities are planned through the update process for implementation through development regulations.

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: __________________________

Robert "Doc" Hansen, Planning Official
Kittitas County

Date Submitted: __________August 15, 2013________
D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(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?

   No significant increase in discharge to water, emissions to air, production, storage or release of toxic or hazardous substances, or production of noise should result from the implementation of proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code and Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendments do not include new uses that would result in a significant increase in water discharge, emissions or toxic substances. Proposed changes to the KCC within this proposal are expected to reduce the amount of surface and ground water consumed from existing resources.

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

   The proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code and Comprehensive Plan are not likely to affect plants, animals, or marine life over what already occurs under current County Regulations. The proposed amendments do not include new uses or changes that would result in a significant impact upon plants, animals, fish or marine life.

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

   Proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan are not likely to deplete energy or natural resources. No amendments to mining or forestry regulations are proposed that would cause the depletion of those natural resources. No new high energy demand uses are proposed.

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?

   Proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations are anticipated to aid in protection of wetlands, frequently flooded areas, geologic hazard areas, typed waters and wildlife habitat areas by reducing densities and incorporating regulations which address natural resource lands and the protection of agricultural and forest lands and activities.

   1. 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 proposed amendments do not alter shoreline uses or regulations. The Kittitas County Shoreline Master Program and Critical Areas Ordinance are undergoing separate reviews, and amendments are planned. The proposed Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations amendments evaluated in this checklist do not allow or encourage any land uses incompatible with existing shoreline regulations.

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

No significant increases in demands on transportation or public services and utilities should result from the implementation of proposed amendments in the Kittitas County Code and Comprehensive Plan. The proposed amendments address development densities and regulations to protect rural character in Kittitas County.

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

The proposed Development Code Update does not conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. The purpose of the proposed amendments is to bring the Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan and implementing regulations into compliance with the Growth Management Act. The proposed amendments protect the environment by establishing appropriate densities and uses in rural areas and implementing regulations that better protect water quality and quantity.