

KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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SE-18-00

"Building Partnerships - Building Communities"

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to <u>all parts of your proposal</u>, 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 <u>SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D)</u>. 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.

APPLICATION FEES:

\$600.00 Kittitas County Community Development Services (KCCDS)

\$250.00 Kittitas County Department of Public Works

\$280.00 Kittitas County Public Health

\$1,130.00 Total fees due for this application (One check made payable to KCCDS)

Application Received by (CDS Staff Signature):

DATE:

4-3-18

DATE:

CD18-0633

Kittitas County CDS

DATE STAMP IN BOX

WA Department of Natural Resources / Kittitas County

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

This harvest will occur during Winter 2017. If snow falls too heavily prior to initial mobilization of harvesting equipment, the harvest will be delayed until snowmelt in spring 2018.

- 7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [help]
- 8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [help]

See attached NRCS Soil Reports, WDFW Priority Habitat and Species Report, WA DNR Forest Practice Activity Maps.

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]

Yes, a road use permit through the US Forest Service to allow haul on NF-4818 for harvested logs.

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

WA DNR Forest Practice Permit, Building Permit for home site from Kittitas County, Road Use Permit from the USDA Forest Service, WA DNR Burn permit for logging slash if needed.

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]

A timber harvest will occur with the goal of increasing long-term productivity of the majority of the harvest area. The operation will be a thinning-from-below operation, designed to remove smaller suppressed, deformed, or trees quickly declining in vigor from the site. Resources that otherwise go to these trees will be available to retained trees post-harvest, resulting in increased growth and long term vigor for the stand. The area to be thinned is roughly 15 acres, with a harvest of approximately 50-60 MBF. This area will be maintained in forest land for the foreseeable future.

A small area (less than one acre) will be clear-cut, and will be converted from forestland to non-forest land. A home site will be cleared and developed in that area.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. [help]

The harvest will occur on Kittitas County Parcel # 306835 in Township 21N Range 13E Section 27. Forest Practice Activity Maps are attached for further reference.

B.	FNVI	NAOS	IENTAI	FIEMEN	VTS [help]

1.	Earth	[help]
a.	Genera	description of the site: [help]
(ci	rcle one):	Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [help] 60%
- 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]
- See attached NRCS soil reports for more information. The property is comprised of 2 soil types, both of which show a sandy loam soil profile. The parent material for the soil is glacial till and colluvium, and are well-drained.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [help]

Yes, an undersized culvert on a spur road in the eastern portion of the property was plugged up and blew out in the past. Significant scour of the side slopes coming into the stream channel occurred, and resulted in the possibility of a WA Forest Practice rule identified feature (inner gorge) being created.

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 purpose of filling and excavation is to build a single family residence. There will be less than 100 yards of fill to be excavated, graded and filled. This amount prevents the need for a clearing and grading permit from Kittitas County. Native material from the site will be utilized whenever possible for fill, pit run rock will be used when necessary.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [help] It could occur, however proper ditching of the new driveway will direct water onto the forest floor prior to entry into any typed water. Forest Practice Board Guidelines described in Section 3

(http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/fp board manual.pdf) will be followed where applicable.

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

>5%

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [help]
See (F) for information. Straw will be spread where necessary to reduce soil erosion and control sediment delivery into typed water. Appropriate drainage structures will be installed where necessary.

2. Air [help]

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. [help]

Emissions from diesel engines used in harvesting and hauling of timber, and construction of a home site will be the sole sources of emissions. Generators used for power tools during home site construction may be used as well.

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

N/A

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

N/A

3. Water [help]

a. Surface Water:

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

Kachess Lake and a major tributary are in close proximity to the future home site. Timber harvesting will be restricted to 75' from the perennial stream and 100' from the ordinary high water mark of Kachess Lake. Kachess Lake flows through Kachess Dam into Kachess River, which then flows into Lake Easton.

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]

Timber harvesting will occur within Riparian Management Zones described in WAC 222-30-022. No harvesting in the core or inner zones will take place, but will occur in the outer zone. All required leave trees in the outer zone will be maintained. The Forest Practice Permit map is attached for more details. Development of the home site will likely take place >200' off the ordinary high water mark from Kachess Lake, which prevents the need for further permitting from Kittitas County. If development occurs within the 100'-200', all additional review and permitting through Kittitas County will be filed.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material. [help]
 N/A
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

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]

Nο

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 no? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [help]

Yes, to supply a single family residence. No irrigation will be performed with this well.

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]

YES. DOMESTIC SEWAGE WITH VOLUMES CONSISTENT WITH A SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENCE.

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]
	N/A

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

No

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

No

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

Drainage ditches and cross drains in the driveway will be installed as necessary. Any ditching will drain onto the forest floor away from any typed water to ensure no sediment enters typed waters. Grass and straw will be spread as necessary to help reduce soil erosion after precipitation events.

4. Plants [help]

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [help]

Xdeciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
X_evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
Xshrubs
Xgrass
pasture
crop or grain
Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, othe
water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
other types of vegetation

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

An estimated 60-80 thousand board feet (MBF) will be harvested from the operation. Conifer species that will be harvested include Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine. Understory vegetation including vine maple, Rocky Mtn Maple, Nootka rose and other shrubs species will be run overwhile harvesting and construction equipment is being operated on site.

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

Nothern spotted owls are in the area, and are classified as "Threatened" on the federal level and "Endangered" on the state level. Wolverines are in the area too. They are not currently listed as threatened or endangered, but are listed candidates at both the state and federal level.

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

The commercial thinning operation will enhance long-term viability of timber on the property. The canopy will become more open after the harvest, which will encourage growth of a variety of grass, forb and shrub species. Areas that are not used for development in the cleared area will be re-seeded with grass to create a lawn or native grass seed to reduce erosion and provide browse for wildlife in the area.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. <a>[help] None

5. Animals [help]

a. <u>List</u> any birds and <u>other</u> animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. [help]

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [help] See attached PHS report from WDFW.

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

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

THE COMMERCIAL THINNING OPERATION WILL ALLOW INCREASED LIGHT TO REACH THE GROUND. A SIGNIFICANT PART OF THE HARVEST AREA HAS LITTLE TO NO BROWSE FOR ANIMALS, AS HIGH LEVELS OF CANOPY CLOSURE PREVENTS ESTABLISHMENT OF VEGETATION. ONCE MORE LIGHT IS ABLE TO REACH THE FOREST FLOOR, VEGETATION ABUNDANCE WILL QUICKLY INCREASE. THIS WILL RESULT IN MORE BROWSE, INCREASED SECURITY AND THERMAL COVER, AND IMPROVED BIODIVERSITY.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [help]
None

6. Energy and Natural Resources [help]

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet
the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating,
manufacturing, etc. [help]

Solar/propane

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

The project would have negligible or perhaps slightly positive effects on the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties by reducing canopy cover.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?
 List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: [help]

 N/A

7. Environmental Health [help]

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

Sparks from harvesting and construction equipment potentially could increase risk of fire on site. Spills from equipment of hydraulic fluid, oil or gas is possible as well. All operators will have spill kits on site, and the distance that the project will be taking place from any water features drastically reduces any impact a potential minor spill could have.

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [help]
- Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity. [help]
 N/A
- Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.
 [help]
 - Hydraulic fluid, gasoline and diesel are all materials that could be stored on site during the duration of the project.
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [help] First aid for contractors to complete the harvest/ building, fire suppression crews if any sparks created during operations turn into a serious fire event.
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [help] N/A

b. Noise [help]

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

N/A

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

Noise from typical operation of timber harvesting equipment and building equipment

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

N/A

8. Land and Shoreline Use [help]

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. [help]

The current use of the site is for production of timber and fiber products. The proposal will convert less than one acre of the total parcel into a residential use, and keep the rest of the property in the Designated Forest Land tax program.

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]

The property has long been used primarily as working forest land. One acre or less will be converted to residential use for this project.

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how: [help]

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site. [help] None.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [help]
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [help]

88 - Resource - Designated Forest Land.

- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [help] Commercial Forest Zone.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [help] Rural Conservancy.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [help] No
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [help] None.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [help] None.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [help] N/A.
- L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [help]

Thinning of timber within 200' of the OHWM will be allowable pursuant to KC CDS permit # SX-18-00003.

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

None.

9. Housing [help]

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

One single family residence with a detached shop will be built.

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

N/A/

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

10. Aesthetics [help]

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

20' +/-, cedar/Hardi

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [help] The views would be improved due to spacing of trees retained after harvest.

 Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [help] N/A/

11. Light and Glare [help]

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

Light would be produced from operating lights of construction and harvesting equipment. Exterior lights from the developed home site will contribute light to the area as well upon completion of the project.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [help] N/A.
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [help] N/A.
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [help]
 Trees will be retained where possible around home site so that exterior light does not intrude upon neighbor's home.

12. Recreation [help]

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

Hunting, fishing, hiking, nature viewing.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [help] None.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [help]

None.

13. Historic and cultural preservation [help]

 a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.
 [help]

None.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources. [help]

None known.

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]

A formal review of archeological resources upon filing of a Forest Practice Permit will be completed, and must be approved prior to any harvesting of timber or clearing of area for the home site.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required. [help]

N/A.

14. Transportation [help]

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. [help]

The property is close proximity to Interstate 90. The property is accessed from the W Sparks Rd exit off I-90, then following NF-4818 until the property.

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]

N/A.

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

THE NF-4818 ROAD NETWORK WILL NEED TO BE UTILIZED FOR HAULING OF TIMBER. AS PART OF THE ROAD USE PERMIT OBTAINED FROM THE FOREST SERVICE, SOME GRADING OR BRUSHING OF THE ROADSIDES WILL BE COMPLETED.

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]
- 3-4 loads of logs per day would be shipped to mills when harvesting operations are underway.
- 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. [help]
 No.
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [help]
 N/A.

15. Public Services [help]

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. [help]
 None should be required pending an emergency.
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [help]
 All preventative measures to reduce spills, sparks from harvesting equipment and accidents while the project is underway will be in place to reduce need for public services.

16. Utilities [help]

- a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [help]
 electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,
 other ______
- c. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. [help]
 N/A, all power and utilities for the home will be generated on site.

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: Eric Koenig

Position and Agency/Organization: Forester, American Forest Management

Date Submitted: 3/21/18

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?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

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

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

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

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

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 measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:
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?
	Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:
6.	How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?
	Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:
7.	Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.