SEPA[1] Environmental Checklist

Purpose of checklist

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

Instructions for applicants

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

The checklist questions apply to **all parts of your proposal**, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Instructions for lead agencies

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B, plus the Supplemental Sheet for Nonproject Actions (Part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in "Part B: Environmental Elements" that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

[1] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance

A.Background

Find help answering background questions[2]

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

   Cole Creek Bridge Replacement

2. **Name of applicant:**

   Applicant: Barbee Mill Co. Inc.

   Contact Person: Eric Koenig

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

   Applicant Phone Number: 425-306-8667

   Applicant Address: PO Box 359, Renton, WA 98057

   Contact Person Phone Number: 360-580-5128

   Contact Person Address: 6501 N. Cedar Road, Suite E, Spokane, WA 99208

   Applicant Phone Number: 425-306-8667

4. **Date checklist prepared:**

   7/28/2025

5. **Agency requesting checklist:**

   Kittitas County Community Development Services

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

   Removal of old bridge and installation of new structure to occur fall 2025 during approved fish windows

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

   Additional, minor road improvements are needed along NF-41 to facilitate safe and effective hauling activities from proposed future timber harvest on Barbee Mill Co. Inc. lands located in Township 20 N Range 13 E Section 32.

   This planned future activity will be conducted with future planned WA DNR Forest Practice Applications (FPAs). These FPAs have not been submitted at time of SEPA submission because of lack of an approved haul route for the harvested forest products.

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

   - A Geologic Field Report regarding potentially unstable slopes has been prepared for harvest unit layout on the Barbee Mill Co. Inc. property

[2] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background

- WDFW staff will conduct cultural resource and heritage studies on behalf of the USFS in the immediate vicinity of the proposed Cole Creek Bridge Replacement project.
- Bridge replacement plans were finalized by Steve Faulkner of Pacific Forest Resources.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

There will be a Hydraulic Project Approval permit from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife related to the install.

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

- Kittitas County SEPA "DNS"
- Approved WDFW HPA
- Special Use Permit from USFS to adopt approved SEPA in lieu of NEPA
- Approved Forest Practice Application from WA DNR for harvest on Barbee Mill Co. Inc. lands.

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.)

THIS PROJECT IS TO BE COMPLETED BY AMERICAN FOREST MANAGEMENT (AFM); THE ROAD IS ADMINISTERED BY THE USFS; THE UNDERLYING LANDOWNER IS THE WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (WDFW). ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED HPA ISSUED BY WDFW.

USFS WILL SUPPLY THE 14' X 50' BRIDGE AND ABUTMENT SYSTEM, AFM CONTRACTOR SHALL INSTALL THE BRIDGE AS SHOWN IN THE PLANS. THE BRIDGE INSTALLATION AND REVISED ROAD SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED USING "BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES" AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH WSDOT STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS FOR ROAD, BRIDGE AND MUNICIPAL CONSTRUCTION.

BRIDGE IS AN EXISTING USFS STRUCTURE, MANUFACTURED BY ROSCOE STEEL IN 2005. AFM CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOADING BRIDGE AND ABUTMENTS FROM USFS LOCATION, THEN HAULING AND UNLOADING BRIDGE AND ASSOCIATED MATERIALS TO PROJECT SITE. CONTRACTOR SHALL ALSO MAKE ANY REPAIRS (OR ADDITIONS) TO THE BRIDGE DECK AS NEEDED TO COMPLY WITH SPECIFICATIONS OUTLINED IN THE PLANS.

THE USFS WILL RETAIN OWNERSHIP/CONTROL OF THE BRIDGE AND WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FHWA REPORTING PER SNBI GUIDELINES AND LONG-TERM BRIDGE MAINTENANCE.

CONTRACTOR SHALL HAUL AND PLACE ALL REQUIRED RIP-RAP, BALLAST, SURFACING (1¼"-MINUS) AND ALL OTHER MATERIALS AS REQUIRED FOR THE PROJECT. SUCH MATERIAL MAY BE OBTAINED FROM AFM CONTROLLED LANDS OR COMMERCIAL SOURCES. SUCH SOURCES MUST BE DESIGNATED AS "WEED-FREE".

TREES REQUIRED TO BE REMOVED FROM THE RIPARIAN ZONE TO FACILITATE BRIDGE INSTALLATION SHALL BE PLACED IN THE CHANNEL DOWNSTREAM OF THE NEW BRIDGE. LWD (LOGS) SHALL CONTAIN ROOTWADS WHENEVER FEASIBLE.

THE EXISTING CABIN CREEK ROAD SHALL BE BLOCKED TO VEHICULAR ACCESS SIMILAR TO AS SHOWN IN THE PLANS. EXISTING ECO-BLOCKS ADJACENT TO ROAD SHALL BE RELOCATED TO ELIMINATE VEHICULAR ACCESS INTO CABIN CREEK SIMILAR TO AS SHOWN IN THE PLANS. ALL EXCESS MATERIAL SHALL BE END-HAULED TO A STABLE WASTE SITE AS APPROVED BY THE REQUISITE LANDOWNER(S). ALL DISTURBED SOILS SHALL BE SEEDED AND MULCHED (OR HYDROSEEDED) TO PREVENT SEDIMENT FROM ENTERING THE WATERWAY.

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

The subject project is located in Township 20 N Range 13 E Section 21.

Lat/long for the bridge is 47.21743, -121.22178.

Site plans for the bridge replacement are included in WDFW HPA Application and included in this SEPA Document.

B.Environmental Elements

1. Earth

Find help answering earth questions[3]

a. General description of the site:

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

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

The steepest slopes around the bridge installation project range from 0-3%. Slopes within bankfull width of the stream may be steeper leading down to active water.

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.

The main soil type in the exact vicinity of the bridge replacement is Cryofluvents – Dystrocryepts complex. The parent material of this soil is volcanic ash and colluvium. The soil profile is slightly to moderately decomposed plant material in the top 1-2" of soil, then very cobbly ashy sandy loam or ashy sandy loam from 2-13". The remaining profile is comprised of stratified extremely cobbly sand to gravelly sandy loam.

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

The Channel Migration Zone of Cabin Creek is nearby, but this subject project is outside any influence from this feature.

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.

The following estimate of quantities are included in the General Site Plan prepared by Steven Faulker with Pacific Forest Resources:

- +/- 300 CY excavation (bank-run)
- +/- 150 CY compacted road fill
- +/- 90 CY waste (end haul)
- +/- 30 CY Rip-rap

[3] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth

- +/- 40 CY base reinforcement (12” minus)
- +/- 80 CY crushed surfacing
- +/- 10 CY 5/8 abutment bedding

Grading will occur as shown within site plans to regrade road and create sag points for road drainage.

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

Minor soil erosion may occur during bridge construction. This could occur during precipitation events while construction is ongoing or wind erosion during excavation activities may transport some finer dust and soil particles off site.

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

The bridge surfacing will likely either be hot asphalt mix or treated timbers. If hot asphalt is selected, there will be approximately 700 square feet of asphalt on the bridge surface plus another 350-400 square feet on the approaches. If treated timbers are selected, roughly 700 linear feet of treated timbers will be utilized. If treated timbers are selected, they will be approved for use near water.

There may be potential for untreated lumber to be used. This will increase maintenance needs but will alleviate WDFW concerns about treated wood in hydraulic projects.

There may be potential to utilize a gravel running surface on top of the bridge. This would likely be the cheapest option, but could pose issues from USFS about runoff and sediment delivery.

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

- Existing eco-blocks on site will be moved to eliminate unauthorized vehicular access into Cabin Creek riparian habitats.
- All disturbed soils shall be seeded and mulched (or hydroseeded) to minimize sediment delivery into typed waters at completion of installation activities.

2. Air

Find help answering air questions[4]

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.

Exhaust from excavation equipment and associated heavy trucks will be emitted, and dust from excavation and bridge installation activities will likely enter the air.

[4] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air

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

N/A

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

Typical exhaust and emission control measures in vehicles and construction equipment.

3. Water

Find help answering water questions[5]

a. Surface:

Find help answering surface water questions[6]

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.

The subject project will take place in and over Cole Creek, a Type F stream according to WA DNRs Water Type Map.

Cabin Creek is nearby, which is a Type S water.

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.

Yes. Site plans for the bridge replacement are included in WDFW HPA Application.

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.

Roughly 300 CY of bank-run material will be removed and +/- 30 CY of rip-rap will be placed in the stream channel.

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

A sandbag diversion of Cole Creek from the active work area to isolate flows for the duration of construction activities will need to occur.

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

[5] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water
[6] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water

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.**

N/A

b. Ground:

Find help answering ground water questions[7]

1. **Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

N/A

2. **Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals…; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

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.**

Precipitation may collect on the bridge and road surface. The road approaches and bridge itself have been designed to properly redirect water onto natural grounds. This runoff will encounter natural surfaces and eventually enter nearby Cole Creek either via filtered surface runoff or shallow groundwater.

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

None anticipated.

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

[7] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater

Minor revisions to road drainage will occur as a result of these proposed activities. These will help reduce potential sediment delivery to typed waters both directly from the road, as well as limit unauthorized motorized use by the general public that is bypassing the current bridge closures.

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

Sag points will be installed in the road on each side of the bridge. The road itself will be crowned to ensure rapid, quick runoff. If hot asphalt mix is used to surface the bridge, this also will be crowned to reduce the potential for rutting or puddling.

Mulch/straw/hydroseeding will be conducting on exposed soils after construction activities are completed to reduce potential for surface erosion and sediment delivery to Cole Creek.

4. Plants

Find help answering plants questions

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

☒ **deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other**

☒ **evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other**

☒ **shrubs**

☒ **grass**

☐ **pasture**

☐ **crop or grain**

☐ **orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.**

☐ **wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other**

☐ **water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other**

☐ **other types of vegetation**

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

Minor amounts of vegetation directly in the vicinity of the bridge replacement will be removed during construction activities, mainly limited to small, immature hardwoods and some shrub species. One conifer tree on the western edge of the project area will need to be removed to widen the turning radius and will be placed in the stream as LWD.

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

N/A

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

Grass mix and weed-free straw from local suppliers will be used on exposed soils to reduce sediment delivery to typed waters.

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

Common noxious weeds in the Cabin Creek watershed include knapweed, cheatgrass, toadflax, rusk skeletonweed, and various thistle species.

5. Animals

Find help answering animal questions[8]

a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

- **Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:**
- **Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:**
- **Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:**

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

A WDFW Priority Habitat and Species Report was created for this site.

Northern Spotted Owls are listed as "threatened" on the federal level and "endangered" on the state level.

Bull trout are listed as "threatened" on the federal level and "candidate" on the state level.

Other sensitive species in the immediate vicinity include:

- Westslope cutthroat
- Rainbow trout
- Summer steelhead
- Spring chinook
- Little brown bat
- *Yuma myotis*

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

Cole and Cabin Creeks are likely migration routes for local Rocky Mountain elk herds and mule deer herds to migrate out to and from lower elevation wintering grounds.

Fish species like westslope cutthroat, rainbow trout, spring chinook, and summer steelhead may use Cole and Cabin Creeks as both residential and/or migratory habitat.

[8] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals

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

The proposed project will only occur during approved work windows for in-stream work by WDFW and/or USFS staff.

Any large woody debris removed for bridge installation will be placed downstream of the bridge, with rootwads intact where feasible, for additional habitat improvements.

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

N/A

6. Energy and natural resources

Find help answering energy and natural resource questions[9]

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.

N/A

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

N/A

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.

N/A

7. Environmental health

Health Find help with answering environmental health questions[10]

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

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

Construction equipment could leak or spill hazardous materials, primarily petroleum products.

[9] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou
[10] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health

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.**

N/A

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.**

Petroleum products for vehicles and equipment operation/maintenance

4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

In the unlikely event of a hazardous spill, WA Department of Ecology spill response unit would be notified.

5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.**

Spill kits will be present on construction equipment and inspected regularly for leaks.

b. Noise

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

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)?**

Short term noise from equipment operation during construction will occur. Forestry and construction equipment typically generates noise ranging from 70-85 dB(A).

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

None

8. Land and shoreline use

Find help answering land and shoreline use questions[11]

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

The current use of the site is in riparian habitat, surrounded by working forestland and national forestland on a variety of private, school district, state and federal ownership. The bridge installation will positively impact these lands by allowing access to those lands for management, fire suppression, and recreation to the public lands by the general public.

[11] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses because of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

The land in the immediate vicinity has not been managed for working forestland due to its location in riparian habitat. Adjacent lands and lands accessed by roads available past this bridge have been managed as working forestlands for several decades.

No land conversions will occur as a result of this proposal.

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?**

   This proposal will restore access to lands owned by multiple entities (private, government, and a non-government organization) that is currently inaccessible due to the failed bridge currently in place.

   This likely will facilitate forestry activities associated with timber harvesting and road building including timber harvest, application of herbicide for site preparation, and reforestation.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There is a defunct, unusable log stringer bridge currently on site.

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

The existing bridge will be removed and replaced with the proposed new bridge.

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

The subject lands upon which the road construction will occur on is owned by WDFW.

The Kittitas County parcel # is 671934 and is zoned as "67 – Services – Governmental".

- **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

Commercial Forest Land Use

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

Cabin Creek is Rural Conservancy; The specific work area of the proposed project is outside of the SMP designation area.

- **Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

Multiple Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, wetlands, frequently flooded areas. We are actively working with WDFW and other stakeholders to avoid and minimize impacts to Critical areas.

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

The road building contractor would likely have 2-5 people working on site.

It is difficult to project workforce impact of the potentially increased forest management activities that could occur as a result of this project.

g. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

N/A

h. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

N/A

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

N/A

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

This bridge will help facilitate ongoing management of working forestlands in the Cole Creek watershed.

9. Housing

Find help answering housing questions[12]

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

[12] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing

10. Aesthetics

Find help answering aesthetics questions[13]

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

N/A

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

The sight lines of the road would be increased, which will increase driving safety on the road surface.

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

N/A

11. Light and glare

Find help answering light and glare questions[14]

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

Construction equipment may utilize lights when operating during early morning and/or late evening.

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

No

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

None

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

None

12. Recreation

Find help answering recreation questions

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

Cabin Creek provides opportunities for fishing, camping, swimming and wildlife viewing. The Cole Creek watershed provides camping, hiking, berry and mushroom picking, hunting, wildlife viewing, and cross-country skiing and snowmobile opportunities. These opportunities in the Cole Creek watershed are either not accessible at the moment, or access to them is drastically reduced, due to the failure of the currently installed bridge.

[13] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics
[14] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare

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

The proposed project would result in continued closures to the Cole Creek road system until the bridge installation is completed.

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

Work will be completed in an expedited fashion to minimize recreational impacts.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions[15]

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.

No

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.

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.

Project implementation will be conducted in compliance with any applicable recommendations from cultural resource professionals from WDFW and/or USFS.

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.

Project implementation will be conducted in compliance with any applicable recommendations from cultural resource professionals from WDFW and/or USFS.

[15] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p

14. Transportation

Find help with answering transportation questions[16]

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.

The project site is accessed by Interstate 90 (federal highway), Cabin Creek Road (county road), then NF-41 (Forest Service road). The work will occur within the right-of-way of NF-41, located on WDFW ownership.

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No. Nearest public transportation is roughly 16 miles away in Cle Elum.

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

The project will install a new bridge at the proposed location. Improvements to drainage, grading, and sight lines will occur around the bridge location.

Other grading and blading will occur further up NF-41 will occur to facilitate log hauling after the bridge installation is completed.

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

No

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

2-5 rock trucks may be used per day while construction is underway to bring in rip-rap, base reinforcement, abutment bedding, and crushed surfacing.

While logging activities begin in upper Cole Creek after the bridge installation, 5-15 log truck trips per day may occur.

It is unknown how much recreational traffic will utilize the bridge once installed.

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

The proposed bridge will help facilitate movement of harvested forest products from private and public lands in the Cole Creek watershed.

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

[16] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation

N/A

15. Public services

Find help answering public service questions[17]

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

No

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

No

16. Utilities

Find help answering utilities questions[18]

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

N/A

a. **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.**

N/A

C.Signature

Find help about who should sign[19]

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.

Type name of signee: Eric Koenig

Position and agency/organization: District Manager, American Forest Management, Inc.

Date submitted: **7/28/2025**

[17] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services
[18] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities
[19] https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature

D.Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet[20]

Do not use this section 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?**

[20] https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-d-non-project-actions

- **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.**