



KITTITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

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

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

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

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals: [\[help\]](#)

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

APPLICATION FEES:

\$600.00 Kittitas County Community Development Services (KCCDS)**

\$250.00 Kittitas County Department of Public Works**

\$430.00 Kittitas County Public Health

\$1,280.00 Total fees due for this application (One check made payable to KCCDS)

** Note:KCCDS and PW fees are waived if project is a VSP sponsored fish enhancement project.

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Application Received by (CDS Staff Signature): <hr/>	DATE: <hr/>	RECEIPT# <hr/>	<div data-bbox="1214 222 1507 428" style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> <p data-bbox="1279 436 1442 453" style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">DATE STAMP IN BOX</p>
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A. Background [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)

Non-project action: Kittitas County Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update

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

Kittitas County

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

*Kittitas County Community Development Services
Jeremy Johnston, Planning Official
411 N. Ruby Street, Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 962-7506*

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

December 11, 2020

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

Kittitas County Community Development Services

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

*Notice of SMP update tentatively scheduled for December 2020
Joint public hearing with Ecology tentatively scheduled for February 2021
Local jurisdiction public hearing tentatively scheduled for April 2021
Adopted SMP to Ecology tentatively scheduled for May 2021
Final Approval by June 30, 2021*

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

Ecology may propose changes to the draft SMP document which would require additional activity related to the final adoption of the SMP. Regular updates and amendments will be made, as required.

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

Additional environmental information has not been prepared, nor will be prepared, relating to this proposal.

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

No. The proposed approval and subsequent adoption of the Shoreline Master Program (SMP) is a legislative proposal, effective throughout Kittitas County.

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

Approval by the Kittitas County Commissioners, approval by the Department of Ecology, adoption by Kittitas County, and final approval by Ecology.

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

The proposed project is an update to the 2016 Kittitas County SMP. This update is in accordance with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act and is required by RCW 90.58.080(4). This SMP proposes amendments consistent with updates to state laws and rules, changes to local plans and regulations, and addresses new information and improved data (best available science). The proposed non-project action will contain goals, policies, and regulations to govern the use of Kittitas County's shorelines.

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 updated SMP will apply to shoreline jurisdiction in unincorporated Kittitas County. The Kittitas County SMP recognizes shoreline management as being lands within two hundred (200) feet of designated shoreline as well as certain wetlands, river deltas, floodways, and floodplains, in accordance with the Washington State Shoreline Management Act. In Kittitas County it includes all marine waters, streams with greater than twenty cubic feet per second mean annual flow, lakes twenty acres or larger, and upland areas called shorelands that extend two hundred feet landward.

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

1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

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

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

Rural areas within Kittitas County contain all of the 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 and/or eastern farming areas of the County.

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

Slopes within Kittitas County range from 6% slope in the valley 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 agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils. [\[help\]](#)

Soil types include ashy sandy loam, stony ashy loam, and rock outcrops in the Nimue, Chinkmin, and Vabus series. The most common soil classifications are for rocky outcrops and gravelly loam in the Malaga series and the Drino Fortyday complex, Sagehill-Timmerman complex and the Fortyday Drino Nevo complex. Typical soils in the agricultural areas consist of alluvium soils mixed with volcanic ash.

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

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 SMP, Comprehensive Plan, and the Kittitas County Code.

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

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 and regulations of this SMP, to ensure that such actions do not result in a net loss of shoreline ecological function.

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

No erosion will result from this non-project action.

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

No impervious surfaces will be added as a result of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA and would include a review of added impervious surfaces. In addition, development throughout the County is regulated by zoning that sets building coverage and establishes storm water regulations.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in erosion or other impacts to the earth, therefore no mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed consistent with this SMP to ensure against erosion, or other impacts to the earth.

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. [\[help\]](#)

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

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

Off-site sources of emissions or odor are not applicable to this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually and would include a review of off-site sources or emissions.

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

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 County Environmental Policy (KCC Title 15) to identify potential environmental impacts and applicable mitigating measures.

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. [\[help\]](#)

- *Gold Creek, Coal Creek, and 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.*
- *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, Columbia River, and Manastash Creek are the three major rivers in the area designated rural.*
- *Water channels used for irrigation, floodplains, and wetlands exist throughout the rural area and valley floor of 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. [\[help\]](#)

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 area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with applicable provisions of the updated SMP and 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. [\[help\]](#)

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 area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with applicable provisions of the updated SMP and Kittitas County Code.

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

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 area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the updated SMP and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

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

Floodplains exist throughout the Kittitas County rural areas. Most exist along major rivers and tributaries described in question 3.a.1 above.

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

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 area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the updated SMP and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

As a non-project action, the proposal will not discharge to groundwater. Future project specific development proposals within the study area that may impact groundwater will be reviewed consistent with the updated SMP 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. [\[help\]](#)

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

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. [\[help\]](#)

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

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

As a non-project action, no waste materials are expected to be generated and therefore are not expected to enter ground or surface waters.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal will not alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site.

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

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

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

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
 shrubs
 grass
 pasture
 crop or grain
 Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
 wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
 water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 other types of vegetation

Forested areas with various types of evergreen trees exist throughout the mountainous areas in the 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 shrub-scrub vegetation communities. Agricultural vegetation exists throughout the eastern valley areas of the County. Riparian vegetation is found in the wetlands along the Columbia River.

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)

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

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

- *This SMP update is a general legislative action applicable in all areas of Kittitas County. The SMP does not propose any specific activity that will affect any endangered species at any specific site.*
- *Kittitas County’s comprehensive plan contains policies that recognize the importance of habitat that is critical to the recovery and sustainability of threatened and endangered species. Additionally, Kittitas County Code 17A addresses specific code requirements regarding critical areas and endangered/threatened species, however the proposed SMP update does not propose any specific activity that will affect endangered species at any specific site as this is a non-project action. Future review will be required for any project specific actions.*
- NRCS lists the following threatened and endangered plants within Kittitas County:
 - *Anemone patens var. multifida*
 - *Astragalus arrectus*
 - *Cryptantha rostellata*
 - *Delphinium viridescens*
 - *Eatonella nivea*
 - *Erigeron basalticus*
 - *Heterotheca oregona var. oregona*
 - *Juncus howellii*
 - *Minuartia nuttallii ssp. Fragilis*
 - *Ophioglossum pusillum*
 - *Phacelia minutissima*
 - *Potentilla breweri*
 - *Sidalcea oregana var. calva*
 - *Tauschia hoover*

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

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

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

The non-project proposed update to the SMP is applicable to all areas of Kittitas County. There is no specific activity proposed at any specific site through this periodic review update process.

*The county noxious weed list can be found at the following site:
<https://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/noxious-weeds/documents/weed-list.pdf>*

5. **Animals** [\[help\]](#)

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

There are a wide range of birds and other animals in the county including: hawks, eagles, herons, shorebirds, and many others. Mammals may include deer, elk, beaver, bear, and others. Fish include many types of salmon and trout, and others. Critical areas including streams, stream buffers, and other sensitive habitat areas.

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

The SMP periodic review update process is a general legislative action applicable in all areas of Kittitas County as is the Kittitas County Code. None of the proposed updates are proposing any specific activity that will at any specific site. Future project specific development proposals that may affect birds, animals, or fish will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the SMP, Comprehensive Plan, and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

WDFW lists the following candidate, threatened, and endangered animals within Kittitas County:

- Bull Trout
- Gray Wolf
- Grizzly Bear
- Northern Spotted Owl
- Wolverine
- Black-backed Woodpecker
- Columbia Spotted Frog
- Golden Eagle
- Greater Sage-grouse
- Mountain Sucker
- Northern Goshawk
- Pileated woodpecker
- Prairie Falcon
- Sharp-tailed Snake
- Steelhead
- Western gray squirrel
- Black-tailed jackrabbit
- Burrowing Owl
- Common Loon
- Ferruginous Hawk
- Loggerhead shrike
- Sagebrush sparrow
- Sage thrasher
- Stripped whipsnake
- Townsend's Big-eared Bat

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

It is likely that portions of the County 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 is a migration corridor for migratory waterfowl, the Columbia River for bull trout, and the Middle Columbia River for steelhead. Washington Stare is also within the Pacific Flyway.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal will not impact wildlife and therefore no measures are proposed to preserve or enhance wildlife at this time.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

The SMP periodic review update process is a general legislative action applicable in all areas of Kittitas County. None of the proposed updates are proposing any specific activity that will be at any specific site. Future project specific development proposals that may affect birds, animals, or fish, will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the SMP, Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code. Non-native aquatic animal species are listed in Washington Administrative Code (WAC 220-12-090).

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. [\[help\]](#)

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, wind, or solar energy sources amongst others.

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

No solar energy use would be impacted as part of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to development permit reviews as well as County Building and Energy Codes.

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

Energy conservation features are not applicable as part of this non-project action.

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. [\[help\]](#)

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

- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [\[help\]](#)

Washington State Ecology maintains an online database of sites and facilities of environmental interest within Kittitas County: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/neighborhood/>.

These sites are generally located along Interstate 90 and generally include:

- *State Cleanup sites*
- *Federal Superfund sites*
- *Hazardous Waste Generators*
- *Solid Waste Facilities*
- *Underground Storage Tanks*
- *Dairies*
- *Enforcement*

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

Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission identifies two primary pipeline routes within Kittitas County:

- *Northwest Pipeline LLC*
- *Puget Sound Energy*
 - *<https://wutc.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=060d9e52b26a440a83bb1929c905ddb8>*

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

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

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

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)

No special emergency services are required for this non-project proposal.

- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)

No measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards are required as part of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of environmental health hazards and potential mitigation.

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

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

Kittitas County is primarily a rural county with very low noise levels. Existing noise levels in the study area range from very low levels in undeveloped rural lands to noise levels typical in small communities along highways and arterial roads. A few small-scale public and private airports exist within Kittitas County. Industrial activities associated with these airports generate noise.

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

No noise will be created as part of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of additional traffic that may result in added noise. Future planned commercial and industrial development may result in added noise.

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

Washington Administrative Code (WAC 173-60) establishes performance standards for all types of land uses and development and includes a maximum permissible environmental noise level and environmental designations for noise abatement. WAC 173-62 establishes noise standards for new motor vehicles and operation of motor vehicles on State Highways.

Kittitas County has established a specific zoning designation for airport industrial areas that are designed to reduce and control noise with building setbacks, noise separation buffers, and landscaping.

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 predominant land uses in the western part of the County include recreation, vacation and cabin homes, 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 throughout the County. The eastern area of the County contains public uses, including the Ginkgo Petrified Forest State Park's boat launch and park area, some foothills territory, and the Columbia River. The rural area consists primarily of agriculture uses, mining activities, sparse residential development, and some commercial and industrial land uses. While the comprehensive plan does not propose any specific activity on any specific site, identified land use designations dictate the types of uses permitted in areas of the County. Detailed land use maps are included within the comprehensive plan. Additionally, zoning regulations dictate the types of uses allowed in certain zoning districts throughout the county. No site-specific uses are proposed to be utilized through this proposal.

- 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 middle and eastern areas of the County in the valley areas are currently, and have historically been, used for agriculture purposes. The proposal to update the Kittitas County SMP will not result in any conversion of agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance. Kittitas County's Comprehensive Plan, specifically the Countywide Planning Policies and Objectives, Land Use, and Rural Elements identify these lands and outline policies, procedures, tools and authorities to conserve Commercial Forest, Agricultural, Mineral and other Resource Lands throughout Kittitas County and concentrate urban development in Urban Growth Areas and locations of more intense rural development (LAMIRDs). Detailed land use maps, including maps of Resource Lands are included within the comprehensive plan.

- 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 effects to surrounding working farms or forest land will result from this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential impacts to working farms, long term commercial forest, or other Resource Lands.

- c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)

There is no site for this non-action proposal. Structures located on developed land in Kittitas County include single and multi-family dwelling units along with accessory structures, commercial, industrial, and institutional structures.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)

No demolition of structures will result from this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential impacts to working farms, long term commercial forest, or other Resource lands.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)

There is no site for this non-project proposal. Kittitas County zoning classifications are discussed in detail within the County Code and maps of zoning classifications and future land use. These maps and figures can be found within the comprehensive plan and as part of the planning map library.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

There is no site for this non-project proposal. The Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan has seven land use designations: Rural Working, Rural Residential, Rural Recreation, Commercial Agriculture, Commercial Forest, Mining, Limited Areas of More Intense Rural Development, and Urban. The land use designations existing throughout the County will not be changed by this proposal.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

There is no site to this proposal. The Shoreline Master Program for Kittitas County includes five environment designations: Natural, Rural Conservancy, Urban Conservancy, Shoreline Residential, and Aquatic. The environment designations existing throughout the County will not be changed by this proposal.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)

A number of environmentally sensitive areas exist throughout Kittitas County 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? [\[help\]](#)

Over the 20-year planning horizon, it is anticipated that County population will grow by approximately 23,297 individuals for a total of 65,967 residents by 2037. These projections are based on Office of Financial Management estimates.

In 2015, it was estimated that 8,812 individuals live and work within Kittitas County with an additional 4,928 individuals working in County while living outside. In this same period, it was estimated that 6,713 individuals live within Kittitas County and work outside. Projections collected from the United States Census Bureau.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

Not applicable as this is a non-project proposal.

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

Not applicable as this is a non-project proposal.

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

The Land Use Element of Kittitas County's Comprehensive Plan identifies the existing land use conditions throughout Kittitas County, projects the land requirements to the year 2037 to meet projected population growth and determines how that growth should be accommodated. While not a project specific proposal the comprehensive plan does contain policies that discourages the siting of incompatible uses.

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

Kittitas County's Comprehensive Plan focuses population and employment growth in the Urban Growth Areas and implements policies to reduce sprawl and impacts to Commercial Forests, Agricultural Land, and other Resource Lands throughout the County. No effects to agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will result from this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential impacts to working farms, long term commercial forest, or other Resource Lands.

9. Housing [\[help\]](#)

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

While this non-project plan will not provide housing units, Kittitas County is planning for growth in population and housing over the next 20 years (2017-2037). Kittitas County expects 23,297 individuals for a total of 65,967 residents by 2037. Based on current housing stock, it is anticipated that an additional 8,611 units will be needed over the next 20 years (2017-2037).

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

Not applicable to this non-project action.

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

Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential impacts to housing. Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan Housing Element does include policies, objectives, and procedures to ensure a mix of housing with an emphasis on affordable housing types. No measures to reduce or control housing impacts are required of this non-project action.

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? [\[help\]](#)

No development is proposed through this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of building heights and materials. The Comprehensive Plan includes land use designations and maps, and zoning districts regulating building heights.

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

No views would be altered or obstructed by this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential building impacts to view sheds.

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

No measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts are required of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential building impacts to view sheds.

11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

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

No light or glare impacts will result from this non-project action. Growth and development planned for in Kittitas County's Comprehensive Plan may result in or generate additional light and glare including additional exterior lighting of buildings and infrastructure, and additional traffic which may lead to more glare generation.

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

No light or glare impacts will result from this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential light or glare impacts.

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

No light or glare impacts will result from or impact this non-project action.

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

No measures to reduce or control light or glare are required of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential light or glare impacts.

12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

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

A major portion of the economy for Kittitas County depends upon the recreation activity that occurs. Winter activities are prevalent in the western part of Kittitas County with abundant hiking, skiing, camping, fishing, and tourist opportunities. Rock and mountain climbing opportunities are

recognized nationally and internationally. Streams and rivers provide boating and fishing opportunities throughout the County in centralized locations. Kittitas County offers recreation opportunities for area residents and visitors alike.

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

As a non-project action, the proposal will 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: [\[help\]](#)

No measures to reduce or control impacts to recreation are required of this non-project action. The Comprehensive Plan Parks and Recreation Element establishes standards for recreational facilities to ensure future growth and development will not displace existing recreational uses and will benefit from the same quality of recreational facilities enjoyed across the County today.

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. [\[help\]](#)

- *Sites with national, state, and local preservation registration exist throughout the County including. There are 25 properties and districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places:*
 - *Beverly Railroad Bridge*
 - *Cabin Creek Historic District*
 - *Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad-Kittitas Depot*
 - *Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad: South Cle Elum Yard*
 - *Cle Elum-Roslyn Beneficial Association Hospital*
 - *Downtown Ellensburg Historic District*
 - *First Railroad Addition Historic District*
 - *Dr. Paschal and Agnes Gray House*
 - *Kittitas County Fairgrounds*
 - *Lake Keechelus Snowshed Bridge*
 - *Liberty Historic District*
 - *Milwaukee Road Bunkhouse*
 - *Albert Nelson Farmstead*
 - *Northern Pacific Railway Passenger Depot*
 - *Northwestern Improvement Company Store*
 - *Olmstead Place State Park*
 - *Ramsay House*
 - *Roslyn Historic District*
 - *Salmon la Sac Guard Station*
 - *Shoudy House*
 - *Springfield Farm*
 - *Tekison Cave*
 - *Thorp Grade School*
 - *Thorp Mill*
 - *Washington State Normal School Building*

- Two barns are also identified as part of the Washington Heritage Barn Register:
 - Storms Barn at 1011 Sisters Road
 - Page Farms Barn at 683 Goodwin Road

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

No site-specific evidence of Indian or historic occupation has been collected or discovered as part of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include an assessment of material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near a development site.

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

No site-specific evidence of Indian or historic occupation has been collected or discovered as part of this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include an assessment of material evidence, artifacts or areas of cultural importance on or near a development site including review of the DAHP database, map and GIS data reviews, and surveys if needed.

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

The Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Element includes policies, objectives, and procedures to avoid impacts to historical and cultural resources. Kittitas County recognizes State law protecting and preserving these resources including RCW 27.53 Archeological Sites and Resources; RCW 27.44 Indian Graves and Records Act; and RCW 68.60 Historic Cemeteries and Historic Graves Act.

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. [\[help\]](#)

Kittitas County's Transportation System consists of State Highways, urban streets, rural roads, and local collectors.

- *I-90, I-82, and State Route 97 provide the predominant transportation routes within the County. County and State roads 10, 821, 903, 906, and 970 also carry a significant portion of the County's traffic.*

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

Public transit exists between Yakima and Ellensburg to serve Central Washington University and other commuters. Additionally, a new public transit option through Kittitas County Hopesource is providing transportation between Upper Kittitas County and Lower Kittitas County.

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

No additional parking or parking spaces are added by this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include an assessment of parking to be consistent with zoning and development regulations.

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

Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan, Transportation and Capital Facilities Elements include detailed assessments of transportation infrastructure needs. Washington State Department of Transportation conducts independent planning for state highways in Kittitas County. As a non-project action this proposal would not require any new improvements to existing roads, street, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities.

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

As a non-project action this proposal does not use water, rail, or air transportation. Future growth and development as planned for in Kittitas County's Comprehensive Plan would use or be in the vicinity of water, rail, and air transportation.

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

As a non-project action this proposal would not generate vehicular trips. Most County roads maintain acceptable levels of service through the planning period, supported by expanded transit services and trail networks. State highway expansion projects are planned by Washington State Department of Transportation independently.

- 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 interference with or impact to movement of agricultural and forest products will result from this non-project action. Future development proposals would be subject to SEPA individually as well as development permit review by the County and both processes would include a review of potential traffic impacts.

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

This non-project action is not proposing measures to reduce or control transportation impacts.

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. [\[help\]](#)

This non-project action would not directly increase the need for public services.

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

This non-project action would not directly increase the 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 _____

All such services are available at various areas throughout the County.

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service,
and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might
be needed. [\[help\]](#)

No utilities will be needed as a direct result of this non-project action.

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: _____

Position and Agency/Organization: _____

Date Submitted: _____

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?

It is not anticipated that the adoption of the SMP will 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:

As a non-project action with no expected impacts to discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise, no mitigation measures are included in the proposal.

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

The new goals, policies, and development regulations of the SMP are designed to protect plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

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

The SMP is proposed to protect or enhance shoreline buffer areas by utilizing mitigation sequencing, conserving existing vegetation, and requiring planting of degradation buffer areas during review of proposed development within shoreline areas.

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

The proposal is not likely to deplete energy or natural resources.

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

No measures 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?

The SMP, as currently proposed, provides for review of proposed development within shoreline areas and requires addressing possible impacts to types of places described above.

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

The shoreline review process and development regulations include provisions to consider and address possible impacts to such areas and include avoidance and mitigation.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The updated SMP will affect land and shoreline use, by design. As currently written, the SMP would not allow or encourage shoreline uses that are incompatible with existing plans.

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

Adoption of this updated SMP.

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

This proposal is not likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

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

No measurements are being proposed at this time.

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

To avoid conflicts with laws and regulations, the proposed update of the SMP is being prepared in coordination with local, state, and federal agencies responsible for the protection of the environment.