

## WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

### ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

#### *Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

#### *Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

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

#### *Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

#### A. BACKGROUND

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

The proposal/project is an ordinance which if adopted would create a section in Okanogan County Code that creates special requirements for the legal operations of WATV's and increased penalties for the illegal operation of WATV's and ORV's off designated roadways.

##### 2. Name of applicant: Okanogan County Planning Department

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

Perry Huston, Director of Planning 509-422-7160 123 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N suite 130, Okanogan, WA 98840<sup>h</sup>

##### 4. Date checklist prepared: May 18, 2018

##### 5. Agency requesting checklist: Okanogan County Planning

##### 6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

It is anticipated notice of the proposal and threshold determination of non-significance will be published on May 23, 2018. A 14 day comment period for the threshold SEPA determination will be conducted with review of the comments received immediately following. The subsequent final determinations and the schedule for a public hearing on the proposal will be determined based on review of the comments received. If it is adopted the ordinance will be effective immediately.

Prior to the notice of proposal the planning department conducted outreach with the Sheriff's Office and interested groups to gain input on the initial proposal. This information was used to help shape the proposal published for public review.

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

There are no plans to at this time to further increase penalties for illegal WATV use.

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

The critical areas map was imposed over the map of proposed roads. The objective was to identify areas where the proximity to critical areas would lead to a high likelihood that damage could be caused by illegal riders leaving the roadway. This information will be used to determine areas where enhanced penalties for illegal WATV ridership would apply and to inform the placing of signs on opened roadways.

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 are no other applications pending or necessary to implement this proposal.

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

There are no other approvals or permits necessary to implement this proposal.

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.)

The proposal/project is an ordinance which if adopted would create a section in Okanogan County Code that creates special requirements for the legal operations of WATV's and increased penalties for the illegal operation of WATV's off designated roadways

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 current proposal if adopted will apply county wide.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR  
AGENCY USE ONLY

## B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

### 1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous,  
other . . . . . NA

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

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland. NA
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. NA
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. NA
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. NA
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? NA
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

The purpose of the proposal is to create a deterrent to the illegal operation of WATV's in critical areas. Where roadways proposed to be opened to the use of WATV's are adjacent to or traverse areas of unstable soil additional signage will be installed in areas where illegal riders can easily leave the roadway. In those areas illegal riders of WATV's would face double fines.

a. **Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. NA
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. NA
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: NA

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. NA
- 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. NA
- 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. NA
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. NA
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. NA

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. NA

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. NA

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. NA

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. NA

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

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

The purpose of the proposal is to create a deterrent to the illegal operation of WATV'S, especially in critical areas.

Signs will be erected in areas adjacent to critical areas where the roadway and surrounding topography results in a high likelihood that those riders operating their vehicles illegally will leave the traveled portion of the roadway. By reducing the likelihood that riders will leave the traveled portion of the roadway the possibility of disturbing the soil surface hence increasing the likelihood of runoff is reduced.

#### 4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site: NA

\_\_\_\_\_ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

\_\_\_\_\_ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

\_\_\_\_\_ shrubs

\_\_\_\_\_ grass

\_\_\_\_\_ pasture

\_\_\_\_\_ crop or grain

\_\_\_\_\_ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

\_\_\_\_\_ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

\_\_\_\_\_ other types of vegetation

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

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

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

## 5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: NA

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

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

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

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

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

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

The objective of the proposal is to provide a deterrent to the illegal off-road use of WATV'S and ORV's. By deterring illegal use habitat and other sensitive areas will not be damaged.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

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

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

- 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: NA

## 7. Environmental health

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

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required. NA

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: NA

### NOISE

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

- 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. NA

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

## 8. Land and shoreline use

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

- b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe. NA

- c. Describe any structures on the site. NA
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? NA
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? NA
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? NA
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? NA
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

The objective of the proposal is to deter the illegal operation of WATV's and ORV's in areas not open to their use. The enhanced penalties would be doubled in posted critical areas.

- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? NA
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? NA
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: NA

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

The objective of the proposal is to deter the illegal operation of WATV's and ORV's in areas not open to their use.

The enhanced penalties would be doubled in posted critical areas. The proposal would work in concert with critical areas

## 9. **Housing**

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. NA
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. NA
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: NA

## 10. **Aesthetics**

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? NA
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? NA
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: NA

## 11. **Light and glare**

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? NA
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? NA

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? NA
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: NA

## **12. Recreation**

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? NA
- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. NA
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: NA

## **13. Historic and cultural preservation**

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe. NA
- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site. NA
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any: NA

## **14. Transportation**

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. NA
- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? NA
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? NA
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). NA
- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. NA
- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur. NA
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: NA

## **15. Public services**

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

The Okanogan County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement on the county road system in conjunction with other enforcement agencies such as WDFW, USFS, and DNR. The objective of the proposal is to deter illegal riding by increasing

the penalties. It will be the responsibility of law enforcement agencies to enforce the proposed law if adopted. The proposal does not create an enhanced responsibility or create a more cumbersome process for enforcement.

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

If the proposal is successful the increased deterrence provided should reduce the incident of illegal riding.

#### 16. Utilities

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

#### C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: Perry D. Huston

Date Submitted: May 18, 2018

(Do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposal is not likely to increase discharges to water or the production, storage, or release of hazardous substances. While the goal of the proposal is to deter illegal riding it is not anticipated the proposal will result in a significant increase in the number of additional riders as a result. There will be no significant increase in vehicle emissions or noise as a result of this proposal.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

There are no measures proposed to avoid or reduce such increases.

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

The objective of the proposal is to deter illegal riding due to increased penalties. The proposal will require riders to remain on existing county roads already open to vehicle travel. By deterring illegal riding the possibility of impact to plants, fish, or marine life. The proposal does not create any new roads or open any roads not currently open to vehicle travel.

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

The objective of the proposal is to reduce impacts to plants, animals, fish or marine life.

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

The proposal will not deplete energy or natural resources.

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



There are no proposed measures to protect or conserve energy or natural resources.

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 objective of the proposal is to deter illegal riding due to increased penalties. The proposal will require riders to remain on existing county roads already open to vehicle travel. By deterring illegal riding the possibility of impact to sensitive areas will be reduced. The proposal requires the use of existing county roads currently open to vehicle traffic.

Damage to these areas will only occur in the event illegal riders leave the designated roadways and operate their vehicles in adjacent sensitive areas. The objective of the proposal is to minimize this possibility of damage to sensitive areas due to illegal operators.

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

See response above.

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 objective of the proposal is to deter illegal riding due to increased penalties. The proposal will require riders to remain on existing county roads already open to vehicle travel. By deterring illegal riding the possibility of impact to sensitive land areas and shorelines will be reduced. The proposal requires the use of existing county roads currently open to vehicle traffic

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

See response above

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

Law enforcement agencies such as WDFW, USFS, and DNR enforce regulation regarding the illegal operation of WATV's and ORV's. The objective of the proposal is to increase the penalties for illegal riding thus deterring illegal riding. It is not anticipated the proposal will increase the number of riders or create a more cumbersome enforcement process. No increased demand on law enforcement will result and if successful the proposal will reduce demands on law enforcement.

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

See response above

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

Law enforcement agencies such as WDFW, USFS, and DNR enforce regulation regarding the illegal operation of WATV's and ORV's. The objective of the proposal is to increase the penalties for illegal riding thus deterring illegal riding. It is not anticipated the proposal will increase the number of riders or create a more cumbersome enforcement process. No increased demand on law enforcement will result and if successful the proposal will reduce demands on law enforcement.

The objective of the proposal is to deter illegal riding due to increased penalties. The proposal will require riders to remain on existing county roads already open to vehicle travel. By deterring illegal riding the possibility of impact to sensitive land areas and shorelines will be reduced. The objective of the proposal is consistent with existing environmental laws.