

Brady Hamilton  
WA State Dept. of Natural Resources  
Northwest Region  
Forest Practices Program Coordinator

## 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:***

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.

## **A. Background [\[HELP\]](#)**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:  
**Martin Creek East Timber Harvest**
2. Name of applicant:  
**Nielsen Brothers Inc.**

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

**PO Box 2789**

**Bellingham, WA 98227**

**360-630-0725**

4. Date checklist prepared:

**9/2/2022**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**WA DNR**

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

**Harvest is planning to occur sometime over the next few years during the effective dates of the FPA and dependent on timber markets.**

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

**No.**

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

**County Soil Survey**

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.

**No.**

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

**DNR FPA FPA 2818749 is available on FPARS 9/9/2022 BH**

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.)

**~ 6 acres of approximately 70 year old timber will be harvested. An estimated volume of 150 mbf of timber will be removed and hauled off site.**

**Timber will be harvested using conventional cable harvesting techniques.**

**The area will be planted with commercial grade conifer seedlings.**

**FPA 2818749 indicates 5.7 acres to be harvested 9/9/2022 BH**

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.

**Timber harvest is located in the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Township 26 Range 12E Section 24. See FPA maps for more detail.**

**Maps are available on FPARS w/FPA 2818749 9/9/2022 BH**

## B. Environmental Elements [\[HELP\]](#)

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

a. General description of the site:

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

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

100%

**FPA 2818749 indicates that the steepest slope in the harvest unit is 90% 9/9/2022 BH**

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.

**Teneriffe Loamy Sand - 90%**

**Tinkham Rock Outcrop Complex – 10%**

**The two soils above are what the King County Soil mapping indicates is on site. These are not considered agricultural land of long term commercial significance and no soils will be removed.**

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

**Inner gorge and bedrock hollows exist on the site and are mostly related to the slopes leading into Martin Creek. These areas are identified as rule identified features under WA DNR rules and they have been excluded from the harvest area. WA DNR LSI polygons map show a pre-historic deep seated(>150 yrs) adjacent to the harvest area. See submitted FPA forms and maps for further slope stability information.**

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.

**No earth work will occur with this proposal. Road work was performed under an earlier FPA at the site.**

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

**Yes, some erosion could occur during timber harvest and timber hauling.**

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

**Less than 1% of the site area will be covered with impervious surfaces (gravel road).**

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

**The harvest will follow all procedures and rules related to harvest BMP's logging layout, WAC 222-30, and forest practice rules. No road sediment will enter surface waters. Cross drains and ditchouts will be utilized to ensure that all stormwater generated from roads will be infiltrated onto forest floor. Existing roads will be maintained to keep drainage structures and water patterns functional.**

**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.

**Minor amounts of exhaust from logging and road construction equipment. Dust from timber hauling and access to harvest areas. Landing debris may be burned once harvest is complete. Smoke from debris burning would be generated. If debris burning occurs proper permits will be obtained from WA DNR. No future emission is planned once project is complete.**

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

**None known.**

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:  
**If landing debris is burned, permits will be obtained from WA DNR and all rules and regulations will be followed.**

**3. Water** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 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.

**Yes, there are streams within and adjacent to the proposal.**

Name	Type	Number	Protections/ mitigations
Unnamed Creek	Np	1	50ft no harvest buffer, 56' no harvest around PIP
Martin Creek	Shoreline of WA State	1	140' RMZ buffer(areas with slope stability were excluded from harvest)

**The Np stream flows to martin creek and Martin Creek flows into the Tye river.**

**There is no completed watershed analysis for the Deception Watershed analysis unit.**

- 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, timber harvest will occur within 200ft of the waters listed above. See FPA for details regarding logging and road plans.**

- 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.

**None**

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

**No, this proposal has no road work around typed waters.**

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

**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.

**Waste material should not enter surface waters. There is always potential for heavy equipment failures however, but all equipment will have spill kits and will follow proper spill procedures if emergencies occur.**

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

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.

**No ground water will be withdrawn or discharged.**

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.

**Small amounts of heavy equipment waste material, oil lubricants, may be accidentally discharged to ground during operations. No waste will be disposed on site. All heavy machinery will contain and clean up spills in accordance with emergency spill policies.**

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.

**Stormwater runoff from existing road surfaces will be collected by ditches, cross drains and ditchouts and diverted onto the forest floor. All water control systems will be in accordance with DNR FP rules and using associated BMPs.**

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

**No waste material should enter any water during the project.**

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

**No, the drainage patterns at the site should remain unchanged.**

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

**Water will be controlled using existing road drainage systems. Ditches, cross drains, water bars will be used to ensure runoff is dispersed across the forest floor. Seed and straw will be used to cover any exposed soil during logging operations to prevent sedimentation. Roads are crowned and shaped properly to ensure drainage systems work effectively. Falling and yarding will be directed away from water systems. All operations will meet or exceed FP standards. Silt fences and other BMPS will be used when necessary.**

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

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

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

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

**A 2<sup>nd</sup> growth conifer and hardwood stand will be removed using an even-aged harvesting method. Merchantable timber will be removed from the site. Understory and middle canopy vegetation will be disturbed by logging and road building equipment. Leave trees will be left concentrated around potentially unstable features and RMZ buffers. Non merchantable trees will be left on site.**

**FPA 2818749 indicates removal of 150mbf of timber 9/9/2022 BH**

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

**None known.**

**None found per FPRAM 9/9/2022 BH**

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

**Conifer seedlings will be planted post-harvest. Existing plants on site will be left. Post-harvest disturbance, existing plants on site will naturally regenerate.**

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

**None known.**

## **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.

**birds: hawk, eagle, songbirds, grouse**  
**mammals: deer, bear**

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

**None known.**

**None found per FPRAM 9/9/2022 BH**

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

**All of Washington State is within the Pacific Flyway.**

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

**Forest practices stream buffers (No buffers, road drainage systems, BMP's, Leave trees, Slope stability protections)**

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

**None known.**

## **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.

**Gas and diesel will be used for heavy equipment during logging, hauling, transportation and road building activities.**

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

**No.**

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:

**None.**

## **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.

**None known.**

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

**None known.**

- 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.

**None known.**

- 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.

**Gas and diesel will be stored on site during the logging and road building operations for heavy equipment use.**

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**DNR Fire Crews, Emergency medical services, Department of ecology/King County in spill event.**

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

**All operators will have spill kits in event of hazardous materials spills and will follow proper spill cleanup procedures**

**b. Noise**

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

None.

- 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 will be created by timber harvesting, road building and log hauling operations.**

**This type of noise is common in these working forest lands. Noise impacts will generally occur**

**Monday – Friday, 4am to 6pm.**

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

None.

**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.

**Commercial Forestry. This proposal will not affect the land use of this site or any adjacent site.**



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?

**The project site has been used as working forest lands in the past, and will continue to be working forest lands after the 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:

**No.**

c. Describe any structures on the site.

**None.**

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

**None.**

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

**Commercial Forest**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

**Commercial Forest**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

**N/A**

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

**No.**

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

**None. The site will be visited post project to ensure that reforestation and road maintenance is adequate.**

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

**None/**

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

**N/A**

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

**Project is consistent with current planning and zoning classifications of the site.**

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

**Site will be maintained as working forest ground. FP rules and regulations will be followed including reforestation to ensure long term forest use.**

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

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

None.

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

None.

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

None

### **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?

No structures are proposed.

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

Portions of the timber harvest may be visible from highway 2.

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

Buffer and leave trees will help mitigate visual impacts.

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

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

None.

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 [\[help\]](#)

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

Hiking, biking, hunting, ORV use, foraging.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.  
**There could be some intermittent disruptions to recreation during timber harvest and hauling operations but these should be limited.**

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

Signs will be posted to inform people of timber harvest activities.

## 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.

None known. **Historic Site #DT00046 Stevens Pass Historic District and Archaeological Site #KIO0421 per FPRAM 9/9/2022 No conflict per DAHP 9/13/2022 BH**

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.

**None found per FPRAM 9/9/2022 BH**

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.

DNR FP Database was used to scan proposal for cultural issues.

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.

None.

## 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.

N/A

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.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

None.

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).

No.

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

No.

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

**Up to 25 trips per day could occur during peak harvest activity. Once project is complete the project area could generate a few trips a year for forest management purposes. All trips will occur primarily between 5am and 6pm on weekdays.**

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.

No.

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

None.

### **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.

No.

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

None.

### **16. Utilities** [\[help\]](#)

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,  
other \_\_\_\_\_


N/A

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.

None.

**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.

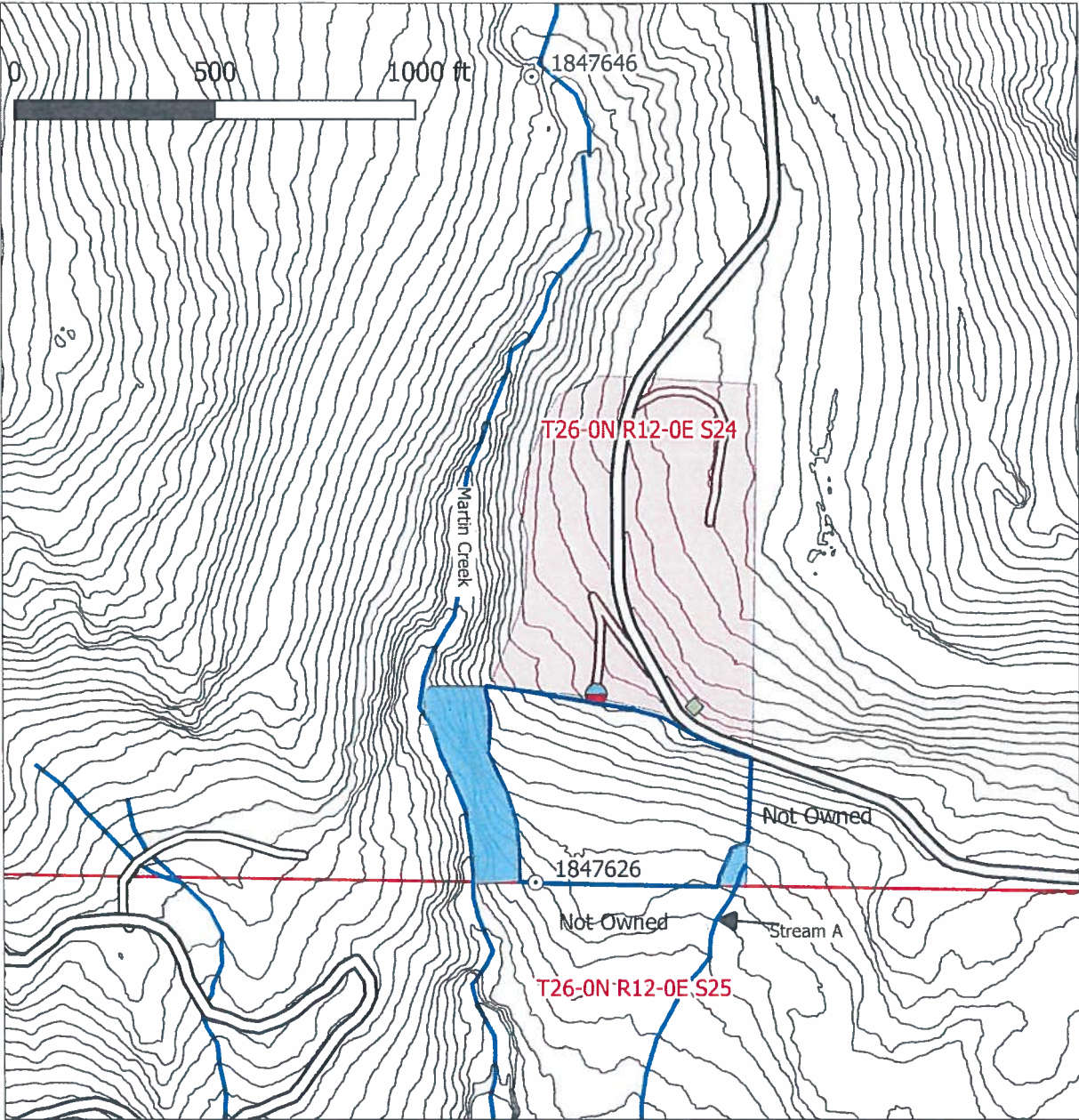
Signature: 

Name of signee Samuel Petska

Position and Agency/Organization Forester / Nielsen Brothers Inc.

Date Submitted: 9/2/22

DNR FP Activity Map  
 Township 26N Range 12E Section 24  
 King County  
 FPA#2818749



Martin East Harvest Area	Existing Roads
Harvest Area FPA2815317 - Replanted March 22'	Landings
Rockpit	20ft contours
Martin East Streams	Section
RMZ- No harvest	PIP
DNR FPA TICS	

1:4800  
 S.Petska  
 8/25/22  
 update:9/2/22

