

## **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: **Hamilton 24**
2. Name of applicant: **Bloedel Timberlands Development Inc.**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:  
**911 E Pike St, Suite 321, Seattle, WA. 98122. Chad Hielt, (360) 690-5259.**  
**Chadhielt@gmail.com**
4. Date checklist prepared: **2/6/2024**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
**Road Construction and Timber Harvest 2024-2025**
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.  
**GeoTech Report**  
**Geo Tech Report is available w/FPA 2819279 on FPARS 2/15/2024 BH**
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.  
**Forest Practice Permit, issued by the DNR**  
**FPA 2819279 is available on FPARS 2/15/2024 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.)  
**3950 feet of road construction and 84 acres of clear cut timber harvest. A number of Rule Identified Landforms are found throughout the project area. Most have been excluded from the timber harvest. However a few have been left within the bounds of the harvest unit. Class IV special triggers within the unit include sites LS-1 through LS-5 as well as their associated groundwater recharge areas from the attached Geotech report.**
- LS-4 and LS-5 are glacially deep-seated landslides noted in the landslide inventory. LS-1 through LS-3 were found on LiDAR and investigated in the field. The portions of LS-1 through LS-5 that are included within the proposed harvest unit support straight growing conifers and in-place old growth stumps and show<sup>\*</sup> evidence of movement after previous forest practices.**  
**\* "Show no evidence..." Per Chad Hielt 2.20.24 (as)**
- A one-sided inner gorge on stream C is to be crossed, during the construction of Spur 1. Armored, native fill will be used on the approaches of the crossing to mitigate any sediment delivery.**
- FPA 2819279 includes 6 stream crossings 2/15/2024 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.

**Section 7 in T36N R07E W.M. in Skagit County, WA. See attached FPA and maps.**

**Maps are available w/FPA 2819279 on FPARS 2/15/2024 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)?

**140%**

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.

**Sandun very gravelly sandy loam, which is a combination of volcanic ash, loess, and glacial drift.**

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

**History of landslides within and adjacent to the proposed harvest unit. Recent slides and areas of high risk are bounded out of the unit. See attached GeoTech report for details.**

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.

**Approximately 1.8 acres will be disturbed by the road construction. Small amounts of fill deposited from cut banks to level the road prism. Large rocks used for armoring fill in a stream crossing. See attached GeoTech report.**

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

**Yes. Cut banks and side cast areas could produce some areas of erosion. Road designed so any erosion is not delivered to streams.**

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

**Approximately 1.5 acres of gravel road which amounts to .018% of the unit.**

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

**Cut banks and side cast areas within 200 feet of streams will be seeded.**

## 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.

**Dust from the gravel road will result when hauling commences and fuel odors will be present during construction of the road and harvesting of the unit.**

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

No

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

NONE

## 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.

**A number of perennial and non-perennial streams drain the unit eventually entering the south fork of the Nooksack River.**

- 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.

**Logging cables will be suspended over several of the streams. Logging will take place within 50 feet of the perennial streams. Logging adjacent to non-perennial streams. Road construction will cross some of these non-perennial streams.**

- 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.

**No fill or dredge material will be placed in or removed from the surface water.**

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

No

- 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.

No

- 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

- 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.

NONE

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.

**Ditch water collected by the new road construction will be removed prior to stream drainages and will be dispersed to the forest floor.**

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

No

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

**Small areas of drainage pattern disruption could result from road construction.**

**Because water is removed from the ditch prior to delivering to drainages these areas would be very small if in fact they exist at all.**

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

**Sufficient cross culverts will be installed to ensure that ditch water is removed and delivered to the forest floor prior to intersection with drainages. This will reduce any drainage pattern impacts to a minimum amount.**

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

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other  
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other  
 shrubs  
 grass  
 pasture

- \_\_\_\_ crop or grain
- \_\_\_\_ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- \_\_\_\_ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- \_\_\_\_ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- \_\_\_\_ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?  
**All merchantable evergreen and deciduous trees will be removed other than those left in order to comply with Forest Practice regulations. Approximately 4,300 mbf of hardwood and conifer trees will be removed.**

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

**None known.**

**None found per FPRAM 2/15/2024 BH**

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

**No landscaping will be done.**

**FPA 2819279 indicates reforestation of Douglas-fir 2/15/2024 BH**

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.

Examples include:

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

**FPHCP Bull Trout Populations of Concern per FPRAM 2/15/2024 BH**

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

**None known**

**Within the Finney Block SOSEA but not within habitat or a MHR Circle per FPRAM 2/15/2024 BH**

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

**No**

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

**NONE**

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.

**Not Applicable**

- 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.

**Fuels used in construction and timber harvest machinery are the only possible hazards that are 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.

**None known**

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

**None required**

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

**None**

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.

**Construction and logging operation noises. These noises would occur between the hours of 4am and 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.

**Current use is the production of timber products on this and surrounding sites. Project will not affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties**

- 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 site is currently working forest land. No forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses.**

- 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 present**

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

**No**

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

**Forest Land**

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

**Industrial Forest**



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

**Not Applicable**

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?

**During the project as many as 10 people may be on site**

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

**None**

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

**NONE**

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

**After harvest the area will be planted and left in Forest Land Designation**

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

**Area to remain in Forest Land Designation**

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

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

**Not Applicable**

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

**Not Applicable**

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?

**Not Applicable**

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

**No views obstructed**

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

**None**

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

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

**Not Applicable**

- 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, Hunting**

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

**No**

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

**None**

### **13. Historic and cultural preservation** [\[help\]](#)

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

**No**

**None found per FPRAM 2/15/2024 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.

**No**

**None found per FPRAM 2/15/2024 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.

**A walkthrough of the area was conducted looking for evidence of historic resources, none were found**

- 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.

**New logging road will access existing logging road system and will access the public highway system at its intersection with the Crown Pacific Mainline road.**

- 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?

**Not Applicable**

- 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?

**Approximately 10-12 log truck trips per day for the duration of the project**

- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

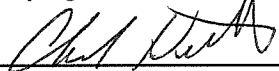
None available

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 proposed

**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 Chad Hiatt

Position and Agency/Organization Forester Bloedel Timberlands Development Inc.

Date Submitted: 2/7/2024

**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; pro-  
duction, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

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

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

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

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

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?

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

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

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

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

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

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