

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

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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: **Straw Bail Harvest**
2. Name of applicant: **Mid-Valley Resources, Inc.**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **500 Metcalf St. Bldg F5-E Sedro Woolley, WA 98284. Phone: 360-424-2014, Contact: Kellen Salseina**
4. Date checklist prepared: **10/7/2024**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Washington DNR- NW Region Forest Practices**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **April 2025 - December 2026**
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **Nothing at this time.**
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **Unstable slopes assessment.**
Geotech Report is available w/FPA 2819563 on FPARS 10/17/2024 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 Application/Notification (FPA/N)**
FPA 2819563 is available on FPARS 10/17/2024 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.) **Harvest approximately 93.3 acres of mixed conifer timber.**
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. **Please see maps on the FPA. Proposal is located on unimproved commercial forestland in sections 26 and 27 of T32N R07E, Snohomish County, WA.**

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)? **~70%**

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. **Oso-Getchell Rock outcrop complex 11.3% in AOI. Potchub-Hartnit complex 15-30% slopes 12.2% in AOI. Potchub-Hartnit Rock outcrop complex 30-65% slopes 46.5 % in AOI. Verlot mucky silt loam 29.9% in AOI.**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. **Landslide polygons 12017 and 12463 are mapped on the WGS landslide inventory in the vicinity of the proposed FPA. See attached Geotech report on sites 1-4.**

Site 1 is within an active convergent bedrock headwall. There are no exposed soils and the ground is saturated and supports devils club and berries. The conifers surrounding the headwall are bowed and the old growth stumps are tilted. The slopes in this area range from 70 to 85 percent. This feature was removed from the area proposed for harvest.

Site 2 is within an active bedrock hollow. There is exposed bedrock along the flanks of the headwall which are actively depositing bedrock into the hollow. This feature was removed from the area proposed for harvest.

Site 3 is within a portion of landslide 12017. The head scarp ranges from approximately 10 to 15 feet tall in places and is mostly vegetated. The majority of the landslide is vegetated by mature conifer, generally hummocky, has a smooth vegetated head scarp and has an established internal drainage network. There is a small, localized area of recently active movement adjacent to a stream where the head scarp has exposed glacial soils and is unvegetated. The landslide body near this stream supports mainly alder which is younger than the adjacent terrain and some adolescent conifers. The recent activity in this area is a result of stream erosion and is likely unrelated to the deep-seated nature of the landslide. In our opinion, landslide 12017 has an activity level of dormant-indistinct. *Geotech Report submitted w/FPA indicates harvest within a portion of the Groundwater Recharge Area of this Glacial deep-seated landslide 10/17/2024 BH*

Site 4 is within a portion of landslide 12463. The head scarp is approximately 3 feet tall, laid back and vegetated with low brush such as sword fern and vine maple. The body of the landslide supports straight mature conifer, mature alder and established drainages. The landslide does not show signs of recent activity and, in our opinion, has an activity level of dormant-indistinct.

Any other areas of potential instability near the harvest unit have been buffered out by timber harvest flagging.

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. **None**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **Potential for minimal erosion from logging activity. This will be minimized by residual slash left on the slopes and stream buffering.**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? **None**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **Appropriate harvesting BMPs and WAC 222-30 Timber Harvesting will be followed.**

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. **Normal exhaust from logging equipment.**
- 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: **Emission controls required by law on internal combustion engines.**

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, F, Np and Ns streams that are tributary to the N. Fork of the Stillaguamish 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. **Ground based harvesting will take place adjacent to buffered Np streams as well as across unbuffered portions of Np and Ns streams. If timber needs to be brought over those unbuffered portions they will be protected with BMPs.**
- 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**
- 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. **Storm water and snowmelt are sources of runoff. This will not be collected, but will be controlled through the use of logging BMPs. Surface runoff flows into the many streams in the harvest area.**

- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. **Fluid could leak from machinery.**

- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. **No**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: **BMPs will be employed to insure protection of soils in the harvest unit and drainage structures associated with the road network. Spill kits will be kept onsite and operators will abide by the Hampton spill prevention plan.**

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

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

- deciduous tree: **Alder**
- evergreen tree: **Western Hemlock, Douglas-Fir, Silver Fir, Red Cedar.**
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants:

- ___ water plants:
- ___ other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? **93.3 acres of merchantable trees on Mid Valley Resource property will be harvested.**
FPA 2819563 indicates harvest of approx. 1,399mbf of timber 10/17/2024 BH
- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. **None.**
None found per FPRAM 10/17/2024 BH
- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **Native plants will remain undisturbed in stream and wetland buffers.**
- 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, cougar, beaver, mountain beaver**
fish: **both anadromous and non-anadromous fish outside the unit.**

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. **Marbled Murrelet occupied site in adjacent stand on DNR property.**
Marbled Murrelet Detection Area & within 1.5mi buffer of Marbled Murrelet Occupied Site 10/17/2024 BH
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **Located within the Pacific Flyway for waterfowl**
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **Following WAC 222-30 Timber Harvest.**
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

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. **Gasoline and diesel will power vehicles and equipment for the duration of harvest 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.
 - 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. **Fuel and fluids will be in equipment onsite.**

 - 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **Medical services could be required for injuries, in the event of a spill cleanup could be required.**

 - 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
Operators will have spill kits onsite and abide by the Hampton spill plan.

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 normal machinery noises in a large tract of commercial timberland.**

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 timberland- no change.**
- 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? **Commercial timberland will remain as the use onsite after the project completion, there will be no change or conversion.**
- 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: **Surrounding lands are also managed for timber production and there will be no affects.**
- 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 forestland**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Commercial forestland**
- 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? **4-5 people will work on the site for the duration and there will be no residents.**

- 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: **Proposal is directly tied to existing and projected land use.**
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: **Established harvest BMPs will be followed.**

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? **N.A.**
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **N.A.**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **N.A.**

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

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

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

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

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
hiking, hunting, foraging.
- 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. **None**
None found per FPRAM 10/17/2024 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. **None known.**
None found per FPRAM 10/17/2024 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.
None
- c.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. **Should cultural/archaeological resources be observed during project activities, all work in the immediate vicinity will stop. The area will be secured and protected from further disturbance. The State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, the County planning office and the affected Tribe(s) will be contacted immediately.**

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. **Haul route from commercial private timberlands, through DNR, Mountain Loop Highway, other routes near Granite Falls and Arlington onto highway 530 to Darrington Mill.**

- 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? **N.A.**

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

- 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). **N.A.**

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

- 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? **Log trucks will be hauling 6-12 loads per day 5 days/week for the duration of the harvest.**

- 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**
- d. 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: **Kellen Salseina**

Position and Agency/Organization: **Forester, Hampton Lumber**

Date Submitted: 10-8-2024