

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

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

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

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

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

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

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Block#: 26N12W455**
2. Name of applicant: **Rayonier Forest Resources L.P.**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
116 Quillayute Road, Forks, WA 98331
Griffin Ollar (360) 463 - 4650

4. Date checklist prepared: **August 22, 2020**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **2020- 2023**
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

Yes, upon completion of timber harvest, site will be reforested.

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

**Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD*

Geotechnical Report prepared by Andy Caneday, a Licensed Engineering Geologist, on file at DNR Olympic Region Office or available online through the FPARS internet application review system.

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 Forest Practice Permit (FPA)

**Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD*

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.)

**Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD*

This proposal was initiated by Rayonier Washington Timber Company to even age harvest 109.7 acres of timber. The site is located in the vicinity of Nolan creek a Hoh River tributary, and is located appx 16 miles South of the City of Forks. Timber harvest will occur on or over unstable slopes including nine yarding corridors. These features are described in the geotech report along with analysis and recommendations for protection the unstable features.

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 Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD*

On Parts: Sections 23 & 24 in Township 26 North, Range 12 West, W.M. in Jefferson County, Washington.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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)? 90%

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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. **Hoko Gravelly Silt Loam and Narel Silt Loam.**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. **Yes, Inner Gorges and Bedrock hollows are present within and adjacent to this proposal. These features are associated with concave slopes and with the exception of the nine yarding corridors, are bounded out of the proposal.**

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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.

1075' of new road will be constructed requiring 1290 cu/yds of pit run rock will be used. Rock is from a local sand & gravel pit.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. **Yes, minor amounts of erosion will occur associated with road use as well as timber harvest.**

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:

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The cable yarding system that has been designed for this sale will require 19 yarding corridors where individual danger trees may need to be cut. Yarding corridors vary in size from only 1 or 2 trees being cut to upwards of a dozen. By utilizing this system we have eliminated the need for additional road construction on the site.

The geotechnical analysis included a visit to the site to review proper identification and proposed protection of inner gorge and bedrock hollow features.

Note: where "Point #'s" are listed in the recommendations below, the map showing these "points" is included with the Geotech report described in Question A.8.

The landowner agrees to follow all recommendations in the Geotech report. These include:

- 1) performing sidecast pullback along the 1721 Road near Site 4, Station 85+50-86+25;
- 2) performing sidecast pullback between approximate Station 90+60 to 92+00 (Site 7);
- 3) keeping the ROW harvest near Site 8 (93+10 to 93+60) as narrow as possible;
- 4) replacing the fill prism and culvert at the Type Np stream ck5b crossing (Sta. 84+75) along the 1721 Road.

Yarding corridor specific recommendations from the Geotech report:

- 1) Utilize a 70- to 100-foot-tall tower or another yarding design such as intermediate supports to achieve the lift requirements covered in Table 1 of Geotech report.
- 2) Tail hold across the valley on or near the road;
- 3) Yard tree length so that soft treetops are brushing the ground where the carriage clearance is between 40 and 60 feet;
- 4) Buck logs and limit the number of logs per turn to reduce payloads and increase lift where carriage clearance is less than 40 feet;
- 5) Make all yarding corridors as narrow as possible (standard forest practices);
- 5) Reduce carriage return speed when passing through corridors to minimize ground disturbance and/or residual tree damage;
- 6) To the extent practicable, fell all trees in all yarding corridors side slope within the feature to limit the debris slide initiations that could evolve into debris flows.

2. Air

- 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.

Insignificant amounts of engine exhaust from logging equipment and dust from the passage of log trucks.

- 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

- a. Surface Water:

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

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Comments*
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There are several type F, NP & NS streams that either bisect or are adjacent to the harvest area. All are tributary to Nolan Creek and the Hoh 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.

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Yes. Timber harvest activities will occur over all typed streams. Full suspension logging practices will be employed over type F & NP waters. Shovel operations and cable yarding will occur in and over type NS streams within the harvest units.

- 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:

- 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.
Water intercepted by roads will be diverted through cross drains 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.
No.

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

Follow recommendations listed in geotech report. Follow standard FP requirements.

4. Plants

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
 evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other hemlock, spruce
 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?
109.7 acres of second growth timber with an estimated 2230 mbf.

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c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.
None known.

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d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: **None.**

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.
None known.

5. Animals

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: marbled murrelet
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.
None known

Please see Summary of Comments 9/4/2020 CD

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

All of Washington State is considered part of a migration route.

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

Riparian and slope stability buffers will provide significant wildlife habitat.

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

None known.

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.

N/A

- 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

- 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. **No**

- 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.

Incidental EMS services may be required for the duration of the project.

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

None

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- 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.

Logging – less than 85 dba – daylight hours only.

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

None

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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 forestland

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?

Yes, working forest lands. None. None.

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?

N/A

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?

NA

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?

Zero

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

Zero

- 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:

Follow all applicable laws

- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

Follow all applicable laws

9. Housing

- 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:

N/A

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?

N/A

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

None

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

None

11. Light and glare

- 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?

None

- 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

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

Hunting and fishing

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

The proposal will enhance deer and elk hunting opportunities for the foreseeable future.

- 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

- 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 located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

No

[*Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD](#)

- 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

[*Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD](#)

- 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

- 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

[*Please see Summary of Comments* 9/4/2020 CD](#)

14. Transportation

- 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.

Proposal can be accessed via Hwy 101 and private logging roads.

- 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?

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).

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?

None

- 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**

- 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**

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

None

- 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

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: Griffin Ollar

Name of signee **Griffin Ollar**

Position and Agency/Organization Forest Engineer, Rayonier

Date Submitted: 8/27/20



Summary of Comments

I have reviewed this SEPA Checklist and have the following comments:

CO

A. Background

8. The Forest Practices Geotechnical Evaluation 26N12W455 Harvest Unit is available on FPARS with FPA/N 2616671.
10. FPA/N 2616671 and the associated Forest Practices Geotechnical Evaluation 26N12W455 Harvest Unit are available for viewing in FPARS.
11. FPA/N 2616671 indicates approximately 109.7 acres of even-aged and salvage harvest with an estimated 2,230 MBF of timber being removed using shovel, FS & LES Cable, and helicopter harvesting methods in three harvest units. The FPA also indicates approximately 1,075 ft of road construction and spoils deposits totaling approximately 1,300 cy are included. Three Ns and two NP crossing are planned (per Question 14 of FPA/N 2616671).
12. The location of this proposal is confirmed as Sections 23, 24 in Township 26 North, Range 12 West in Jefferson County, per Question 7 of FPA/N 2616671.

B. Environmental Elements

Earth

- 1.b. The steepest slope is confirmed in the FPA/N question 19.
- 1.d. The FPA/N, Slope Stability Informational Form, and Forest Practices Geotechnical Evaluation 26N12W455 Harvest Unit indicate that inner gorges and bedrock hollows are found in and around the harvest units.

Water

- 3.a.1. FPA/N 2616671 indicates multiple typed streams in the vicinity of the harvest units.
- 3.a.2. FPA/N 2616671 indicates harvest will occur within 200ft of type F and Np waters (per FPA/N question 25). Activities outlined in FPA/N question 15 will also occur in or over type F, Np, and Ns waters.

Plants

- 4.b. FPA/N 2616671 indicates approximately 2,230 MBF of timber will be harvested (per question 19).
- 4.c. FPRAM check indicates no potential conflicts with T&E plant species.

Animals

- 5.b. FPRAM check indicates the harvest area is within NSO SOSEA, but it is not NSO habitat. Additionally, FPRAM check indicates proposed harvest units are within a MM detection area and within a MM 1.5 mi occupied buffer.
- 5.c. Washington State is considered part of the Pacific Flyway; however no impacts are anticipated as a result of this proposal.

Environmental Health

- 7.a.5. If contamination is suspected, the proponent must contact the Department of Ecology.



Historic and cultural preservation

- 13.a. FPRAM check confirms no conflict with cultural historical sites or resources.
- 13.b. FPRAM check confirms no conflict with archaeological or cultural sites or resources.
- 13.d. In the event that any unknown historical/archaeological resources are encountered, ground disturbing activities must be halted and DAHP and local tribes contacted.

Chelsea Drum 9/4/2020

Chelsea Drum
Department of Natural Resources – Olympic Region
Forest Practices Coordinator