

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

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CD

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

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: **Block 18N09W020**
2. Name of applicant: **Rayonier Forest Resources LP**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: : Wendi Lubinus (360)589-2936
3033 Ingram Street, Hoquiam, WA 98550

4. Date checklist prepared: **September 10, 2020**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **ASAP**
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
Site will be reforested upon completion of project
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **Geotechnical Report prepared by Julie J. Dieu of Geo Engineers, A Washington State Licensed Engineering Geologist**
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. **Approved Forest Practices Application/Notification (FPA/N)**
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.)
Geotechnical issues related to the harvest of approximately 4161 mbf of timber in and near unstable slopes has resulted in the requirement to complete SEPA environmental checklist. Harvest around unstable slopes have triggered the need for this SEPA. These features have a low probability of delivery of sediment to typed waters. The geotechnical issues have been reviewed by Julie J. Dieu of Rayonier Forest Resources, A Washington State Licensed Engineering Geologist and a geotechnical report is attached to the FPA. The recommendations of the above stated report will be strictly adhered to during the harvest operations.
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.
Portions of sections 19&20 T18N R09W, W.M. Grays Harbor County Washington. Refer to attached vicinity map.

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B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site:

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

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **70%**

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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: **Astoria silt loam, Hoquiam silt loam, Lytell silt loam**

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

Inner Gorges are present and adjacent to 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.

None

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

All potential erosion has been addressed in the plan and should be minimal

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

The only impervious surfaces on the project will be the constructed roads, the roads are constructed with native rock and gravel.

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

We have removed from the proposed harvest those features which are likely to experience shallow-rapid and/or catastrophic failure – these include small inner gorge surfaces that occur intermittently along the valley walls (e.g., Points 21 and 36), and the head cutting, slumping sites described in Points 8, 12, 13 and 16. These features are naturally unstable and may fail, although the lack of significant failure visible through the record of aerial photograph suggests that failure is rare. It is not anticipated that this harvest proposal will accelerate these rare occurrences.

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 passing of log trucks.**

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. **None**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:
The logging equipment that will be used for this operation are equipped with emissions systems that meet current standards.

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.
- 2) **The proposal has unnamed F, Np, Ns type streams. All the streams are tributary of the East Fork Hoquiam river**

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- 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, cables will be hung over typed waters as well as timber harvest within 200 feet as allowed by Forest Practices Rules.**

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- 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. **Storm water and ditch run-off will be routed to the forest floor through cross-drains.**
- 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: **Cross-drains and silt traps**

4. Plants

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?
Approximately 4161 mbf of Commercial Timber

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

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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**

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: ravens, robins

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** ***Please see Summary of Comments* 10/2/2020 CD**
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **Unkown** ***Please see Summary of Comments* 10/2/2020 CD**
- 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**

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. **Petroleum products to perform the logging operations operations**
- 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
- 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
- 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**
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. **Fire retention services (DNR) Emergency Medical Services (EMS)**
- 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 equipment operating at less than 85 dba during daylight hours only
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: **The equipment being used meets the current emissions and noise standards**

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 Forest Land No**
- 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 is working forest land. None of the site will be converted post operations**
 - 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversized 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? **No**
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? **Commercial Forest Land**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **Commercial Forest Land**
- 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**
- 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: **None needed. This proposal is compatible with existing land use**
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: **None**

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?
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

- 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.
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

- 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**

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- 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**

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- 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.

Historic Maps and GIS data

- 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.

In case of inadvertent discovery all operations will stop and contact will be made with DAHP, affected tribes and DNR to develop a plan before proceeding forward.

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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.

This site can be accessed via highway 101, Wishkah road then through private forest 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, approx. 12 miles

- 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).

Existing forest roads will be maintained per Forest Practice Standards.

- 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: _____

Name of signee Wendi S. Lubinus

Position and Agency/Organization Rayonier Forest Resources L.P.

Date Submitted: 9/23/2020



Summary of Comments

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

CD

A. Background

8. The Geotechnical Report for Unit 18N09W020 in the East Hoquiam River Watershed is available on FPARS with FPA/N 2616720.
10. FPA/N 2616720 and the associated Geotechnical Report for Unit 18N09W020 in the East Hoquiam River Watershed are available for viewing in FPARS.
11. FPA/N 2616720 indicates approximately 166.41 acres of even-aged and salvage harvest with an estimated 4,161 MBF of timber removed using helicopter, cable, shovel, and tethered harvesting methods in three harvest units.
12. The location of this proposal is confirmed as Sections 18, 19, 20 in Township 18 North, Range 9 West in Grays Harbor County per Question 7 of FPA/N 2616720.

B. Environmental Elements

Earth

- 1.b. The steepest slope is confirmed in the Geotechnical Report for Unit 18N09W020 in the East Hoquiam River Watershed.
- 1.d. The FPA/N, Slope Stability Informational Form, and Geotechnical Report for Unit 18N09W020 in the East Hoquiam River Watershed indicate that inner gorges, bedrock hollows, and deep seated landslides are found in and around the harvest units.

Water

- 3.a.1. FPA/N 2616720 indicates multiple typed streams in the vicinity of the harvest units.
- 3.a.2. FPA/N 2616720 indicates harvest will occur within 200ft of type S and F 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 2616720 indicates approximately 4,161 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 no potential conflicts with T&E animal species.
- 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 10/2/2020

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