

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 [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: *ERMM*
2. Name of applicant: *Grays Harbor County Department of Forestry*
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: *310 West Spruce St., Ste. 100, Montesano, WA, 98563. 360-249-5071. Ben MacColl*

4. Date checklist prepared: *April 14, 2020*
5. Agency requesting checklist: *WA Dept. of Natural Resources*
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): *March 2021 – December 2022*
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. *Continued forest management as required by state law, in perpetuity.*
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. *Salvaging/yarding in or over potentially unstable areas. All other riparian and environmental protections are in place per state forest practice rules.*
 -Geotechnical report is available with FPA #2938197 on FPARS and at the region office. -JCT
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. *State Forest Practices Permit*
 -FPA #2938197 is available on FPARs and at the region office. -JCT
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.) *+/-25 acre even-aged harvest of timber ranging from 50 to 80 years old. Harvest area will be replanted within 2 years of harvest. Western Red Cedar salvage within same area.*
 -FPA #2938197 indicates 21.6 acres of even-aged harvest and cedar salvage (Totaling 798 MBF). -JCT
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 the East Half of the East Half, Section 8, Township 15 North, Range 10 West*
 -The proposal is also located in 9-15N-10W, Grays Harbor County. -JCT

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

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

a. General description of the site: [\[help\]](#)

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

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? *Approximately 83%*
- 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. *Silt loams. Proposal does NOT include removing any soils.*
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. *Yes. Slopes greater than 70%; convergent headwalls; inner-gorges.*
- 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. *Approx. 1,726 feet of new road construction, or ~0.8 acres, which includes grading and some excavating. All ridge-top roads. No filling is proposed.*
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. *No*
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? *Zero*
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: *Not harvesting standing timber on unstable slopes. Roads on ridge tops.*

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. *Diesel fuels used to run machinery and trucks during harvesting and road building operations. Approximate quantities unknown.*
- 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:

- 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. *Small perennial streams and the Elk River are near the proposed harvest unit, but are adequately buffered according to the state Forest Practice Rules. No roads or machinery will be near these waters.*
- 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, adjacent to. Please see answer to question 3.a.1) above.*

- 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. *Zero*
- 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. *Source is from logging roads. Water will flow onto forest floor and be filtered naturally by the soil prior to reaching any typed waters.*
- 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: *Road culverts, ditches, and ditchouts*

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

- a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- ___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

-FPA #2938197 indicates 21.6 acres of even-aged harvest and salvage removing approximately 798 MBF of timber volume. -JCT

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? *Commercial timber – approx.. 800 mbf; understory brush will be disturbed.*
- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. *None* -FPRAM check confirms no conflict with T & E plant species. -JCT
- 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** [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

- birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: *Ravens, songbirds*
- mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: *Dear, Elk, squirrels*
- fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other *Salmon*

-FPRAM check confirms Marbled Murrelets are within the vicinity. No conflicts are anticipated. -JCT

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. *Unknown*
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. *No*  - Washington State is considered part of the pacific flyway; However, no conflicts are anticipated as a result of this proposal. -JCT
- 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. *Unknown*

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. *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: *N/A*

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. *Possible fuel leaks from heavy equipment; Possible fire from logging activities*

-Any hazardous or toxic spill that occurs or contamination that is discovered will be reported to the Dept. of Ecology.

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. *None*

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

Equipment checks; hazardous spill kits; Water tank on site in dry weather

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

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

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. *N/A*

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. *Working Forestlands; 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? *Yes. No conversions are being proposed.*

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? *No*

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? *91 - Undeveloped Land (County Owned)*

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

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? *N/A*

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: *N/A*

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

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: *N/A*

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? *No*
- 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
- 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*
- FPRAM, USGS Historical Map, and GLO Maps confirm no conflict with historical sites or resources. -JCT
- 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*
-FPRAM, USGS Historical Map, and GLO Maps confirm No Conflict with archaeological or cultural sites or resources. JCT
- 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.
On-the-ground knowledge of the site

- 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.
Replanting within 2 years of timber harvest. DNR Forest Practices Permit

14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. *N/A*
- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? *No*
- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? *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 [\[help\]](#)

- 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*

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. *None*

C. Signature [\[help\]](#)

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: *Ben MacColl*

Name of signee *Ben MacColl*

Position and Agency/Organization *Deputy Director, Grays Harbor County*

Date Submitted: *9/2/2020*

Reviewed by : *John Tapley - DNR Forest Practices*

[Date : 9/22/2020

John Tapley | JCT
Dept. of Forestry

D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[help\]](#)

-This proposal is not a non-project action. -JCT

(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; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?
It would not be likely at all.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are: *N/A*

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life? *Trees will be harvested; Ungulates will have a grazing area with clear view of predators; birds of prey will have clear view of potential prey.*

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:
Following state forest practices rules.

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? *This proposal is providing natural resources; resources (trees) will be replanted post harvest, and replenish the site.*

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

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? *Rivers will be protected per the state forest practices rules*

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: *Follow the state forest practices rules*

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? *N/A*

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are: *N/A*

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

Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are: *N/A*

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment. *The proposal will NOT conflict with any local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.*