



## Skagit County Planning & Development Services

1800 Continental Place - Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Inspections (360) 336-9306 - Office (360) 336-9410 - Fax (360) 336-9416

### Environmental Checklist

**Purpose of checklist:** The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to also provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposals, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

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Required	Submitted
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**Fees.** Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ review fee due at submittal. (Publishing fees will be billed to applicants later in the application process)  
***\*All costs associated with the preparation of any required Environmental Impact Statements shall be borne by the applicant.***

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**Pre-addressed Stamped Envelopes.**

Applicant shall provide pre-addressed stamped envelopes for Owners of Record within **300** feet of all subject property lines.

- **One** set for independent SEPA applications.
- **Two** sets for **Hearing Examiner Special Use and Variance** applications.

### **Instructions to the applicant**

- Please describe some basic information about your proposal. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.
- Answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply". Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.
- Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline and landward designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.
- 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. This checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impacts. Attach any additional information that will help your submittal
- Please disregard **D. Supplement Sheet for Non-Project Actions** if you are proposing a project.

**For Non-Project SEPA proposals**

- Complete this checklist for non-project proposals, even though the questions may be answered "does not apply". In addition, complete the Supplemental Sheet for non-project actions (Part D).
- For non-project actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project", "applicant" and "property or site" should be read as "proposal", "proposer" and "affected geographic area" respectively.



**Planning & Development Services**  
Community Development Division

PL#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**

**A. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: Skagit County efforts to address endangered
2. Name of applicant: Skagit County Planning & Development Services
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:  
1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, WA. 98273  
Contact: Tim DeVries
4. Date checklist prepared: June 28, 2011
5. Agency requesting checklist: Skagit County
6. Proposed project timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): Planning Commission
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.  
No
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.  
None
9. Do you know of pending applications 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 proposals, if known:  
County Commissioner ordinance adopting Skagit County code amendments.

11. Give a 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 which ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.

A non-project legislative action to consider amendments to Skagit County Code (SCC) 14.04 Definitions and SCC 14.34 Flood Damage Prevention and SCC 14.24 Critical Areas. The proposed amendments revise Flood Damage Prevention and Critical Areas regulations in order to comply with the Federal Endangered Species Act as required by FEMA/NFIP.

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12. Location of the proposal. Please give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any. If a proposal should occur over a range of area, please provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Please provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map if possible. 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. *(Indicate if maps or plans have been submitted as part of a permit application.)*

The project area will be delineated by the boundaries of the Special Flood Hazard Area, shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps issued by FEMA, and as adopted by Skagit County.

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## B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

### 1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (*circle one*): flat, rolling, hilly, steep, slopes, mountainous, other (*describe*): N/A

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (*approximate % slope*)? N/A

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (*i.e. clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck*) ? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, please specify and note any prime farmland.  
N/A

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

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill:  
N/A

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

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

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

## 2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (*i.e. dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke*) during construction, and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.  
N/A

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

N/A

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- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts, if any:

N/A

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### 3. Water

- a. Surface:

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

N/A

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- 2) Will the project require any work over or adjacent to (*within 200 feet*) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

N/A

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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 are of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

N/A

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

N/A

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- 5) Does the proposal lie with a 100-year flood plain? Note location on the site plan, if any.

N/A

- 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.

N/A

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b. Ground:

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn or recharged? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

N/A

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- 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.

N/A

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c. Water runoff (*including storm water*):

- 1) Describe the source of runoff and storm water and method of collection and disposal, if any (*including quantities, if known*). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, please describe.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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☐ wet snippings: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other

#### 4. Plants

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

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

- ☐ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other  
☐ other types of vegetation.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

N/A

site: \_\_\_\_\_  
c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

N/A

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

N/A

#### 5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or known to be on or near the

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

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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## 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 needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

N/A

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- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

N/A

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- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal?

N/A

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- d. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, exposure to toxic chemicals, including risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

N/A

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- b. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

N/A

- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any?

N/A

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## **8. Land and Shoreline Use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

N/A

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- b. Has the site been used for agricultural purposes? If so, describe.

N/A

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- c. Describe any structures on the site.

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an “environmentally sensitive” area? If so, specify.

N/A

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- i. What are proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

N/A

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- j. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

N/A

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

N/A

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- l. What are proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement or other impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 9. Housing

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

N/A

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

N/A

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- c. What are proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 10. Noise

- a. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (*for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other*)?

N/A

- b. 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)*?

N/A

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- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 11. 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

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

N/A

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- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 12. Light and Glare

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

N/A

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- 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

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- d. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

N/A

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### **13. Recreation**

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

N/A

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

N/A

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- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any?

N/A

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### **14. Historic and Cultural Preservation**

- a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

N/A

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- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on the site.

N/A

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- c. What are the proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 15. Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

N/A

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- b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

N/A

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- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

N/A

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- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to any existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (*indicate whether public or private*)

N/A

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- e. Will the project use or occur in the immediate vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

N/A

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- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

N/A

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- g. What are proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any?

N/A

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## 16. Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (*for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other*)? If so, generally describe.

N/A

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- b. What are proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any?

N/A

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## 17. Utilities

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

N/A

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- b. Describe the utilities which are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities of the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

N/A

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## C. SIGNATURE

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

Signature: Tom Schum, CBO

Date Submitted: June 28, 2011

## D. SUPPLEMENT SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(DO NOT 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 effect the item at a greater intensity or at a rate then 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 or noise?

The intent is to reduce discharge to water by utilizing Low Impact Development options.

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

The proposal would add greater protection for endangered species and their habitat.

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

Limitations to how much native vegetation can be removed.

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

N/A

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

N/A

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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 farm lands?

The proposal would add greater protection for endangered species and their habitat.

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

Stormwater LID's to protect water quality and quantity. Limitations on removal of native vegetation. Habitat assessment requirements when located near endangered species habitat.

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?

The likely effect to shoreline uses would be increased requirements to protect endangered species habitat prior to shoreline project approval.

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

Stormwater LID's, native vegetation removal restrictions.

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

None

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

None

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

None

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