

# **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:***

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: **Sequalitchew Creek Restoration Plan**
2. Name of applicant: **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: **Cole Baldino, Salmon Habitat Project Manager, 360-464-0004, coleb@spsseg.org, 6700 Martin Way E Olympia, WA 98516**

4. Date checklist prepared: **31 December 2022**

5. Agency requesting checklist: **City of DuPont Community Development**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Implementation of the work is planned to take place following the award of all necessary permits which a timeline is unknown. It is expected that all permits will be notified within 2-years of submission. With this anticipation, one could expect construction to occur between July 15, 2024 and Dec 31, 2026 for beaver management and capital projects. Adaptive management and monitoring will take place in the years following implementation to insure proper functioning of the practices.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **Yes, adaptive management will be necessary for the beaver management and long-term maintenance or construction of techniques may be needed. Also, contingent projects such as ravine habitat may be necessary in later phases.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. **All environmental information can be found within the Sequalitchew Creek Restoration Plan and Sequalitchew Creek Restoration Plan Design, and Sequalitchew Creek Restoration Plan Basis of Design Report.**

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. **Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Programmatic Permit (Likely NWP 27 Phased) from the Army Corps of Engineers Seattle Branch Division and Critical Areas Permit from City of DuPont.**

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.) **This project is geared to restore year-round flows in Sequalitchew Creek from Sequalitchew Lake to the mouth as well as restore full fish passage throughout the system to support natural life history stages of native salmonids. This will be done using beaver management techniques (see Scope of Work for design details) across the 167-acre Edmonds Marsh, a series of fish passage capital projects from the Sequalitchew Creek Trailhead to Steilacoom-DuPont Rd. The total stream miles are X and acres are X.**

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. **This project will take place across the entirety of Edmonds Marsh in the City of DuPont. Projects will range from Steilcoom-DuPont Road downstream to the Sequilitchew Creek Trailhead crossing at DuPont City Hall. See Attachment 1 in Scope of Work for map of projects, exact locations and GPS coordinates.**

## **B. Environmental Elements** [\[HELP\]](#)

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

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other \_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **The steepest slope on the site is less than 1%. This system is very flat.**

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. **Generally, wetland soils are found within the site since most of the soil is saturated year round.**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. **There is no history or signs of unstable soils.**

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. **The filling and grading proposed has a minimal footprint and will be confined to the Losing Reach project found in the planset. The fill will be fine material brought in from within the watershed curtosiy of CalPortland. The goal of thios fill and grading approach will be to retain surface water flows and connection through the reach. Currently, all surface water is lost underground and the goal is to keep this water on the surface to allow fish passage and year round surface flows.**

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)? **0%**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: **An approved Erosion and Sediment Control Plan will be submitted and followed during construction.**

### **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. **None**
- 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: **None**

### 3. **Water** [\[help\]](#)

#### a. Surface Water: [\[help\]](#)

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into. **Yes, the project is proposed to take place within boundaries of Sequalitchew Creek, more specifically Edmonds Marsh and Sequalitchew Creek mainstem.**
- 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, please see Scope of Work for design concepts. These practices are in-stream techniques to restore wetland/stream function, fish passage, water quality and improve salmon life histories.**
- 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. **Anywhere from 1,000 to 8,000 CY of fill will be placed in the Losing Reach (Design page #).**
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **Sections of the channel are currently dry year-round. Those with surface water flows will have a temporary bypass to allow for construction to occur in the channel during an approved work window. All bypass/diversion will be temporary and only for construction.**
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. **Yes, the proposal is within the 100-year floodplain.**

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. **None**

b. Ground Water: [\[help\]](#)

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. **None**

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. **This project will occur in state open waters and therefore have no stormwater management. No water will leave the system and will remain in Sequalitchew Creek. There will be no external source of runoff caused by the project.**

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: **No impacts will occur to surface, ground, and runoff water or drainage patterns during the project.**

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

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

☒X deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other  
☒X evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other  
☒X 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? **A minimal footprint of vegetation will be impacted during construction of the fish passable structures. Please see the attached Arborist Report for further details.**

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

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.  
**Reed Canary Grass and Japanese Knotweed**

## 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. **Beavers, deer, heron, coyote, nutria, otter, mink and western waterfowl and songbirds.**

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

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**

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. **The site is part of the Pacific Flyway, a migratory corridor for waterfowl and other avian species. The watershed currently does not have a salmon population, but historically was home to natal coho and chum salmon, in which this project is geared towards restoring.**

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: **The entirety of the project will enhance wildlife through improved year-round flow and full fish passage through Sequelitchew Creek. All projects will benefit beavers, salmon, and all other wildlife.**

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. **None**

## 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. **None**

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. **No**

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any: **None**

## 7. *Environmental Health* [\[help\]](#)

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe. **None**

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: **None**

### 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. **None**

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. **The current use of the site is open space-critical areas as it is a wetland/stream channel. The surrounding area is R5 – Residential 5**
- 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? **No**
- 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? **Open Space**
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? **178 Open Space**
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? **Sequalitchew Creek has mean annual flows too low to be considered part of the City's shoreline jurisdiction, but it plays an important role in the nearshore environment of the Nisqually Reach, providing fresh water and sediment inputs, and supporting runs of non-natal anadromous fish.**
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. **This area has been designated as critical area by Pierce County due to its designation as a wetland.**



- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? **0**
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? **0**
- 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**
- m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: **None**

## 9. *Housing* [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **None**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. **None**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: **None**

## 10. *Aesthetics* [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? **No structures will be built.**
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? **None**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: **None**

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

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

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?  
**Walking trails are throughout the project area.**
- 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. The proposed practices will improve recreation and help protect the integrity and flooding of the trail systems.**

**13. Historic and cultural preservation** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers ? If so, specifically describe. **None**
- 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**
- 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**

#### 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. **None**
- 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? **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). **None**
- e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. **Yes, this will occur within water.**
- 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: **None**  
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system,

other \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of signee **Cole**  
Position and Agency/Organization **Baldino**  
Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Digitally signed by Cole Baldino**  
**Date: 2023.06.21 10:27:06 -07'00'**

### D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[HELP\]](#)

(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?

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?

Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are: **This project will greatly benefit plants, animals, and marine life by restoring year-round flow from Sequelitchew Lake to the Puget Sound.**

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

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are: **N/A**

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?

Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are: **This project would improve, restore, and protect the environmentally sensitive area such as the Edmonds Marsh wetland and Sequelitchew Creek.**

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?

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?

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. **N/A**