

**ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST**  
**WAC 197-11-960**

*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 from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must 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 if 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 landmark 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. 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.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject 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.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

**A. BACKGROUND**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

SMP UPDATE

2. Applicant:

Name: Town of Ruston

Address: 5117 N Winnifred, Ruston, WA 98407

Phone: 253-759-3544

3. Representative/Contact Person:

Name: Rob White, Town Planner

Address: 5117 N Winnifred Street, Ruston, WA 98407

Phone: 253-759-3544

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SEPA # SMP UPDATE

Case # N/A

Related Cases: N/A

Date Received: 6/17/2011

By: Rob White, Town Planner

Submittal:

Complete ☒ Incomplete ☐

Information Requested:

EVALUATION FOR  
AGENCY USE ONLY

4. Date checklist prepared: 6/17/2011
5. Agency requesting checklist: Town of Ruston
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):  
This is not a project, but a set of proposed development regulations for shoreline areas within Ruston, which are scheduled to be presented to the Town Council for review sometime before the spring of 2012.
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.  
This question is project specific and does not apply.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.  
The Best Available Science (BAS) documents relating to State identified shoreline areas were used in the preparation of these regulations and are listed in the various reports and draft documents available on the project website ([www.rustonwa.org](http://www.rustonwa.org)).
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.  
This question is project specific and does not apply.
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.  
No permits, as this is a non-project action. However, the State DOE must endorse and approve of these proposed regulations before they are adopted by the Town in 2012.
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 is a non-project action and contains proposed land development regulations that will apply to all land, public and private, within the identified shoreline jurisdiction of the Town of Ruston that is developed or redeveloped in the future, and covers land within 200 feet landward of the Ordinary High Watermark (OHW) of Commencement Bay.

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 is a non-project action which will be applicable to all lands located within the shoreline jurisdiction.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a) General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.  
Other
- b) What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
- 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 prime farmland.
- d) Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.
- e) Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
- f) Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
- g) About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
- h) Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

## D. SUPPLEMENTAL 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 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?

The proposed new shoreline regulations are intended to reduce these impacts.

- a) 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?

The shoreline regulations are intended to have a positive effect on plants, animals, fish or marine life.

- a) Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:

N/A

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

The shoreline regulations are not at all likely to deplete energy or natural resources.

- a) 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?

The proposed new shoreline regulations would definitely affect all environmentally sensitive areas within the shoreline jurisdiction in a positive fashion by providing a higher level or standard for development as it's goal is to achieve "no net loss" of environmental functions.

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

N/A

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?

Addressing land uses within the shoreline is a key part of the SMP update. Uses along the shoreline will be regulated consistently with the SMA and the Town of Ruston's Comprehensive Plan.

- a) Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:
6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?
- Impacts to transportation, public services and utilities are not expected to result from the SMP update.

- 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 proposed SMP update is consistent with local, state, and federal laws and requirements.

E. 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: Bob White, Town Planner

Date Submitted: 6/17/2011