

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

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Purpose of Checklist:

KING COUNTY D.P.E.R.

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Chapter 43.21 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 the 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 question 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 the your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or to 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.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Elk Heights Pit
2. Name of applicant:
Elk Heights Pit
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
Mr. Jason Moe
President
Elk Heights Pit
22710 SE Lake Francis Road
Maple Valley, Washington 98038
Phone: (425) 432-5040
4. Date checklist prepared:
April 20, 2016
5. Agency requesting checklist:
King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
The project will begin with permit approval and will continue for up to five years. Excavation and filling activities will generally coincide with the construction season during the drier times of the year. Less activity is anticipated during winter months.
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.
Technical Information Report Elk Heights Pit Prepared for Elk Heights Pit by R.B. Engineering, April, 2016 (Appendix A)

Critical Areas Report Parcel No. 3323069080, King County, Washington Prepared for Elk Heights Excavation by Sewall Wetland Consulting, Inc, January 2014 (Appendix B)

Geology and Ground Water underlying the proposed Elk Heights Pit/Backfill Project Prepared for Elk Heights Excavation by Bennett Consulting, PLLC, April 2016 (Appendix C)

Ground Water Mounding Analysis Prepared for Elk Heights Pit by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc. April 2016 (Appendix D)

Traffic Impact Scoping Analysis Prepared for Elk Heights Pit by SCJ Alliance Consulting Services, April 2016 (Appendix E)

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.

None Known.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

King County DPER

Grading and Clearing Permit

Washington State Department of Ecology

NPDES Permit

Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Surface Mine Reclamation Permit

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 agency may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

Project Location and Access

The subject property is located along the north side of SE Lake Francis Road about 2 air miles north of the City of Maple Valley (Figure 1). The site comprises about 23 acres; a 150-foot wide Bonneville transmission line easement crosses the northern portion of the property. South of the transmission line the site is zoned for mineral extraction and the north half of the property is zoned RA 5. The Lake Francis gravel pit lies directly south of the property, and the Cedar Shores gravel pit is located about ½ mile west of the property. Pacific Topsoil's soil recycling project is located on an adjacent parcel to the west. Access to the project area will be directly from SE Lake Francis Road.

Site Characteristics

The project area is located within a broad upland plateau that lies along the northeast side of the Cedar River Valley. The southern quarter of the property is relatively flat at an elevation of about 500 feet and is forested with stands of medium sized second to third growth Douglas fir and an understory of ferns, vines and brush. About 500 feet north of SE Lake Francis road, the property slopes steeply down to the north to the lower northern portion of the property that lays at an elevation of about 400 feet. The northern portion of the property is also rather flat and is characterized by a Category II wetland at its northeastern end. The northern lower portion of the property is forested primarily with red alder and other hardwoods.

The subject site is underlain by a six-inch thick zone of organic topsoil and forest duff that has developed atop well-drained subsoil consisting of gravelly sandy loam. Gravelly outwash has been encountered beneath the site to depths in excess of 20 feet.

Proposed Action

The purpose of the project is to create a site for importing clean fill soil from excavation projects sites in the surrounding area. The project will consist of the following: 1) segmental site improvement, 2) segmental gravel excavation and fill placement, and 3)

reclamation and re-vegetation.

- 1) **Site Improvement:** This work will consist of constructing permanent access to the site from SE Lake Francis Road followed by temporary roads around the perimeter of proposed backfill area. This will be followed harvesting the onsite timber and stripping the topsoil. The stripped topsoil will be stored in stockpiles on the lower northern portion of the site. Permanent storm water infiltration ponds will then be constructed at the lower northern portion of the project area
- 2) **Gravel Excavation and Fill Placement:** It is anticipated that during the life of the project 25-yard tandem truck and trailer rigs will transport clean import fill soil to the site from excavation projects in the surrounding area. The trucks will enter the site via the new access on SE Lake Francis Road and transport their loads to an active excavation/fill area. The trucks will then backhaul excavated gravel from the site to offsite construction projects. Offloaded soil will be placed with a dozer and compacted into the excavated area, which will be up to a maximum of 60-feet deep. At peak production, up to about 125 truckloads, or 3,000 yards of fill will be placed daily during the construction season. During the winter months less activity is anticipated with extended periods where little or no fill will be placed on a daily basis.

At any given time about three people could be engaged in the filling activities during peak production. The number of persons involved in the operation would vary by time of year and activity undertaken.

- 3) **Reclamation:** The site will be backfilled up to an elevation of about 520 feet (msl) with a maximum final slope gradient of 2H:1V (horizontal:vertical). Once backfilling is complete revegetation will begin in stages; as the final fill elevation is achieved within a given area slopes will be hydro-seeded as soon as possible with an appropriate grass-legume mixture. Eventually a broad flat area will be created through backfilling. This flat area will be either armored with rock or hydro-seeded for erosion protection and left bare, as the subsequent land use here could be heavy equipment parking. Storm water infiltration ponds will be left in place following reclamation.
12. Location of 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 topographical 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 applications related to this checklist.

The project area is located in NW NE Section 33, Township 23 North, Range 6 East, Willamette Meridian. The site is two air miles north of the City of Maple Valley in unincorporated King County. The approximate street address is 22610 SE Lake Francis Road, Maple Valley, WA 98038.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountains, other.
The site consists of an upper flat southern portion at an elevation of 500 feet and a lower flat northern portion at an elevation of about 400 feet. A steep slope in the central part of the property connects the two parts of the property.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?
The steep slope that connects the two parts of the property has a gradient of about 67 percent over a vertical height of about 60 feet.
- b. What general types of soils (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.
The U.S. Soil Classification Service (SCS) has mapped Alderwood gravelly sandy loam (AgC) soil, 8% to 15% slopes on the upper southern part of the property. Everett gravelly sandy load (EvC) soil, 5% to 15% slopes on the lower northern portion of the site. The steep slope between these parts of the property has been mapped as Alderwood and Kitsap soils (AkF), very steep.
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity?
If so, describe.
No.
- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.
Over the approximate 5-year life of the project around 600,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel will be excavated from the upper south portion of the site with the simultaneous placement of 1,000,000 cubic yards imported fill soil. The fill will come from construction projects in the area and will consist mostly of glacial till (gravelly, silty sand).
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
The most likely source of erosion would be from the imported fill, prior to re-vegetation, with little possibility of offsite sediment transport. Any erosion would be contained by a perimeter trench and would remain within the site boundaries, as the project area is flat, well drained, and without nearby drainages. Segmental re-vegetation of the site as the project advances will minimize erosion.
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
There are and will be no impervious surfaces constructed at the site.
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
An interceptor trench will be constructed around each segment of the project and ultimately around the entire area of proposed backfilling. These trenches will drain past a series of sediment traps and ultimately discharge into an infiltration ponds at the north end of the property. Re-vegetation of final slopes in stages as the project

advances will further minimize erosion. In addition a 50-foot forested buffer will also be left around the project area. These items along with the flat well-drained character of the surrounding land should effectively control sediment transport.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from this 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.

There will be an increase in diesel exhaust from the truck traffic hauling soil to the site, as well as an increase dust levels during the dry times of the year.

- 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:

All heavy equipment will be maintained in good working order to minimize exhaust impacts. Onsite driving surfaces will be armored with rock and watered on an as-needed basis to reduce the impact of additional dust.

3. Water

- a. Surface:

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. There is a Category II wetland in the northeastern portion of the property (see attached wetland report in Appendix B). This is a ground water wetland with no surface flow to any river or stream. The Cedar River, a fish-bearing stream is located about ½ mile southwest of the project area.

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.

No.

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 the 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:**

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn, or 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 such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

There will be no waste material discharged by this project.

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

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.

Runoff from the project area will be directed via ditches with check dams toward an infiltration pond at the north end of the property. (Refer to TIR, Appendix A). The highly permeable nature of the surrounding native soil will make offsite runoff unlikely.

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

No, there will be no waste material used in this project.

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

Perimeter ditches, infiltration ponds, along with segmental revegetation.

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

☐ crop or grain

☐ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, 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?

Vegetation removed will include 25 year old Douglas fir, Alder, and underlying brush.

- c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
There are no federal or state threatened, endangered, or sensitive plant species known to exist on the property.
- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:
None. The project area slopes will hydro-seeded with an appropriate grass-legume mixture.

5. Animals

- a. Circle any birds and animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

- b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
There are no species of birds, mammals, reptiles, or amphibians officially listed as threatened, endangered, or sensitive by federal or state agencies known to inhabit the property.
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
A 300-foot wide wildlife migration corridor is located across the northwest corner of the subject property, about 400 feet north of the project area.
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:
The wetland and wildlife corridor will be left in their existing natural state, a suitable distance away from project activities.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electrical, 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.
Diesel fuel will be used to operate a bulldozer, loader and track excavator. Gasoline and petroleum products will be used for service vehicles.
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.
Not Applicable
- 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:
Equipment would be maintained in good working order to maximize fuel efficiency.

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.

Risks of fire and explosion would be those typically associated with handling diesel fuel while loading fuel tanks on equipment. Small amounts of petroleum products for service vehicles may be stored on site.

1) Describe any emergency services that might be required.

911 Emergency

2) Propose measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

To minimize impacts for fuel spills or explosion care and caution would be used during refueling of vehicles and equipment. Fuel area would include adequate containment to prevent release of contaminants, and equipment would be maintained in good working order.

b. Noise

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

The current ambient noise levels include road traffic, light aircraft, wind in trees, rainfall, and gravel processing operations in the local vicinity. Existing noise levels are likely within all applicable federal, state, and county noise level requirements and should not adversely affect the project.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

The additional truck traffic, on-site heavy equipment will generate noise. This additional noise will be generated during daylight hours only.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

All equipment will be maintained in good working order with appropriate muffler systems. Operations will be conducted during daylight hours only.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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

The site has been commercially logged in the recent past. Adjacent lands include other gravel mining operations and rural residential developments.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are no structures on this site.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? if so, what?
No structures will be demolished.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
The current zoning classification of the site is Mineral Extraction (M).
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
King County's current comprehensive plan designation for the site is Mineral Extraction.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
No part of the project area is within a shoreline environment.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
No part of the project area is classified as "environmentally sensitive." Outside of the area zoned mineral is a Category II wetland and wildlife migration zone, as discussed above. (See Appendix B)
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
No one would reside on the site. Up to about 5 people could be required to operate the site during the start-up phase with one to three people working on site thereafter.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
None
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
Not applicable
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
The project is consistent with King County Comprehensive Plan (1994) and the King County Zoning Ordinance (1995). The project site is zoned for mineral extraction and is located in an area with other gravel mining operations.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle or low-income housing.
Not applicable
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
Not applicable
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
Not applicable

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?

Not applicable. No structures will be constructed on this project.

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

Not applicable

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Not applicable, the site will not be visible to residential areas.

11. Light and Glare

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

Not applicable, the site will operate only during daylight hours

- 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:

No measures are necessary

12. Recreation

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

None. The site is surrounded by private land.

- 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 recreational opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

Not applicable.

13. 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.

No

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

None known

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:
If elements of cultural or archaeological significance were discovered, the project would be halted and appropriate government agencies notified.

14. 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.
The access to the project site would be from SR 169 to Cedar Grove Road SE to SE Lake Francis road which runs past the project area (Figure 1).
- b. Is the site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
The nearest public transit is along SR 169 about 1-½ miles from the site.
- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?
Not Applicable
- d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).
No new roads would be required. A new access point to SE Lake Francis Road will be needed.
- e. Will the project 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? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.
During the peak of the construction season up to 250 truck trips per day (125 in and 125 out) could be generated by the project. The peak volumes would generally occur at midday. During the winter months we anticipate that traffic volumes would be lower.
- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:
None recommended.

15. 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.
No.
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.
Not applicable

16. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

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.

No utilities are required for this project.

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.

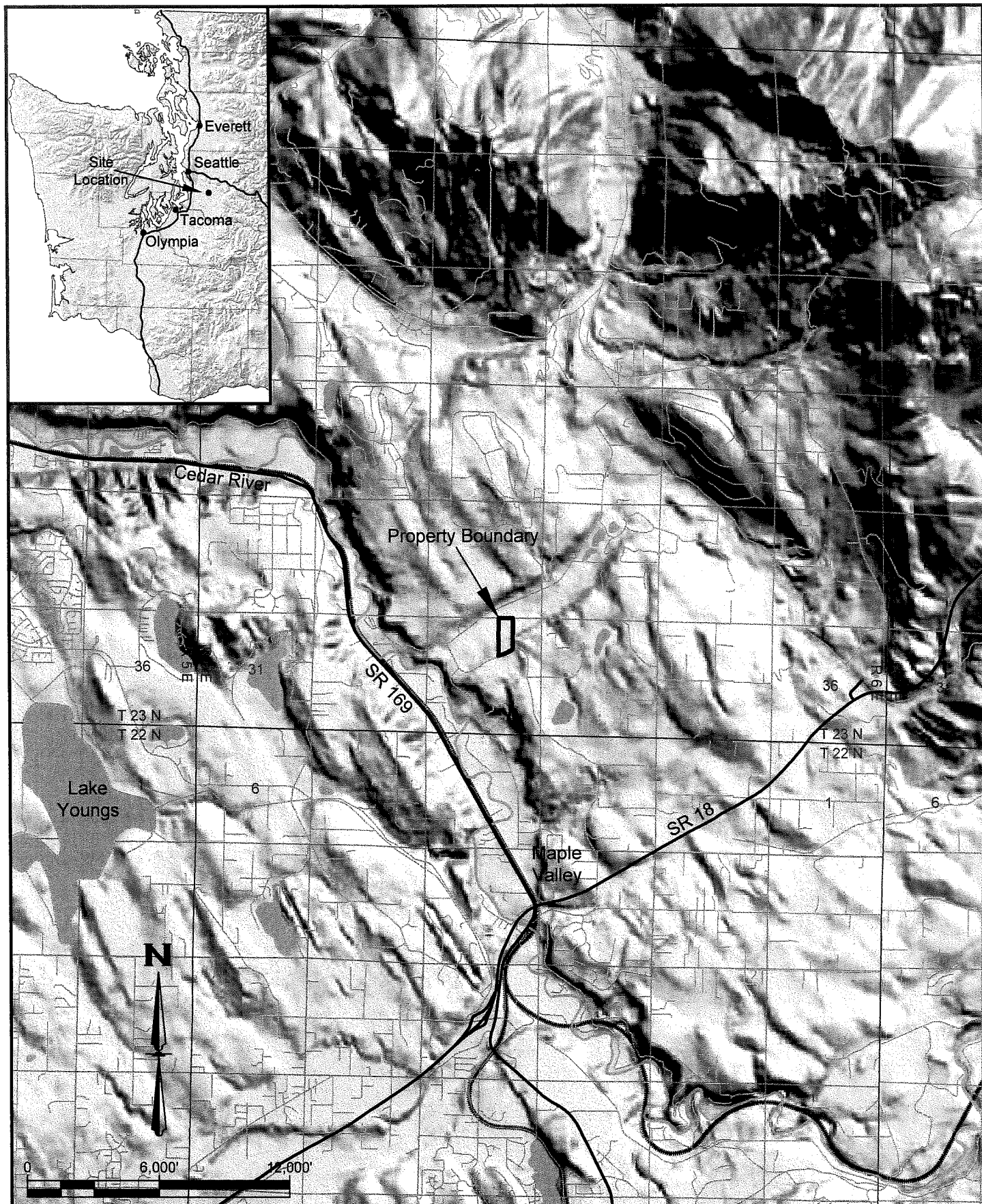
Signature: George H. B...

Date Submitted: June 10, 2016

Approved by: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____



LEGEND

NAD83 Washington State Plane North

DESIGNED

DATE 07-17-15

BY GHB

DRAWN

DATE 07-17-15

BY JLL

SCALE

1"=6000'

Bennett Consulting, PLLC

46129 SE 130th Street
North Bend, WA 98045
(425) 785-8390

Figure 1
Elk Heights Pit
Vicinity Map

Elk Heights Pit Application No GRDE16-0065

Section I: Buildings

Type (Residential) or Principal Activity (Commercial)	# Units	Square Feet (in thousands of square feet)	Emissions Per Unit or Per Thousand Square Feet (MTCO ₂ e)			Lifespan Emissions (MTCO ₂ e)
			Embodied	Energy	Transportation	
Single-Family Home.....	0		98	672	792	0
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	0		33	357	766	0
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	0		54	681	766	0
Mobile Home.....	0		41	475	709	0
Education		0.0	39	646	361	0
Food Sales		0.0	39	1,541	282	0
Food Service		0.0	39	1,994	561	0
Health Care Inpatient		0.0	39	1,938	582	0
Health Care Outpatient		0.0	39	737	571	0
Lodging		0.0	39	777	117	0
Retail (Other Than Mall).....		0.0	39	577	247	0
Office		0.0	39	723	588	0
Public Assembly		0.0	39	733	150	0
Public Order and Safety		0.0	39	899	374	0
Religious Worship		0.0	39	339	129	0
Service		0.0	39	599	266	0
Warehouse and Storage		0.0	39	352	181	0
Other		0.0	39	1,278	257	0
Vacant		0.0	39	162	47	0

Section II: Pavement.....

Pavement.....	1	6.50				325
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Total Project Emissions:

325