**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**

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

   Rife Wetland and Buffer Restoration
2. Name of applicant:

Heather Rife

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

26612 SE 146th Street
Issaquah, Washington 98027

4. Date checklist prepared:

June 15, 2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:

King County

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Project will be completed immediately following approval. No phasing is proposed.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

None.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.


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 Clearing and Grading 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 agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)
This project includes ABC clearing and grading restoration of wetland and wetland buffer under King County Code Enforcement Case No. ENFR19-0721. The general scope of work for the project includes restoration of wetland impacts (3,043 sf) and wetland buffer impacts (3,008) for a total of 6,051 sf of restoration. Work includes restoration of pre-construction soil conditions, revegetation of the affected area with native plants, installing critical area fencing and signage, and three years of monitoring.

**Background:** In August 2019, King County staff observed unpermitted clearing and grading within the site. The clearing and grading was undertaken by the current landowner and occurred west of the existing single-family residence near the western property line. King County subsequently opened a code enforcement case for the unpermitted work under ENFR19-0721.

The unpermitted clearing and grading occurred during the summer of 2019 and resulted in the removal of existing vegetation and modification to topographic contours within a localized area in the west-central portion of the site. The purpose of the work was to create a flat area adjacent to an existing gravel driveway for a future pole barn. A small skid-steer bobcat was initially used to remove existing vegetation and re-distribute soils within the affected area. An excavator was then used to bury a large cedar stump as well as to set and smooth the final re-contoured ground surface. All construction access was via the existing driveway located adjacent to the work area. Upon review of the area by King County staff, it was determined that construction of a pole barn was not feasible.

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.

**Site Address:** 26612 SE 146th Street SE – Issaquah, Washington

**King County Tax Parcel No.** 242306-9139

**Legal Description:** The northwest quarter of the east half of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter in Section 24, Township 23 North, Range 6 east, W.M. in King County, Washington

Together with a non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress over the north 30 feet of the west 3/4 of the south half of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of said Section 24, and over that portion of the north 30 feet of the south half of the northwest quarter of the northwest quarter of said Section 24, lying easterly of the Andrew Reynolds Road revision.

And together with a non-exclusive easement for ingress and egress over that portion of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of said Section 24, lying within the arc of a circle having a radius of 40 feet, the center of which is the northwest corner of the east half of the southeast quarter of the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of said Section 24.

Except that portion conveyed to King County by deed recorded under recording no. 9010080475.
B. **Environmental Elements**

1. **Earth**
   
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)?

   <10%.

   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.

   Mapped soil type is Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 15 percent slopes.

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

   None known.

   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.
Existing upland soils that have been placed into the Category II wetland and buffer will be removed. Work will occur along the western property line near the center point of the site.

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

Yes. Erosion is possible during construction prior to final site stabilization.

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

None. Site will be fully restored to an undeveloped condition.

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

A temporary erosion control (TESC) has been prepared for the project. All TESC will be per current King County standards. TESC measures will be installed prior to start of work and will be properly maintained and monitored during the entire construction period.

2. Air

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.

Exhaust emissions from construction equipment will be present during construction. The completed project will not emit emissions.

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

None known.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Construction equipment will have standard exhaust emission control devices installed.

3. Water

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.

A Category II wetland exists within the project area. The wetland drains to an unnamed Issaquah Creek tributary located south of the site.
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. Soil will be removed from 6,051 sf of the Category III wetland to restore pre-construction grades and contours. Native plants will be installed within and adjacent to the wetland and buffer to re-vegetate the affected area.

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.

Soil will be removed 6,051 sf of the Category III wetland to restore pre-construction grades and contours. The exact amount is not known. Fill soils will be removed down to the underlying native soils.

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.

Not applicable. Project will not generate runoff.

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:

A temporary erosion control (TESC) plan has been prepared for the project. All TESC will be per current King County’s Stormwater Design Manual.

4. Plants
a. Check the 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
- [ ] 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?

None. The unpermitted clearing and grading has removed all vegetation from the work area.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:
Surface restoration for the project includes dense native plantings.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

Himalayan blackberry, a Class C noxious weed, exists near the work area.

5. Animals

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.

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 known.

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

None known.

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

None proposed.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

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

The completed project will not use energy.

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**

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.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

None known.

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 known.

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 proposed.

b. **Noise**

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

None known.

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.

Temporary construction noise will be present in the short term during normal working hours. Noise may be generated by motorized construction equipment such as dump trucks, excavators, etc.
3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Construction will be conducted during normal working hours per King County standards. Trucks and machinery will be equipped with code compliant sound attenuation mufflers or equal.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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 site is currently developed residential land. Properties located east, west, and south of the site are developed residential properties. Properties located to the north are forestlands. The project will not affect current uses on nearby or adjacent properties.

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.

Existing development within the site includes a 3,830 sf two-story single-family residence with attached garage located near the center of the site as well as a 1,150 sf two story detached guest house in the northern portion of the site. An on-site sewage system (OSS) exists in the center of the site (north of the single-family residence) and a private water well exists within a fenced pasture area located in the southern portion of the site.

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

No.

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

RA-5 (rural area, one dwelling units per five acres).

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

Forestry (F) and Rural Area (RA)

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
Not applicable.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.

   Yes – A Category II exists within the project area.

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

   None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

   None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

   None proposed.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

   None proposed.

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

   None proposed.

9. Housing

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 proposed.

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

None

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

None proposed.

11. **Light and Glare**

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 known.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

None proposed.

12. **Recreation**

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

There are no designated or information recreation opportunities located within the immediate 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 proposed.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

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 known.
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 known.

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 proposed.

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 proposed.

14. Transportation

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.

The site is accessed from SE Tiger Mountain Road via SE 146th Street.

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. The closest public transit is located approximately 4.5 miles northwest in Issaquah, Washington.

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).

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 proposed.

15. Public Services

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 proposed.

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.

   None proposed.
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:  ______________________

Name of signee:  ______________________

Position and Agency/Organization:  ______________________

Date Submitted:  11-18-2020