

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts 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 non-project actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

CPA 248/11 Island County Parks and Recreation Element update.

2. Name of applicant:

Island County Parks and Recreation Development – William E. Oaks, Director

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

Island County
Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 5000
Coupeville, WA 98239
360-679-7339

4. Date checklist prepared:

November 3, 2011

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Island County Planning and Community Development Department

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

It is anticipated that final legislative action will be taken by the Board of Island County Commissioners in December 2011 or January 2012.

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

No. Although, it should be noted that elements of the Island County Comprehensive Plan are subject to periodic updates.

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

Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Island County GMA Comprehensive Plan, September 1998

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.

Adoption by the Board of Island County Commissioners will be needed.

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 proposal would update the Parks and Recreation Element of the Island County GMA Comprehensive Plan.

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.

The Parks and Recreation Element update would be part of the Island County GMA Comprehensive Plan and would be applicable to the geographical unincorporated area within Island County's jurisdiction.

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)?

The topography within the affected geographic area is relatively flat with broad hills and steep banks along much of the shoreline.

- 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.

Soil types within the affected geographic area vary from hard pan to sandy loam types.

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

This is a non-project action. Unstable slopes do exist throughout the affected geographical area, primarily along the shoreline.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

This is a non-project action.

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

This is a non-project action.

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

This is a non-project action.

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

This is a non-project action.

2. Air

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

The proposal should not generate or increase air pollution. Parks, open space, and habitat areas contribute to a healthy environment.

- 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:

This is a non-project action.

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, but this is a non-project action. Surface water bodies can be found within and in close proximity to County owned park land.

- 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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action. No specific work program is established by the comprehensive plan update.

- 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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

No. This is a non-project action.

- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Yes. Some coastal areas and County owned park land are within the affected geographical area lie 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.

No. This is a non-project action.

- b. Ground:

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

No. This is a non-project action.

- 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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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. This is a non-project action.

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

No. This is a non-project action.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

4. Plants

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

Island County contains all of the following types of vegetation:

- ✓ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ✓ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ✓ shrubs
- ✓ grass
- ✓ pasture
- ✓ crop or grain
- ✓ 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. This is a non-project action.

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

Island County is home to the following endangered flora species: Golden Indian Paintbrush

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

This is a non-project action.

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:

Island County is home to the following animals:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, pileated woodpeckers

mammals: deer, beaver, coyote

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, and other species found in Puget Sound

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

This is a non-project action. There may be threatened or endangered species using, nesting, or visiting County-owned park lands, as well as critical and natural areas. Island County is home to the following threatened or endangered species: northern sea lion, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, marbled murrelet, and Coho and Chinook salmon.

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

Yes. Whidbey and Camano Islands are part of migration routes for avian and marine species.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action. Parks, open space, and natural areas may contribute to the preservation or enhancement of wildlife and associated habitat use areas.

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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

- 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. This is a non-project action.

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.

There are no environmental health risks that would result from this non-project action.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Not applicable. The action would not require special emergency services.

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

This is a non-project action.

- b. Noise

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

a. None. This is a non-project area.

- 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.

a. None. This is a non-project action.

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

None. This is a non-project action.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.
Not applicable. This is a non-project action.
- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?
No. This is a non-project action.
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
Not applicable. This is a non-project action. Parks, open space and natural areas can be found in several zoning classifications.
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
This is a non-project action.
- 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 an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
Portions of park sites, open space, and natural areas may be classified as environmentally sensitive areas.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
Not applicable. This is a non-project action.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
Not applicable. This is a non-project action.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
Not applicable. This is a non-project action.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:
This is a non-project action. The updated Parks and Recreation Element is consistent and compatible with the goals and policies of the Island County Comprehensive Plan.

9. Housing

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

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. This is a non-project action. Building heights are subject to Island County Code Title 17.
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
None. This is a non-project action.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
None. This is a non-project action.

11. Light and glare

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

None. This is a non-project action.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No. This is a non-project action.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None. This is a non-project action.

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

None. This is a non-project action.

12. Recreation

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

State, County, and municipal parks exist throughout the affected geographical area. An inventory of these facilities is included in this action.

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

The proposal contains goals and policies that could indirectly lead to a change in type of recreational use available.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

None. This is a non-project action. The proposal includes goals and policies to enhance recreational lands within the County.

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.

Not applicable. This is a non-project action. There may be "register" eligible sites within or adjacent to parks, open space, and natural lands.

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

Not applicable. This is a non-project action.

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

None. This is a non-project action.

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.

This is a non-project action.

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

This is a non-project action. The affected geographical area is served by Island Transit.

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

None. This is a non-project action.

- 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. This is a non-project action.

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

No. This is a non-project action.

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

None. This is a non-project action.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

None. This is a non-project action.

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.

This is a non-project action. The Parks and Recreation Element contains goals, policies, and recommendations for possible future land acquisitions. Acquisition of additional public lands could result in an increased need for public services.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

None at this time. This is a non-project action. The plan recognizes the resource constraints associated with owning and maintaining additional park sites and other recreational lands.

16. Utilities

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

This is a non-project action. These are utilities that are available throughout the affected geographical area.

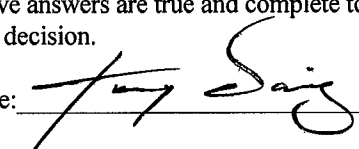
- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None. This is a non-project action.

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: _____



Date Submitted: 11.3.11

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 proposal would not be likely to increase any of these.

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

The proposal would not be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life. The proposal includes goals and policies to protect natural habitat and natural resources. These resources are further protected by a variety of regulatory frameworks such as SEPA, GMA, SMP, Critical Areas Ordinances, and zoning and land use regulations.

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

The proposal would not be likely to deplete energy or natural resources.

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 proposal—an update to the Parks and Recreation Element of the Island County Comprehensive Plan—establishes goals and policies for the protection or use of parks and associated environmentally sensitive areas.

5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?

The proposal would allow for shoreline use associated with parks along waterfront but is not be likely to affect shoreline use in a manner that is incompatible with existing plans.

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

The proposal would not be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

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

There are no proposed measures to reduce such demands.

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

There are no known issues with this proposal that would conflict with local, state, or federal laws for the protection of the environment.