

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 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:

Create Chapter 173-517 WAC Water Resources Management Program Quilcene-Snow
Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 17.

2. Name of applicant:

Washington State Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program

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

Contact: Anne Wessel
(360) 407-6785
awes461@ecy.wa.gov
300 Desmond Drive
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

4. Date checklist prepared:

April 2009

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Ecology

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

Ecology plans to file the proposed rule and CR-102 in April 2009.

Ecology expects to sign and file the CR-103 to adopt the final rule in the fall of 2009.

The rule will become effective 31 days later.

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

Future actions may include issuing water rights, administering the reserves, agreements with Jefferson and Clallam counties, and measuring and monitoring surface water and groundwater use.

The rule also provides for regular reviews to reassess and potentially revise the program.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. The following documents are incorporated by reference:

- **Quilcene-Snow Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA 17) Watershed Management Plan**, [October 28, 2003, Cascadia Consulting Group]. Describes the basin in respect to water quality, quantity, existing uses, and expected future demands as based on the Stage 1 Technical Assessment and the USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5058, and contains the Watershed Planning Unit's recommendations for protecting, enhancing, and managing water within WRIA 17; and.
- **Stage 1 Technical Assessment as of February 2000 Water Inventory Area 17**; [October 2000, Parametrix, Inc.; Pacific Groundwater Group, Inc.; Montgomery Water Group, Inc; and Caldwell & Associates]. Contains a description of the project area and analysis of surface water and groundwater quality; water quantity including recharge, allocation, and uses; land use effects; water conservation options, fish populations and habitat; and theoretical optimum instream flows for the major fish-bearing streams within the basin.
- **Ground-Water System in the Chimacum Creek Basin and Surface Water/Ground Water Interaction in Chimacum and Tarboo Creeks and the Big and Little Quilcene Rivers, Eastern Jefferson County, Washington**; [2004, U.S. Geological Survey, Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5058]. Contains assessment of the groundwater system in the Chimacum Creek basin and describes the interaction of surface and groundwater in the four main drainages in WRIA 17, i.e. Chimacum and Tarboo Creeks and the lower portions of the Big and the Little Quilcene Rivers near Quilcene Bay. Includes assessment of hydrogeology, horizontal and vertical movement of groundwater, and areas of recharge and discharge; describes surface water gains or losses to and from groundwater, seasonal variations, and compares the four drainage basins.
- **DRAFT – WDFW Instream Flow Study Report – WRIA 17 – Snow Creek**, [May 18, 2004, Beecher, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife]. Correlates

recorded depth, velocity, and substrate data with known fish habitat preference data to determine available spawning habitat in Snow Creek.

- **Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Watershed Planning under Chapter 90.82 RCW**, [March 2003, Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program, Ecology Publication # 03-06-013]. Contains information of a general nature related to instream flows, future water allocations, and closures.
- **Potential Environmental Effects Resulting from the WRIA 17 Instream Flow Rule**, [April 29, 2009, Water Resources Program, Department of Ecology] Describes effects on stream flow, fish populations and sea water intrusion of the proposed Water Resources Inventory Area 17 (WRIA 17) Water Resources Management rule. Appendix 5 to the Preliminary Cost Benefit, Maximum Net Benefit and Least Burdensome Analysis Chapter 173-517 WAC.
- **Determining sizes of Reserves of Water for WRI 17 Subbasins**. Describes the methods the Department of Ecology (Ecology) used to determine the sizes of the reserves of water proposed in the proposed Water Resources Inventory Area 17 (WRIA 17) Water Resources Management rule. Appendix 5 to the Preliminary Cost Benefit, Maximum Net Benefit and Least Burdensome Analysis Chapter 173-517 WAC.

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.

There are 43 applications for new groundwater and surface water rights within WRIA 17 on file with the Department of Ecology, for a total of about 118,200 gallons per minute. There is also one application on file for the capture and use of rainwater.

Other applications for construction, subdivision, and so on are likely to be pending with the city and county for proposals within the affected area.

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

Water from the reserves established is only available in those areas within WRIA 17 where the appropriate county has committed in writing that determinations of adequate potable water for building permits and subdivision approvals will be consistent with rule provisions.

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 rulemaking will create Chapter 173-517 WAC Water Resources Management Program for the Quilcene-Snow Instream Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 17 (draft rule language attached). This chapter is intended to retain perennial rivers, streams, lakes and ponds in WRIA 17 with instream flows and levels necessary to protect and preserve wildlife, fish, stock water, scenic, aesthetic, recreation, water quality and other environmental values and navigational values.

This rule sets forth Ecology's policies to guide the protection, use, and management of WRIA 17 surface water and groundwater resources. This chapter sets provisions for new permit-exempt groundwater uses:

- Creates reserves of water within specified management areas (WAC 173-517-150).
- Establishes groundwater withdrawal limits for subbasins with reserves and designated coastal management areas (WAC 173-517-130).
- Allows the collection and use of rooftop rainwater.

It also establishes instream flows (WAC 173-517-090 and closures (WAC 173-517-100), and sets forth conditions for future water appropriation and use (WAC 173-517-Part C). Conditions for approval of pending and subsequent water right applications will include protection of the adopted instream flows.

This chapter applies to the use and appropriation of:

- All surface waters, including all tributaries and streams that drain to salt water, within WRIA 17, excluding several subbasins lying primarily in Clallam County.
- All groundwater within WRIA 17, excluding several subbasins lying primarily in Clallam County, including groundwater hydraulically connected to lakes, streams and all other surface water bodies, as well as groundwater that drains to salt water.

This rule will not affect existing water rights, including perfected riparian rights or other appropriative rights existing on the effective date of this chapter, unless otherwise provided for in the conditions of the water right in question. This chapter also shall not affect federal or tribal reserved rights.

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 rule will apply throughout Water Resource Inventory Area 17, located in the northeast portion of the Olympic Peninsula, except for those subbasins that lie exclusively or almost exclusively in Clallam County. [See maps in WAC 173-517-070 showing areas covered by the rule.]

B. environmental elements**1. Earth****a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other**

The Quilcene/Snow River Basin varies between mountainous in the southern inland and western portions of the basin to gentle inclines near sea level in much of the northern portions of the basin, with medium slopes and hills between and in the east.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

There are some vertical slopes within the basin.

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.

Quilcene-Snow watershed soils tend to be slightly acidic to strongly acidic. Outside the Olympic National Forest/Park includes general soil types: Triton-Hoodsport, Quilceen-Alderwood-Cathcart, Clallam-Hoypus-Dick, Semiahmoo-McMurray-Mukilteo, Alderwood-Sinclair, Olete-Hoodsport, Whidbey-Dick, Hoypus-Sequim-Agnew, Elwha-Clallam-Catla, and Terbies-Louella. Prime farmland is found in many of the valley areas, particularly in the Chimacum sub-basin.

More detailed soil information can be found in the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, soil surveys for Jefferson and Clallam Counties.

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

Jefferson County has designated critical areas with erosion hazard. Earthquake liquefaction high-risk sites have also been identified near Chimacum and within a portion of Port Townsend, while areas along many shorelines and major streams are designated as moderate risk sites. [See Seismic Hazard and Erosion Hazard maps.]

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

None.

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

Some erosion could occur as part of construction activities enabled by the domestic water reserves or in coastal management areas.

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

Unknown. Within the watershed a minor but measurable increase in impervious surfaces is expected as a result of new enabled development which would most likely have occurred even if the rule were not adopted.

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

None.

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.

Minor increases in emissions could result from enabled new development including vehicular exhaust, dust—particularly during construction phases, and that associated with residences and small businesses.

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:

None.

3. Water

a. Surface:

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.

This rule regulates all surface water within WRIA 17. Streams managed through the rule to protect flows include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Big Quilcene River | • Ludlow Creek |
| • Little Quilcene River | • Piddling Creek |
| • Chimacum Creek | • Salmon Creek |
| • Contractors Creek | • Snow Creek |
| • Donovan Creek | • Spencer Creek |
| • Eagle Creek | • Tarboo Creek |
| • Howe Creek | • Thorndyke Creek |
| • Indian George Creek | • Other small streams and |
| • Leland Creek | tributaries |

Lakes and ponds within the affected area of WRIA 17 include, but are not limited to: Anderson Lake, Beausite Lake, Browns Lake, Buckmans Lake, Cat Lake, Charlia Lake, City Lake, Crocker Lake, Delaney Lake, Delanty Lake, Devils Lake, Gibbs Lake, Horseshoe Lake, Larson Lake, Leland Lake, Lords Lake, Lost Lake, Ludlow Lake, Morgan Hill Reservoir, Moon Lake, Mud Lake, Peterson Lake, Pheasant Lake, Rices Lake, Sandy Shore Lake, Silent Lake, Smith Lake, Strangers Lake, Sunset Lake, Tarboo Lake, Teal Lake, Thorndyke Lake, Tibbais Lake, Tule Lake, and Twin Lakes.

Although outside the scope of this rule, WRIA 17 is also bordered by the Strait of Juan de Fuca, Admiralty Inlet, Puget Sound, Discovery Bay, Port Townsend, Kilisut Harbor, Oak Bay, Mats Mats Bay, Port Ludlow, Bywater Bay, Squamish Harbor,

Thorndyke Bay, Hood Canal, Fisherman Harbor, Dabob Bay, Jackson Cove, Quilcene Bay, and Tarboo Bay. These are the receiving waters for drainage from the area encompassed by this rule.

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.

Installation of stream gauges at control points may be required in some cases.

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.

None.

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

Stockwatering currently occurring instream will be encouraged to convert to a surface water diversion of equal quantity to protect water quality. Other surface water diversions may occur as a result of the determination of water availability in the Big Quilcene River and Chimacum Creek during certain parts of the year. These would require permit review.

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

Yes, areas of the watershed lie within the 100-year floodplain. [See attached floodplain map for Eastern Jefferson County and the Generalized Clallam County Future Land Use Map.]

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 discharge of waste material will result directly from this rule adoption, but some level of increased contamination and runoff may occur as the result of any new development enabled by the rule. This is no more than what would occur without the rule.

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.

Groundwater withdrawals will be allowed from the reserves and in most cases will result in discharges to ground through use of septic tanks in rural areas. The total groundwater discharge from the full use of the groundwater reservation is dependent chiefly on the extent of in-home use (versus outdoor irrigation) and further influenced by the geology and hydrology of the septic system location.

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.

It is likely that about 330 homes will be built using water from the groundwater reserves and will all discharge to septic systems. Further development enabled by

permit-exempt wells in the designated coastal areas would result in increased septic discharges. These uses would primarily be residential, with some agriculture and small business possible.

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.

Rainfall within the watershed ranges from 15 to 20 inches annually along the eastern edge of the basin to 70 to 80 inches in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains on the western edge. As noted in B.3.a.6) above, some increased stormwater runoff (versus groundwater recharge) may result from increased impervious surfaces from enabled development. This is expected to be minimal when measured basin-wide and be no more than what would result without the rule.

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

Dust or sediment from construction activities, vehicular fluids, fertilizers and pesticides from domestic landscaping, and pet waste are the most likely contaminants in stormwater runoff that could result from enabled future development in the basin. Some agricultural runoff may also result from small hobby farms that need no more than 5,000 gallons of water a day.

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

The rule provides a regulatory framework for water management and the protection of in-stream values throughout the watershed. Reserves and designated coastal management areas will allow for some future development while protecting stream flows, fish and wildlife habitat, and groundwater quality where there is the potential of saltwater intrusion.

4. Plants

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

- √ **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?

No vegetation will be removed or altered as a direct impact of this rule, but enabled development is likely to result in the loss of some existing native and non-native vegetation, replaced with increased impervious surfaces and landscaping in most cases.

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

The following plant species are known to be found in Clallam and/or Jefferson County.

(Scientific Name, Common Name)

Abronia umbellata ssp. acutalata , Pink Sandverbena	Phyllospadix torreyi , Torrey's Surf-grass
Agoseris elata , Tall Agoseris	Plantago macrocarpa , Alaska Plantain
Arabis furcata var. olympica , Olympic Nuttall's Rockcress	Poa arctica ssp. arctica , Gray's Bluegrass
Astragalus australis var. olympicus , Cotton's Milk-vetch	Poa laxiflora , Loose-flowered Bluegrass
Astragalus microcystis , Least Bladdery Milk-vetch	Polemonium carneum , Great Polemonium
Boschniakia hookeri , Vancouver Ground-cone	Potamogeton obtusifolius , Blunt-leaved Pondweed
Bromus vulgaris var. eximius , Columbia Brome	Puccinellia nutkaensis , Alaska Alkaligrass
Carex circinata , Coiled Sedge	Sanguisorba menziesii , Menzies' Burnet
Carex comosa , Bristly Sedge	Saxifraga rivularis , Pygmy Saxifrage
Carex obtusata , Blunt Sedge	Saxifraga tischii , Tisch's Saxifrage
Carex pauciflora , Few-flowered Sedge	Sparganium fluctuans , Water Bur-reed
Carex pluriflora , Several-flowered Sedge	Spiraea densiflora var. splendens , Subalpine Spiraea
Carex scirpoidea var. scirpoidea , Canadian Single-spike Sedge	Subularia aquatica , Water Awlwort
Carex stylosa , Long-styled Sedge	Synthyris pinnatifida var. lanuginosa , Cut-leaf Synthyris
Castilleja levisecta , Golden Paintbrush	Utricularia intermedia , Flat-leaved Bladderwort
Cimicifuga elata , Tall Bugbane	Viola renifolia , Kidney-leaved Violet
Claytonia lanceolata var. pacifica , Pacific Lanceleaved Springbeauty	Whipplea modesta , Yerba de Selva
Cochlearia officinalis , Scurvygrass	Woodwardia fimbriata , Chain-fern
Coptis aspleniifolia , Spleenwort-leaved Goldthread	
Corallorhiza maculata var. ozettensis , Ozette Coral-root	
Draba cana , Lance-leaved Draba	
Draba longipes , Long-stalked Draba	
Dryas drummondii , Yellow Mountain-avens	
Erigeron aliciae , Alice's Fleabane	
Erythronium quinaultense , Quinault Fawnlily	
Erythronium revolutum , Pink Fawn-lily	
Gentiana douglasiana , Swamp Gentian	
Hedysarum occidentale , Western Hedysarum	
Lobelia dortmanna , Water Lobelia	
Lycopodiella inundata , Bog Clubmoss	
Microseris borealis , Northern Microseris	
Montia diffusa , Branching Montia	
Opuntia fragilis , Brittle Prickly-pear	
Oxalis suksdorfii , Western Yellow Oxalis	
Oxytropis borealis var. viscida , Sticky Crazyweed	
Parnassia palustris var. neogaea , Northern Grass-of-parnassus	
Pellaea breweri , Brewer's Cliff-brake	

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

None proposed.

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:**

All

√ **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.

Fall Chinook, Coho Salmon, Chum Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Steelhead, Pink Salmon, Coastal Cutthroat, and Dolly Varden/Bull Trout are all known to make use of stream reaches within WRIA 17. Federally listed wildlife species with potential to occur in WRIA 17 include the bald eagle, marbled murrelet, and northern spotted owl (all threatened). Candidate and state-listed species include an amphibian (Van Dyke's salamander); several birds (common loon, golden eagle, Brandt's cormorant, Northern goshawk, Vaux swift, Lewis woodpecker, pileated woodpecker, purple martin, and western bluebird); and two mammals (sea otter and fisher).

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

As well as being of use to the anadromous fish species listed above, WRIA 17 lies within the Pacific Flyway. Deer and elk are also likely to migrate seasonally between higher elevations and lower elevations of the watershed.

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

The closure of some waterbodies to new uses and setting instream flows within rule will help protect in-stream and riparian habitat benefiting both fish and wildlife species.

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.**

No energy will be consumed as a direct result of this rule, although some energy consumption is expected as a result of enabled development of typical type and measure for domestic uses within the basin.

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:

No energy conservation features are contained in this rule. The rule also does not foreclose continued hydroelectric production or further development within the basin.

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.

None is expected.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None expected.

2) 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, although noise related to typical domestic uses is likely to result from enabled development.

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

None.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

Nearly forty percent of the 256,783 acres in WRIA 17 is devoted to forestry, including national forests, commercial forest, and private holdings. The Big Quilcene, Salmon-Snow, and Dabob-Thorndyke Sub-basins have large forested areas. Rural residential is the second-largest land use in WRIA 17, with nearly 70,000 acres. Agricultural lands occupy over 4,000 acres, many of which are in the Chimacum subbasin. The majority of the WRIA's commercial and industrial lands are in the Quimper Sub-basin, where Port Townsend is located. The U.S. Navy has an installation on Indian Island, part of the Indian-Marrowstone coastal management area.

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

The basin does contain some agricultural lands, much of which is in the Chimacum subbasin.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Typical structures related to rural, urban, agricultural, and shoreline uses are currently present within the watershed.

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

No structures are likely to be demolished as a direct or indirect result of this rule.

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

See Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations map (attached) and Generalized Clallam County Future Land Use Map (http://www.clallam.net/aimsxwebsite/CA_public_htmlcust/viewer.htm).

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

See Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations map and Generalized Clallam County Future Land Use Map.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

See Shoreline Management Master Program map for Eastern Jefferson County.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

Yes, see Eastern Jefferson County Critical Areas maps: Wetlands, Seismic Hazards, Frequently Flooded Areas, Erosion Hazards, and Fish and Wildlife Habitat; and map composite for Eastern Clallam County.

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

About 28,800 people currently reside in WRIA 17. Recent population projections using information from the 2000 Census show year 2030 populations from 33,200 in the low growth scenario to 50,100 under the high growth scenario (OFM, 2008). Much of this increase is likely to occur in the Quimper Sub-basin, which includes Port Townsend; and the Ludlow Sub-basin, which includes Port Ludlow (Parametrix et al., 2000). High growth is also likely in the Chimacum sub-basin (Jefferson County PUD, 2003).

Water shortages might hamper growth in all of these areas in the short or long-term and are likely to require innovation and investments in infrastructure to meet future water needs. Alternatively, growth might be redirected to areas of water availability inside or outside the watershed.

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

No one will be displaced. Setting minimum instream flows has the potential to limit growth or to redirect development from areas with no or limited reliable water resources to areas with sufficient water. Whether this will occur and to what degree is reliant on a great number of factors outside this rule and the jurisdiction or influence of Ecology. Estimated rates of growth and development are disparate by nature. Local comprehensive planning, zoning, development ordinances, and extension of public services can strongly influence and shape new development. Finally, it is currently uncertain when alternative water supplies, as identified in the WRIA 17 watershed plan, may be made available throughout various areas of the basin.

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

The creation of the groundwater reserves is intended to provide a reliable source of water for rural development until elements of the WRIA 17 Watershed Plan can be implemented to make alternative water sources available.

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

This rule has been developed with input from the WRIA 17 planning unit, which contains representation from:

- Jefferson County
- PUD #1 of Jefferson County
- Jefferson County Conservation District
- City of Port Townsend
- Port of Port Townsend
- Port Townsend Paper Mill
- Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
- Skokomish Tribe
- Home Builders Assoc.
- Chimacum Grange
- Olympic Environmental Council • Trout Unlimited
- Marrowstone Island Groundwater Committee
- Water Utility Coordinating Council
- WSU Extension*
- Conserve Water First*
- Department of Ecology
- Association of Realtors
- North Olympic Salmon Coalition
- North Olympic Counties Farm Bureau
- Jefferson County Planning Commission*

* Ex-officio non-voting members

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?**

Does not apply.

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

No significant change in views is expected.

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

Protecting in-stream values by establishing instream flows preserves aesthetics related to stream flows.

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.

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

None

12. Recreation

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

There are more than two dozen federal, state, and local parks and campgrounds, several resorts and at least two golf courses within WRIA 17. Together they offer opportunities for golfing, fishing, boating, hunting, hiking, camping, and picnicking, as well as providing a variety of sports courts and fields.

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:

The establishing instream flows in rule protects in-stream values including aesthetics, boating, fishing, swimming, and so on. The creation of a trust water rights program could facilitate streamflow restoration where flows have already been severely impacted.

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.

The following sites are listed on the state and/or federal register:

House at 30 Tremont Street
101 Discovery Way, Diamond Point
House at 503 Fir Street
House at 1723 Holcomb Street
Alexander's Castle
Frank Bartlett House
Henry Bash House

Herbert Foote Beecher Home
Bell Tower
Senator William Bishop House and Office
Chimacum Post Office
City Hall
Coleman-Furlong House
Cultural Resources of Hadlock Bay

James De Leo Home
 George W Downs Residence
 Joel Edwards House
 Thomas Fitzgerald House
 Fort Flagler
 Fort Worden
 Captain Enoch S. Fowler House
 Gagen-Sherlock House
 Galster House
 Grave of Chief Chetzemoka
 Grave of James G. Swan
 J.W. Griffiths House
 F.C. Harper House
 Hastings Building
 Irondale Historic District
 Irondale Jail
 Francis Wilcox James House
 Jefferson County Courthouse
 Johnson House
 Kuhn Spit Archeological Site
 Lake-Little House
 J.N. Laubach House
 Leader Building
 Manresa Hall
 Captain James McIntyre House
 Methodist Episcopal Church of Port Hadlock
 O.L. and Josephine Morgan House
 Nelson House
 Norman House
 Earl Oatman House
 Old Fort Townsend State Park
 Old German Consulate
 Parrish House
 Pearson House
 H.S. Petersen House
 Benjamin S. Pettygrove House
 Phillips House
 Point Wilson Lighthouse
 Port Townsend Art Gallery
 Port Townsend Carnegie Library

Port Townsend Historic District
 Portage Canal Bridge
 Quilcene-Quinalt Battleground Site
 Judge Ralston House
 Rothschild House
 Hanna Rover House
 Saint's Rest, Tukey's Pioneer Cabin and
 Homestead House
 James C. Saunders House
 Ferdinand Schlager House
 Seal Rock Shell Mounds (45je15)
 Capt. Peter Shibles House
 Tollef Sole House
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 Starrett House
 Andrew Stegerwald House
 Hans Swanson House
 Tamanous Rock
 Tree of Heaven
 Trinity Methodist Church
 John Trumbull House
 Horace Tucker House
 Uncas School
 U.S. Post Office--Port Townsend Main
 Van Trojen House
 Vancouver's Landing
 Walan Point
 Milo P. Ward House
 Hattie Williams House

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

See above.

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

None.

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.**

Together with numerous public streets, road access to and within the watershed includes Hwy 101, Hwy 20, Hwy 19, Hwy 116, and Hwy 104.

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

Jefferson Transit provides three bus routes through the basin.

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

Does not apply.

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 road development is required. Future development that receives water from the designated coastal management area withdrawal limits or the reserves may result in new road development but this would undergo environmental review before construction, where applicable.

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

The watershed is served by air, rail, ferry, highways, and smaller public and private roadways, as well as being accessible by private boats at numerous marinas.

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

None, although enabled future development would generate increased traffic.

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

Protecting instream flows and creating an avenue to restore stream flows will protect navigational uses where available.

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.**

Government resources will be needed for managing the reserves, reading water meters, and the monitoring and enforcement of stream flows and water use limitations, and, indirectly, to support the trust water rights program and any enabled new development (which may or may not have occurred if the rule were not adopted).

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

None.

16. Utilities

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

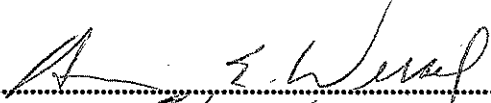
All of these utilities are available somewhere in the watershed, particularly in urban areas. Rural areas are more dependent on private wells and septic systems than on public water and sewer systems.

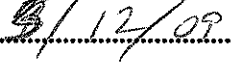
b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None.

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: 

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 surface water allocation limits, water reserves and withdrawal limits, and the determination of water availability provide for some new development that may or may not have occurred without the adopted rule. This development is expected to be principally rural residential in nature, but is not limited to such. Denser residential development and small businesses are also likely, and businesses or industries that can adapt to seasonal availability of water (including the use of new water storage) are possible.

As noted in previous portions of the checklist, the expected domestic and small business development is likely to make use of septic systems; may use fireplaces or wood stoves for heat or aesthetics; and vehicular fluids, fertilizers, pesticides, and pet waste may contaminate stormwater runoff.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

None.

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

The proposal is likely to protect fish and wildlife and may help maintain established vegetation in riparian areas by protecting healthy stream flow levels, and facilitate the restoration of stream flows where severely impacted.

Areas where further development occurs, due to the groundwater limits and reserves, are likely to lose vegetation and habitat to construction activities and result in its replacement in many instances with new impervious surfaces and non-native landscaping.

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

The protection and restoration of stream flows within the rule are intended to protect riparian vegetation, fish, and wildlife.

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

Some further depletion of natural resources will occur through use of the established surface water allocation limits and water reserves and withdrawal limits.

Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:

The rule provides protection of instream resources (fish, wildlife, vegetation, aesthetics, recreation, navigation, etc.) and of groundwater quality where there is risk of saltwater intrusion.

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 reserves for future domestic uses, when used fully, will result in a loss of 1 to 2 percent of fish habitat in dry years in most subbasins, and 0.1 percent loss of habitat in Chimacum Creek subbasin.

New development accessing the reserves or groundwater from coastal areas will have associated construction impacts. The development is likely to increase demands on parks and other recreational opportunities. It could also result in impacts to environmentally sensitive areas if local ordinances are insufficient.

Where the pressure for new residential development exceeds water supplied by the reserves, such as in the Chimacum subbasin, economic and political pressures may result in the transfer of irrigation water rights to serve domestic needs. This could result in loss of prime farmlands. Another alternative would be for public water systems to extend service to these areas, resulting in further construction related impacts. Alternatively, the use of reclaimed water or conservation measures could make new water available in these areas, if growth is not simply redirected to areas where water remains available.

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

Setting instream flows and providing a path for restoring streams will maintain more water in-stream and better protect fish habitat than might otherwise occur without the rule.

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?

New development may be less or greater than what would have occurred without the rule or it may be redistributed. These changes are not possible to predict. Still, the rule will limit the use of water by rural development reliant on exempt wells more than under current conditions. Local planning, development ordinances, zoning, and so on, as well as the extension of public water systems will largely determine the rate at which the reserves are depleted. When reserves are fully depleted, new uses of water must mitigate for their use, demonstrate that the new use will not impact flows, or access alternative water sources.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:

The groundwater reserves are intended to allow rural development to continue, where public water systems are not available, while alternative water sources are developed.

Ecology has also worked with the watershed planning unit, which contains extensive and varied local representation, in developing this rule.

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

Some increased demand on transportation and public services and (some) utilities is expected from new rural development that accessed the groundwater limits or reserves. Increased demand for public water supplies may also occur because of:

- Displaced development from rural areas to urban areas because of water availability.
- A utility's decision to extend water service to meet new demands not served by the reserves.

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

None.

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

The rule is intended to provide protection to in-stream resources and groundwater quality, while providing groundwater reserves and withdrawal limits to serve rural development. Although not currently identified, there may be some disparity between locally adopted comprehensive plans, zoning, water system plans, and so on related to the level of development planned for and the availability of water through the created reserves and withdrawal limits. Ecology will assess any conflicts that surface when we review the rule.

The groundwater withdrawal limits and reserves are not intended to serve all future development, but to provide reliable water sources for the foreseeable future. It may be necessary at some point to provide alternative water sources for new development and to restore stream flows where necessary throughout the basin.