

**WAC 197-11-970 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).**

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE**

**Description of proposal:** Chapter 173-545 WAC, Instream Resources Protection Program -- Wenatchee River Basin, Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 45 rule amendment. The proposed rule establishes instream flows at eight locations within the Wenatchee River basin for the protection fisheries and other aquatic resources. Minimum flows at five locations described in the existing rule are retained with a June 3, 1983 priority date. The rule establishes maximum allocation limits to retain stream and river functions such as channel formation and maintenance. A reservation of 4 cubic feet per second is proposed for providing a reliable supply of water to meet the needs of population growth projected for the next 20 years.

**Proponent:** Washington Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program

**Location of proposal,** including street address, if any: The Wenatchee Watershed (WRIA 45) is located along the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains in north-central Washington State in Chelan County. The WRIA is approximately 1,370 square miles. It is bound on the west by the crest of the Cascade Mountains, on the north and east by the Entiat Mountains, and to the south by the Wenatchee Range.

**Lead agency:** Washington Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

- There is no comment period for this DNS.
- This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.
- This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. **Comments must be submitted by August 24, 2007.**

**Responsible official:** Ken Slattery

**Position/title:** Water Resources Program Manager

**Phone:** (360) 407-6602

**Address:** 300 Desmond Dr, Lacey, WA 98507 or PO Box 47600, Olympia WA 98504-7600

**Date:** 6-26-07

**Signature**

*Ken Slattery*

**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:*

Amendment to Chapter 173-545 WAC, Instream Resources Protection Program -- Wenatchee River Basin, Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 45

2. *Name of applicant:*

Washington Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program

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

Department of Ecology  
Central Regional Office  
Shorelands and Environmental Assessment Program  
15 West Yakima Ave -- Suite 200  
Yakima, WA 98902-3452

Dave Holland  
(509) 457-7112

4. *Date checklist prepared:*

May 2007

5. *Agency requesting checklist:*

Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology)

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

The CR-102 will be filed on or before July 5, 2007 and published in the state register on July 19, 2007. The rule amendment must be adopted and CR-103 filed no more than 180 days after publication of the CR-102. The rule amendment becomes effective 30 days after adoption, although all added or increased instream flows set will take the priority date of November 2, 2001.

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

New development will occur that is supported by water withdrawals (permitted and permit-exempt) allowed under the reservation. An implementation plan will be negotiated with Chelan County and the incorporated cities to track exempt well installation. Ecology will track water use in the basin and notify the county as new uses deplete the reservation. The planning unit and Ecology will reconsider the reservations in the years 2010, 20015, 2020, and 2025.

Ecology will continue studies to assess the hydrology and impact of new withdrawals in the Chumstick and Mission Creek sub-basins. Instream flows may be proposed for Chumstick Creek.

Based on the hydrology studies and any other new information, Ecology will amend the rule to address the Chumstick instream flow adoption, the interim reservations for Chumstick Creek, and other issues as needed.

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 Watershed Planning Under Chapter 90.82 RCW, July 18, 2003 prepared by Ecology;
- Final Draft Habitat Component (Golder, 2005c)
- Draft Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, and Bull Trout Recovery Plan (UCSRB, 2005)

- Upper Columbia Biological Strategy (UCRTT, 2002)
- Wenatchee Limiting Factors Assessment (WCC, 2001; Andonaegui, 2001)
- Wenatchee Subbasin Plan (prepared by Chelan County and Yakama Nation) (NPCC, 2004)
- Summary of Instream Flow Assessment Work (provided by CCNRD, 2005)
- Final Technical Report Lower Wenatchee River PHABSIM Studies (includes Peshastin) (EES Consulting, Inc and Thomas R. Payne and Associates, August, 2005b)
- Instream Flow Study of Icicle Creek (US Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR), 2005)
- Toe-Width summary (provided by Ecology)
- Nason and Chiwawa WUA curves (provided by Ecology)
- Bull Trout Habitat Suitability Report (EES Consulting, Inc. 2005a)
- 2003 Wenatchee Watershed Assessment (MWG, 2003)
- WRIA 45 Groundwater Technical Memo (Golder, 2005a)
- 1998 Wenatchee River Watershed Action Plan (Wenatchee River Watershed Planning Unit, 1998)
- Supplemental Water Quality Assessment
  - Pesticide Use and Toxicity Assay in Mission, Brender and Yaksum Creeks (Burgoon and Rickel, 2003b)
  - Assessment of Sources of Fecal Coliform in Mission and Brender Creeks (Burgoon and Rickel, 2003a)
- Wenatchee TMDL
  - DDT in Lower Mission Creek (Serdar and Era-Miller, 2004)
  - Temperature Assessment (Cristea and Pelletier, 2005)
  - Forest Service Temperature Assessment (Wiley and Cleland, 2003)
  - Wenatchee pH, DO Assessment (Carroll and O'Neal, 2005b)
  - Wenatchee Fecal Coliform Assessment (Carroll and O'Neal, 2005a)
- The Wenatchee Watershed Plan which addresses the required water quantity component of watershed planning, as well as the three other components of instream flow, habitat, and water quality. The plan includes the following chapters:
  - Chapter 1 – presents an introduction and background information regarding watershed planning in WRIA 45 and includes a brief summary of the physical aspects of the watershed and references to technical data that support this watershed management plan.
  - Chapter 2 – includes tables that summarize all of the actions recommended in the plan.
  - Chapter 3 – provides an overview of the current and future water use estimates developed for this planning effort and used to guide development and distribution of the WRIA 45 water reservation that will accommodate future water needs in the watershed.
  - Chapter 4 – includes background information and recommended actions in the form of management strategies, recommendations, and projects for the proposed water resource management strategy that includes management flows, max allocation, and a reserve.
  - Chapter 5 – includes background information and recommended actions in the form of management strategies, recommendations, and projects for water quantity actions that support the water resource management strategy.
  - Chapter 6 – includes background information and recommended actions for growth and land use.
  - Chapter 7 – includes background information and recommended actions for water quality that are consistent with the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process.
  - Chapter 8 – includes background information and recommended actions for habitat actions consistent with recovery planning efforts for fish in WRIA 45.
  - Chapter 9 – includes a summary of plan recommendations that apply specifically to local tributary areas, or sub-watersheds. Sub-watersheds that have unique, pending water issues requiring near-term action are addressed.
  - Chapter 10 – addresses the initial implementation of the plan.
  - Chapter 11 – addresses the public outreach efforts recommended by the plan.

- Chapter 12 – presents a SEPA Gap Analysis of the recommended actions in the plan with the Final Environmental Impact Statement for Watershed Planning under Chapter 90.82 RCW.
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.*
- Numerous permit applications are on file with the cities and county for a myriad of proposals. Additionally, 51 applications for new water rights and 26 applications to change or transfer existing water rights within the basin are on file with Ecology.
10. *List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.*
- Compliance with the Administrative Procedures Act for the rule adoption process.
  - Implementation agreement with Chelan County.
11. *Give a 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.)*

The proposed rule establishes instream flows at eight locations within the Wenatchee River basin for the protection fisheries and other aquatic resources. Minimum flows at five locations described in the existing rule are retained with a June 3, 1983 priority date. The rule establishes maximum allocation limits to ensure that stream and river functions such as channel formation and maintenance are retained. Finally, a 4 cfs reservation is proposed for providing a reliable supply of water to meet the needs of population growth projected for the next 20 years.

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 Wenatchee Watershed (WRIA 45) is located along the eastern slopes of the Cascade Mountains in north-central Washington State in Chelan County. The WRIA is approximately 1,370 square miles. It is bounded on the west by the crest of the Cascade Mountains, on the north and east by the Entiat Mountains, and to the south by the Wenatchee Range.

## B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

### 1. Earth

- a. *General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other...*
- The watershed is primarily mountainous, with the Wenatchee River and main tributaries flowing in the valleys between.
- b. *What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?*
- There are some vertical slopes within the watershed.
- 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 vary throughout the watershed. Much of the watershed soils have not been typed as they lie within federal lands, including the Alpines Lakes Wilderness, Wenatchee National Forest, and the Swakane Wildlife Area. The general soil types in the remaining 20% of the watershed include: Burch-Cashmere association, medium to course textured; Thow-Nevine association, gravelly or stony,

medium to moderately course; Brief-Leavenworth association, moderately course; Bjork-Zen association, medium textured; and Nard-Stemilt association, medium textured.

- d. *Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.*  
There are widespread areas of erosion risk soils dispersed through the watershed, especially in the headwaters of the Wenatchee and its tributaries.
- 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.*  
Does not apply.
- g. *About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?*  
Does not apply.
- 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.*  
Does not apply.
- 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

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.*

The Wenatchee Watershed is approximately 1,330 square miles in size and includes 230 miles of major streams and rivers and associated aquatic habitat. The headwaters of WRIA 45 originate in the Cascade Mountain range as the Little Wenatchee and White Rivers. These rivers flow into Lake Wenatchee, the source of the Wenatchee River. Various tributaries to the Wenatchee River add a significant volume to the river. The Chiwawa River, White River, Little Wenatchee River, Nason and Icicle Creeks are the source of over 90% of the surface water within the watershed. Primary tributaries include: Nason Creek (River Mile [RM] 53.6), Chiwawa River (RM 48.6), Chiwaukum (RM 35.6), Icicle (RM 25.6), Chumstick (RM 23.5), Peshastin (RM 17.9), and Mission (RM 10.4) Creeks. The Wenatchee River discharges into the Columbia River at the City of Wenatchee.

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.*

Some additional stream monitoring may occur to support the rule.

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.*

The rule amendment allocates four cubic feet per second (cfs) of surface and groundwater to a reservation to supply future growth within the next 20 years. It also provides maximum allocations limits for the mainstem of the Wenatchee River and several significant tributary streams.

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

A portion of the watershed contains 100-year floodplain. Floodplain designated areas run along most of the Wenatchee River and in portions adjacent to the Columbia River.

6. *Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.*

No.

b. *Ground*

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

As a result of the water reservation, surface and groundwater would be used to supply water for future expected growth over 20 years. The proposed reservation is for four cubic feet per second.

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, although a portion of the development enabled under the reservation is likely to use septic tanks for waste water disposal.

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.*

Development enabled under the reservation will result in some level of increased impervious surface and additional stormwater runoff.

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

Does not apply.

- d. *Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:*  
None.

#### 4. Plants

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other*  
 *evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other*  
 *shrubs*  
 *grass*  
 *pasture*  
 *crop or grain*  
 *wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other*  
 *water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other*  
 *other types of vegetation*

Vegetation varies throughout watershed. The Lower Wenatchee Sub-watershed supports a diverse assortment of plants, including the following rare plant species: Seely's silene, clustered lady-slipper, pine broomrape, bulb-bearing water hemlock, longsepal globemallow, and a number of carex species.

The Upper Wenatchee contains a diverse assortment of plants, including the following rare plant species: Seely's silene, clustered lady-slipper, pine broomrape, bulb-bearing water hemlock, longsepal globemallow, and a number of carex species. Mesic (mixed – not wet and not dry), and consequently more diverse forest types appear in the higher elevations of the Upper Wenatchee River and Chiwaukum Creek when compared to the Lower Wenatchee Sub-watershed.

The lower elevations of the Mission Sub-watershed are composed of bitterbrush, ponderosa pine, and ponderosa mixed with Douglas fir that are used extensively as winter habitat range for mule deer and a small herd of elk. The mid elevations are composed of Douglas and grand fir forests with interspersed south-facing slopes of ponderosa pine. The upper elevations are comprised of subalpine fir forest and subalpine and alpine meadows. In a few of the side canyons, such as Ragg Canyon, small wetlands provide important and unique habitats.

There are eight rare plant species in the Icicle Creek Sub-watershed: Smokey Mountain sedge, Wenatchee larkspur, Ross's avens, showy stickseed, longsepal globemallow, rock willow, Oregon checker-mallow, and Seely's silene.

Rare plants occur all over the Chiwawa Sub-watershed from the dry forests to high windswept rocky ridges. Candystick, five species of moonworts, Salish fleabane, longsepal globemallow, pine broomrape, and pygmy saxifrage occur in the sub-watershed, while another five species are suspected to occur.

Important terrestrial habitat contributions of the White, Little Wenatchee and Lake Wenatchee Sub-watersheds include habitat for rare plant species, disjunct plant species, and species endemic to the Wenatchee Mountains which occur within these watersheds. There are a wide range of plant communities, with smaller unique communities in pockets. Rare plants include candystick, lance-leaved moonwort, Smokey Mountain sedge, Seely's silene, and others. The upper portion of WRIA 45 has an abundance of bogs and wetlands.

- b. *What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?*  
None, although enabled development is likely to result in some vegetation removal. The type and quantity would depend on the size and placement of the development that occurs.
- c. *List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.*  
Varies throughout watershed. Documented occurrence: Smoky mountain sedge, Clustered lady-slipper, Longespall globemallow, Pine broomrape, Oregon checker-mallow, Seely's silene, Showy stickseed, and Wenatchee larkspur.
- d. *Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:*  
None.

## 5. Animals

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

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

The presence of fish and wildlife varies throughout watershed. Many species of anadromous and non-anadromous fish utilize the aquatic habitat of the Wenatchee Watershed.

A variety of other wildlife is present in the watershed including: northern spotted owl, gray wolf, grizzly bear, bald eagle, waterfowl, mountain goat, and wolverine. The upper portion of WRIA 45 has high species richness and contains a number of osprey nests, great blue heron rookeries, barred owl nests, aspen stands, and habitat for beaver, grouse, mollusks, and snag dependent species.

- b. *List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.*  
Varies throughout watershed. Threatened or endangered fish species occurring in the watershed include: spring Chinook salmon, Steelhead, and Bull trout. Species of concern are Westslope cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey.  
  
Other threatened or endangered wildlife in the watershed are: Peregrine falcon, Bald eagle, Northern spotted owl, Marbled murrelet, Lynx, and Larch Mountain salamander.
- c. *Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.*  
The mainstem Wenatchee River provides migration habitat for all the salmonid species in the watershed. The watershed is also a part of the Pacific Flyway.
- d. *Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:*  
The four cfs water reservation for future growth results in an aquatic habitat loss of 1 to 2% of available habitat during critical (typically August or September) periods for fish species of interest. Uses of water for purposes other than those eligible for the reservation are subject to the proposed minimum instream flow and to the maximum allocation limits.

**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.*  
Does not apply.
- 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.*  
No.
1. *Describe special emergency services that might be required.*  
None.
2. *Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:*  
None.

**8. Noise**

- a. *What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?*  
Does not apply.
- b. *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 some additional noise can be expected from future enabled development, it should be comparable to current levels overall.
- c. *Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:*  
None.

**9. Land and shoreline use**

- a. *What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?*  
Land uses in the Wenatchee Watershed include agriculture (primarily pear and apple orchards), livestock production and grazing, timber harvest, residential housing, and recreation. Over 80% of the watershed is in public ownership.
- b. *Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.*  
Portions of the watershed are used for agriculture. Pear and apple orchards are the primary agricultural activities in the watershed.

c. *Describe any structures on the site.*

A variety of residential, commercial, industrial, and public structures exist within the watershed.

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

None.

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

The majority of the watershed is located outside of a designated Urban Growth Area (UGA) and over 80% is under public land ownership (the majority of which is under Federal land management). The watershed includes the incorporated cities of Wenatchee, Cashmere, and Leavenworth.

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

See above.

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

Shoreline designations vary throughout watershed. See map of shoreline designations within Chelan County.

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

Some areas of the watershed have been designated as steep slopes or high erosion risk.

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

Does not apply.

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

None. The rule amendment will not affect existing water rights. Therefore the existing development and all activities supported by them will not be impacted. A possible exception would be if future water demand results in voluntary transfer or conversion of some existing water rights to serve new uses. This typically means transfer of irrigation rights to serve commercial, industrial, or residential development and so would have a positive effect on the number of people supported.

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

Does not apply.

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

The rule amendment is based on recommendations from the planning group, which included representatives for the cities, county, and state agencies; and a variety of interest groups. The rule amendment also supports future planned growth in the WRIA through creation of a water reservation.

## 10. Housing

a. *Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.*

No housing units will be provided from this non-project action, although the reservation will enable expected rural development for the next 20 years.

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:*

Providing the reservation will mitigate impacts on future rural housing development for approximately 20 years.

#### 11. 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?*

Does not apply.

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

None.

#### 12. Light and glare

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

None, although enabled development will result in some additional level of light in rural areas.

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

Does not apply.

- 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?*

Boating, fishing, swimming, camping, and hiking occur within the watershed. The Wenatchee River and its tributaries provide users with a wide range of recreation experiences, from developed campgrounds to undeveloped primitive campsites.

- 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:*

Protection of instream flows supports outdoor recreational opportunities. The reservation will allow additional water withdrawals within the watershed, but it is limited to a 1 to 2 % loss of aquatic habitat.

#### 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.*

Yes. The following historic sites lie in or near the watershed.

Historic Site	Location	Registers
Rock Island Dam	Spanning the Columbia River, 8 miles SE of Wenatchee	WHR <sup>1</sup>
Lincoln Rock	Directly above Hwy 97, between Wenatchee and Entiat, near Rocky Reach Dam	WHR
Pioneer Village	East end of Cottage Ave, at the east end of the Wenatchee River bridge	WHR
Wells House	1300 Fifth Ave, Cashmere	WHR & NR <sup>2</sup>
Burbank Homestead Waterwheel	Off Main, near Monitor Bridge, Monitor	WHR & NR
Columbia & Okanogan Steamship Co. Boat Yard	Columbia River at the foot of Fifth Street, Wenatchee	WHR
Rock Island Railroad Bridge	SW of Rock Island, over the Columbia River	WHR & NR
US Post Office and Annex	Mission and Yakima streets, Wenatchee	WHR & NR
Wenatchee Flat Site	Address restricted	WHR & NR
Blewett Arrastra	Near the mouth of Culver Gulch, Swauk Pass, US Route 97	WHR & NR
St. Joseph Church and Rectory	506 S Chelan Ave, Wenatchee	WHR
Michael Horan House	2 Horan Rd, Wenatchee	WHR & NR
Columbia River Bridge at Wenatchee	US Route 2 and Wenatchee, spanning the Columbia River	WHR & NR
Brisky Treadwell Cemetery	Hazel Place Rd, Cashmere	WHR
Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery	12790 Fish Hatchery Rd, Leavenworth	WHR & NR
Black Warrior Mine	Beside the waterfall at the west side of the mouth of Horseshoe Basin	WHR & NR
Lake Wenatchee Residence #1200	WA 207, north shore of Lake Wenatchee, Wenatchee National Forest	WHR & NR
Stevens Pass Guard Station	I-2 at Stevens Pass	WHR & NR
Sugarloaf Peak Lookout	Summit of Sugarloaf Peak, Wenatchee National Forest	WHR & NR
Wenatchee Carnegie Library	2 S Chelan St, Wenatchee	WHR & NR
Penstock Bridge	Spans Wenatchee River, north of Leavenworth, on US 2	WHR & NR
West Monitor Bridge	Spans Wenatchee River	WHR & NR
Columbia River Bridge	Spans the Columbia River, between Wenatchee and East Wenatchee	WHR & NR
Chatter Creek Guard Station	Wenatchee National Forest	WHR & NR
Leavenworth Ranger Station	Wenatchee National Forest	WHR & NR
Wenatchee Avenue Southbound Bridge	State Route 285 at the Wenatchee river	WHR
Cottage Avenue Historic District	208 through 509 Cottage Ave, 103 Maple St, & 107 Parkhill St, Cashmere	WHR & NR
Wenatchee Fire Station #1	136 S Chelan Ave, Wenatchee	WHR & NR

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. Additionally there are known Ice Age features in the area.

<sup>1</sup> Washington Heritage Register

<sup>2</sup> National Register

- 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.*  
The watershed is accessed by highways US 97, US 2, Hwy 207, Hwy 62, Hwy 285, and the Chumstick Hwy; in addition to many smaller roads and city streets.
- b. *Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?*  
Link transit serves the major population centers within Douglas and Chelan counties.
- 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).*  
Does not apply.
- e. *Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.*  
Does not apply.
- f. *How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.*  
Does not apply.
- g. *Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:*  
None.

#### 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.*  
Implementation and enforcement of the rule amendment require some increase in state and local workload. This is not expected to be significant or require any additional resources.
- 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.*  
Does not apply.
- 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.*  
Does not apply.

**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:           D J Hill          

Date Submitted:           May 31, 2007

**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?*

Use of the reservation for projected 20-year growth would result in increased releases, discharges, and noise typical of residential, commercial, and industrial development.

*Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:*

Future development must meet local development ordinances and may undergo additional environmental review during permitting.

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

Protecting stream flow levels and limiting future water withdrawals protects fish, aquatic and riparian plants and animals, and other wildlife. Some impact will result from future withdrawals from the reservation, but it is less than 2% during a low flow year that typically occurs one year in ten. Some upland impacts are also expected from enabled development.

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

The rule amendment is protective of plants, animals, and fish; and supports salmon recovery efforts.

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

The proposal would not *deplete* energy or natural resources, however, the four cfs reservation that would provide water for future growth in the watershed would result in a flow reduction of four cfs from the Wenatchee River. The portion of the four cfs reservation allocated from tributaries to the Wenatchee River would also result in a slight reduction in streamflow in those tributaries. For the Mission and Chumstick Sub-watersheds, the amendment defines a small interim reserve for use while water managers evaluate alternate strategies to provide water for growth in these areas, such as the purchase and transfer of existing water rights.

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

The calculation of the reservation was based on an acceptable projected habitat loss. The proposed rule includes metering of all new permitted uses and an administrative accounting of the reservation water. In addition, Chelan County Natural Resource Department (CCNRD) and Chelan Douglas Health District will track new exempt wells; CCNRD will track new water rights in cooperation with the Department of Ecology.

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 rule amendment will have little adverse impact on these features, except for some increased potential for conversion of farmlands and irrigation water rights to different purposes or uses.

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

The rule amendment is protective of these features by protecting stream flow levels and limiting new water withdrawals.

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 rule amendment is compatible with local land use planning. It is based on the recommendations in the Wenatchee River Watershed Plan, which Chelan County adopted in 2006. The plan was also a collaborative effort of the planning group that included representation from the cities and Chelan County.

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

The amendment is protective of stream flow levels and creates a reservation to serve projected future development for 20 years.

6. *How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?*  
Some impact can be expected from enabled future development supported by the reservation.

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

None

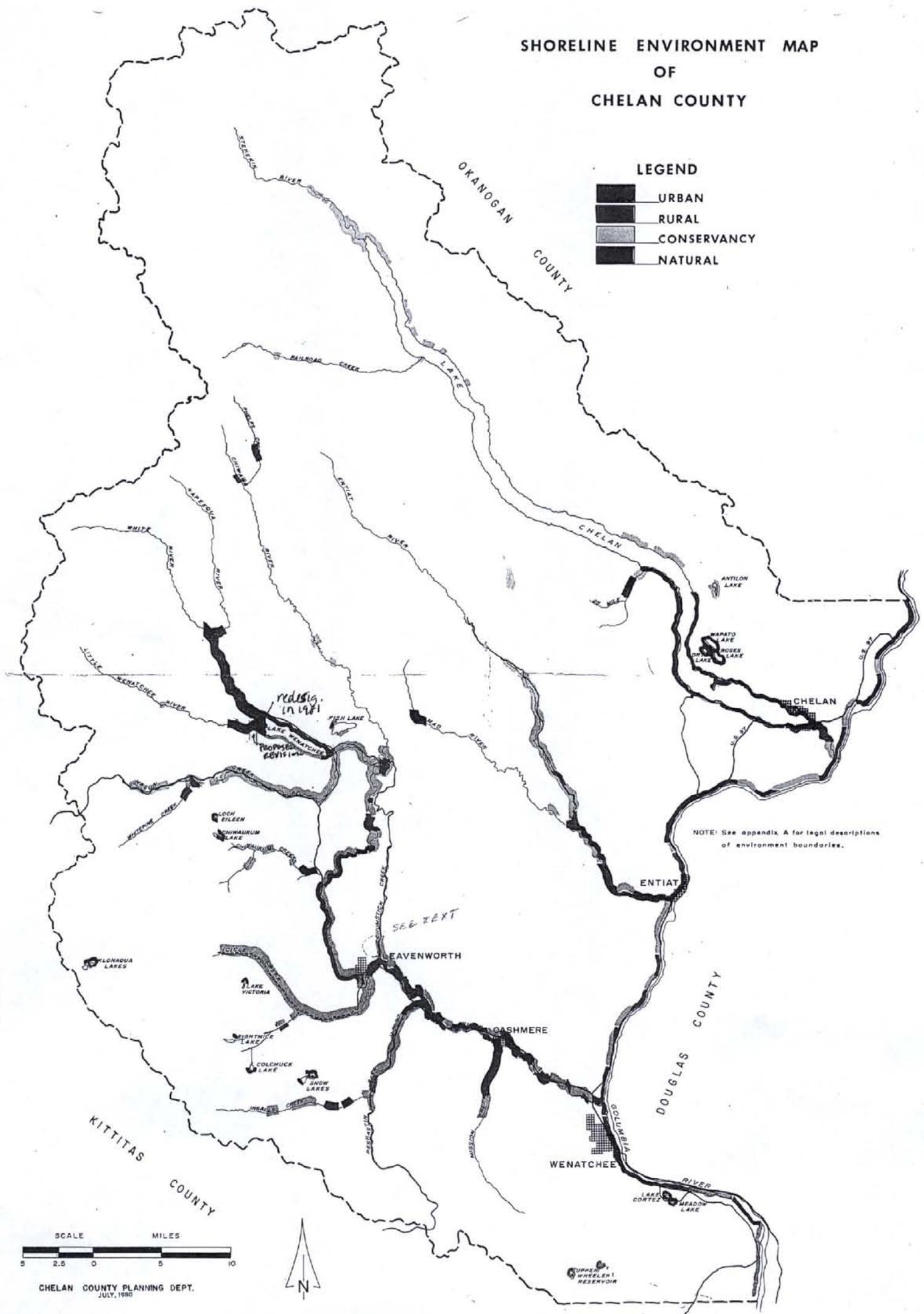
7. *Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.*

The rule amendment is protective of the environment and does not conflict with any local, state, or federal laws.

# SHORELINE ENVIRONMENT MAP OF CHELAN COUNTY

## LEGEND

- URBAN
- RURAL
- CONSERVANCY
- NATURAL



NOTE: See appendix A for legal descriptions of environment boundaries.



CHELAN COUNTY PLANNING DEPT.  
JULY, 1980