

WAC 197-11-960 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:

This is a non-project action commonly referred to as the Clark County Stormwater Ordinance Update Project. The action includes updating the Clark County Stormwater and Erosion Control (Chapter 40.380) and Water Quality (Chapter 13.26A) Ordinances and associated manuals.

2. Name of applicant:

Clark County

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

Clark County
PO Box 9810
Vancouver WA 98666-9810
Contact: Robin Krause, Project Manager
Phone: 360-397-6118 x4911

4. Date checklist prepared:

June 29, 2008

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Clark County

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

- Submit draft ordinances to the Washington State Department of Ecology July 2008
- Finalize ordinance after agency and public comments November 2008
- Hold public hearing to adopt ordinance December 2008

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

The county is proposing to revise two ordinances, Chapters 40.380 and 13.26A.

Chapter 13.26A includes updating two guidance manuals:

- Clark County Stormwater Pollution Control Manual – Best Management Practices for Businesses and Government Agencies
- Clark County Stormwater Facility Maintenance Manual

Chapter 40.380 includes the developing the Clark County Stormwater Manual as a new guidance manual.

8. List any environmental information that has been or will be prepared related to this proposal.

The Final and Draft Environmental Impact Statements for the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan of Clark County, 2007, are incorporated by reference into this checklist.

9. Are other applications pending for governmental approvals affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, please explain.

No.

10. List any government approvals or permits needed for your proposal:

The ordinances become affective once they are adopted by the Clark County Board of County Commissioners. Prior to adoption, the draft ordinances will be distributed to the Department of Ecology and the Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development for review. The

Department of Ecology included the requirement to update the ordinances in the county's current NPDES Municipal Permit, issued February 2007.

11. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and size of the project and site. There are several questions addressed later in this checklist asking 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.)

Clark County is proposing a non-project action to update its Stormwater and Erosion Control and Water Quality ordinances, and to develop guidance manuals for the implementation of the ordinances.

This proposal includes updating the following ordinances and manuals:

- Chapter 40.380 Stormwater and Erosion Control Ordinance
- Chapter 13.26 Water Quality Ordinance
- Clark County Stormwater Pollution Control Manual – Best Management Practices for Businesses and Government Agencies
- Clark County Stormwater Facility Maintenance Manual

A state-issued municipal stormwater permit requires the county to develop a program that includes a process of permits, plan review, inspections, and enforcement capability to meet the Department of Ecology's stormwater standards for both private and public development projects that discharge to the municipal storm sewer system. The county is proposing to update the stormwater and erosion control ordinance because current regulations do not meet the Department of Ecology's newest permit requirements to follow state guidelines for controlling stormwater and erosion on development and construction sites. The new guidelines are more protective of streams and lakes, and groundwater resources.

The county's stormwater and erosion control ordinance regulates how land disturbing activities deal with stormwater and erosion control. The ordinance is designed to help ensure that construction activities and new hard surfaces do not cause significant harm to local water bodies and groundwater supplies. Land disturbing activities may include constructing roads, driveways, and buildings, and creating pastures and lawns.

The county's water quality ordinance helps to further protect surface and groundwater resources by setting minimum requirements for reducing and controlling the discharge of contaminants and stormwater flows. It prohibits the discharge of contaminants to surface water, stormwater, and groundwater, and it requires business and government properties to use pollution control best management practices (BMPs) and maintain their stormwater facility. The water quality ordinance must be updated to adopt the more recent state standards for preventing pollutants from business and government operations from reaching the storm sewer.

Clark County also proposes to develop a Stormwater Manual to contain the technical amendments to the 2005 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and guide the implementation of the local regulations.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including street address, section, township, and range. If this proposal occurs over a wide area, please provide the range or boundaries of the site. Also, a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map. You are required to submit any plans required by the agency, but not required to submit duplicate maps or plans submitted with permit applications related to this checklist.

This proposal is not site specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

According to the county's Comprehensive Plan Draft EIS, Clark County exhibits traces of its geologic history, including repeated inundation by fluctuating seas during the glacial epochs, sedimentary processes of the Columbia River, volcanic activity, and periodic earthquakes. These processes are on-going—rivers are eroding and transporting material to create new land areas, land is changing by slumping and down warping, the weathering of rocks is creating soil, and landslides, earthquakes, and volcanic events can occur at any time.

The topographic features of the county are largely defined by its mountain province—the foothills of the county—which are characterized by steep slopes, and the plains province—plains and terraces—which are flatlands and gently sloping areas.

According to the county's Comprehensive Plan Draft EIS, the two physiographic regions of Clark County—the plains province and the mountains province present different slope stability problems. The eastern part of the county (the mountains province) has the most varied topography, and slopes represent a major constraint on all land uses, including urban development. Slopes in the southwestern portion of the county are generally associated with streambeds draining toward the Columbia River. These slopes may be steep in places: portions of the Salmon Creek drainage have slopes that range from 26 to 40 percent; slopes along parts of Burnt Bridge Creek also range from 26 to 40 percent; and some areas in the Vancouver Lake Lowlands have slopes greater than 40 percent.

Geological hazard areas are those that, because of their susceptibility to erosion, sliding, earthquakes, or other geological events, are not suited to residential, commercial, or industrial development. Potential geologic hazards in Clark County include landslides—often in steep-sloped areas around stream corridors—ground settling, flooding related to volcanic activity, and earthquakes.

Few recent landslides (those within the last 200 years) have occurred in either region. Most that have occurred have been caused by rivers and streams (in the plains province) and by logging activities (in the mountain province). The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has identified four classes of slope stability within the county: older landslides, recent landslides, areas susceptible to landslides or that are potentially unstable, and stable areas. The first three of these classes require special action. Older and potentially unstable landslides should have detailed geologic and engineering studies conducted prior to any development. Recent and active landslide areas should be avoided. In areas susceptible to landslides, activities such as septic system construction, the watering of lawns and the redirection of stormwater runoff could lead to the saturation of otherwise stable soils and may cause the loss of internal slope stability, resulting in landslides. In the mountain region of the county, most development is related to logging, and logging roads are a primary cause of most landslides.

Accelerated erosion from water results in a rill, a steep-sided channel typically a few inches deep. Rill erosion is most likely to occur on sparsely vegetated, steep slopes. The Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) describes potential erosion hazard as slight, moderate, and severe. Soils with severe erosion hazard usually have slopes of 30 percent or greater, but can be on relatively shallow slopes where the probability of flooding is high. Erosion from urban development can carry soil into nearby streams and lakes, degrading water quality and endangering fish and wildlife that are dependent on those water bodies.

According to the county's Comprehensive Plan Draft EIS the NRCS has classified the soils of Clark County into eight major soil associations:

- Sauvie-Puyallup, found in the bottomlands and flood plains;

- Hillsboro-Gee-Odne, Hillsboro-Dollar-Cove, and Lauren-Sifton-Wind River, found in terraces;
- Hesson-Olequa and Hesson-Olympic, found in uplands; and
- Cinebar-Yacolt and Olympic-Kinney, found in the foothills.

These soil associations have been further classified according to their ability to support different types of land uses, including urban development, agriculture and silviculture. The majority of the county has moderate to severe soil limitations to foundations. The major restriction is related to slope. Most of the county has some type of soil limitation to septic systems based largely on soil drainage characteristics, including the risk of groundwater contamination in areas that readily percolate septic system effluent and stormwater runoff. The best soils for a wide range of agricultural uses are located in the lowlands along rivers; areas that have already received substantial urban development.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site and the approximate percentage of the slope?

Does not apply.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (e.g., clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? Please specify the classification of agricultural soils and note any prime farmland.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

g. What percentage of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after the project construction (e.g., asphalt or buildings)?

Does not apply.

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

The proposed Stormwater and Erosion Control ordinance is one of many controls regulating land use and development activities in the county, and therefore works in conjunction with other regulations to attain the goals of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan.

This proposal to update the ordinance will not increase erosion or adversely impact aforementioned earth elements, and will reduce or control erosion in several ways.

The proposed Stormwater and Erosion Control ordinance will require greater control of erosion and sedimentation from construction activities. Thresholds triggering erosion and sediment control planning will be lower in the proposed regulations relative to previous rules, and nearly all construction projects will be required to control erosion. Project proponents will be required to use an expanded list of standardized best management practices that the State has found to be more effective in managing pollutants from construction site runoff. Project proponents will also be required to submit plans to the county for a broader range of development activities, demonstrating that appropriate erosion and sedimentation control measures will be planned for during construction projects.

The proposed Stormwater and Erosion Control ordinance will require minimum setbacks for stormwater infiltration facilities from steep slopes in order to protect soil and prevent erosion and mass-wasting.

The proposed ordinance will also require that stormwater facilities shall be located in accordance with the county's critical areas ordinances, specifically Chapter 40.430, Geological Hazard Areas ordinance, with the specific purpose of safeguarding public health, safety and welfare by placing limitations on development in geologically hazardous areas consistent with the requirements of the Growth Management Act and WAC 365-190-080.

2 Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from this proposal (e.g., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and after completion? Please describe and give approximate quantities.

Does not apply.

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

No.

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

None.

3 Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, and wetlands)? If yes, describe the type and provide names and into which stream or river it flows into.

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

Clark County has an abundance of rivers and streams. The county is bounded on the south and west by the Columbia River and on the north by the Lewis River. The major tributaries of the Columbia River in Clark County are the Lewis River, Washougal River, and Lake River. Important streams that are tributaries to these rivers are Siouxon Creek, Canyon Creek, Cedar Creek, East Fork Lewis River, Little Washougal River, Salmon Creek, and Burnt Bridge Creek.

Major lakes in the county include Vancouver Lake and Battle Ground Lake, which are naturally occurring lakes, and Lacamas Lake, Lake Merwin, and Yale Lake, which are man-made.

Rapid population growth and development pressures within Clark County over the past decade have made it increasingly difficult to maintain water quality. Currently, the water management programs of Clark County and its cities are focused on water quality issues and those factors that negatively influence water quality, such as erosion, stormwater runoff, and the loss of key environmental elements—namely, wetlands, floodplains, and riparian areas.

2) Will the project require any work within 200 feet of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Does not apply.

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.

Does not apply.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Please provide description, purpose, and approximate quantities:

No.

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

Does not apply.

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:

The principal aquifers in Clark County are the Troutdale gravel aquifer (upper Troutdale Formation) and the unconsolidated sedimentary aquifer. Most of the wells in Clark County are in the Troutdale Formation. A deeper sedimentary unit, about which less is known, is also a significant water source in some areas and supplies water to several wells owned by Clark Public Utilities (CPU) and the City of Vancouver.

Groundwater is the source of over 95 percent of the water used by businesses and residents within Clark County. All of Clark County's lowlands can be considered an aquifer recharge area, as groundwater lies beneath virtually all populated areas and is used as drinking water. Shallow aquifers provide drinking water in most of the county. These shallow aquifers receive recharge directly from the land surface as rainfall and snow melt infiltration, and as infiltration from rivers and other surface water bodies. Urban areas, such as southern Clark County, afford little opportunity for recharge because most surfaces are impervious and therefore prevent precipitation from entering the soil. A significant part of recharge in urban areas is from drywells and septic systems.

Deeper aquifers are primarily recharged by groundwater moving downward from more shallow aquifers. The risk that aquifers would be degraded by contaminants released at the land surface is greatest in areas, such as Clark County, where water moves downward from the land surface to the more shallow aquifers. The significance of an aquifer as a drinking water source increases as the number of people using the aquifer increases. Aquifers used as potable water sources have been mapped by the County by comparing the distribution of wells with aquifer extent.

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Please give description, purpose, and approximate quantities.

No.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources; (e.g., domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the size and number of the systems, houses to be served; or, the number of animals or humans the systems are expected to serve.

Does not apply.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal. Include quantities, if known. Describe where water will flow, and if it will flow into other water.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

This non-project proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

The Environmental Element of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan contains several goals and policies regarding ground and surface waters. Policies call for identifying watershed processes and incorporating ways to respond to watershed processes in local planning processes, updating regulatory and incentive programs for the protection of surface waters and underlying watershed processes.

Another goal is to provide a long-range stormwater management program to minimize impacts from stormwater discharge from existing and new development. Policies for this goal are to implement stormwater basin planning, adopt standards substantially equivalent to those in the Department of Ecology Stormwater Management Manual, maintain clear development review standards for the control of the quantity and quality of stormwater discharge, and to limit the removal of vegetation.

The proposed stormwater and water quality ordinances protect the county's surface and ground water quality by establishing requirements for reducing and controlling the discharge of contaminants and stormwater flows and requires the use of best management practices. Chapter 40.380 seeks to prevent surface and groundwater degradation; minimize erosion and control sediment; protect the quality of waters; maintain existing groundwater levels, in-stream flows, and available water supply volumes; and further the County's goals of no net negative impact caused by the quantity of runoff entering streams and no net negative change in the quality of runoff entering streams through the implementation of best management practices (BMPs). The ordinance establishes design standards of stormwater facilities, prescribes specific best management practices that are to be used, and lists development requirements.

The ordinance requires stormwater infiltration wherever soil conditions make it feasible and regulations require that stormwater infiltration facilities be designed in accordance to the Underground Injection Control (UIC) guidelines developed by the State when applicable. The proposed ordinance promotes infiltration of runoff by allowing for more flexible infiltration rates when using dispersed, low impact development techniques.

The water quality ordinance seeks to protect the county's surface and groundwater quality by establishing requirements for reducing and controlling the discharge of contaminants and stormwater flows. The ordinance prohibits the discharge of contaminants to surface water and groundwater and requires the use of best management practices. This ordinance recognizes the importance of public awareness about how everyday activities can contribute to the degradation of groundwater and surface water quality. It also establishes a public education program to further this awareness within the county.

Overall, the proposed update of the county's ordinances will require development activities to provide greater control of stormwater runoff and more affective removal of pollutants, providing greater control of impacts of individual development projects to surface water and groundwater. The following list further explains some of protective aspects of the proposed ordinance:

- More activities are regulated; the creation of hard surfaces on rural single family lots and agriculture land is now regulated; water quality treatment is required for new lawns and landscaping projects that involve a significant amount of land conversion;
- More affective removal of pollutants; treatment BMPs are more standardized, flexible, and effective, replacing many outdated BMPs currently allowed;

- More control of runoff required; flow control requirements are more stringent; peak flows durations of stormwater discharge are now regulated requiring larger detention ponds or other BMPs to retain stormwater onsite;
- Flow control is required based on land cover conditions that generated the least amount of runoff since 1955 versus land cover over the past 30 years for most projects, resulting in lower peak flow rates leaving many sites;
- More stringent rules in water quality ordinance for what can be discharged to streams or municipal storm sewer system;
- More rigorous and standardized testing and site assessment required; continuous stormwater modeling using 50 years of rainfall data replaces 24-hour stormwater models; new infiltration testing procedures replace unregulated processes that produce varied results;
- New low impact development (LID) methods take advantage of even very low infiltration rates, providing increased groundwater recharge and reduced pollution leaving the site;
- More rigorous submittal requirements for project proponents;
- More rigorous O&M requirements; guidance manuals include the latest BMPs and processes from the 2005 Ecology Manual and the King County manuals;
- Enhanced stormwater treatment is required for some arterial roadways, commercial, and industrial use sites;
- A Certified Erosion and Sedimentation Control Lead (CESCL) is a required BMP for construction projects greater than one acre;

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

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Does not apply.

c. List threatened or endangered species on or near the site.

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

Several plant, and fish and wildlife species listed by the state and/or federal government as threatened or endangered may be found in Clark County. In addition, numerous species that may be found in Clark County have been listed by the federal government as sensitive or candidate species for listing. Sensitive species are those that are in decline and potentially eligible as candidates for listing. Candidate species have been proposed for listing a threatened or endangered.

d. List proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site:

Does not apply.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site:

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other;
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other; and,
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, shellfish, other.

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

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

Several plant, and fish and wildlife species listed by the state and/or federal government as threatened or endangered may be found in Clark County. In addition, numerous species that may be found in Clark County have been listed by the federal government as sensitive or candidate species for listing. Sensitive species are those that are in decline and potentially eligible as candidates for listing. Candidate species have been proposed for listing a threatened or endangered.

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

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

Clark County and the Lower Columbia region provide critical habitat for a variety of migratory fish and wildlife species. These include salmon and steelhead populations that have been listed or proposed for listing as threatened under the ESA, as well as some of the largest populations of migratory waterfowl, neotropical migrant birds, and shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest.

d. List proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife:

The proposed update of the county's ordinances will require development activities to provide greater control of stormwater runoff and more affective removal of pollutants, providing greater control of impacts of individual development projects to surface water and groundwater. The proposed controls will be more protective of aquatic and terrestrial habitat and will reduce impacts from development activities on wildlife.

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, please describe.

Does not apply.

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:

Does not apply.

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, please describe.

No.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Does not apply.

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 (e.g., traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

Does not apply.

2) What types and levels of noise are associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (e.g., traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours the noise would come from the site.

Does not apply.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts:

None.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

This proposal is not site-specific. The ordinances apply to all non-exempt activities in Clark County.

The total land area encompassed by Clark County and its associated cities is approximately 420,085 acres, including areas covered by water. According to the 2007 Comprehensive Growth Plan the overall existing distribution of various generalized land uses within Clark County include 38% Forest, 35% Single Family Residence, 9% Agriculture, 2% Parks/Open Space, and <1% for each of Multi-Family Residence, Urban Reserve, Commercial, and Industrial uses.

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

Does not apply.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Does not apply.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, please describe.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

g. What is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

None.

j. How many people would the completed project displace?

None.

k. Please list proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts:

None.

l. List proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans:

The proposed ordinances are compatible with many of the goals in the Environmental Element of the county's 2007 Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. The compatibility of this proposal and land use is discussed further in Part D.5 of this checklist.

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided? Indicate whether it's high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether it's high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. List proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts:

None.

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas? What is proposed as the principal exterior building materials?

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:

None.

11. Light and glare

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

Does not apply.

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?

Does not apply.

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

None.

12. Recreation

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

Does not apply.

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

No.

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

None.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any places or objects on or near the site which are listed or proposed for national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, please describe.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts:

None.

14. Transportation

a. Identify the public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

None.

d. Will the proposal require new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, please describe and indicate whether it's public or private.

No.

e. Will the project use water, rail, or air transportation? If so, please describe.

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? Indicate when peak traffic volumes would occur.

None.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts:

None.

15. Public services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (e.g., fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, please describe.

The proposal will increase the need for public services. Specifically, by regulating more activities the proposed ordinances will increase the numbers of proposed projects that need to be reviewed by the county and may also increase the amount of time for review. While this review will benefit the environment, it will utilize public services. More stringent requirements for operation and maintenance of publicly owned facilities may increase the need for public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services:

Checklists and other standardized forms are being developed to help facilitate reviews and simplify submittal processes.

16. Utilities

a. Circle the 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 or near the site:

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: Ronald E. Wrenger

Date Submitted: 7/15/08

D. SEPA Supplemental sheet for non-project actions

Instructions: *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 of the proposal and the types of activities likely to result from this proposal. Please respond briefly and in general terms.*

1. How would the proposal increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?

The proposal will not increase discharges to water, emissions to air, toxic or hazardous substance releases, or noise production. The proposal should lead to a reduction in discharges of stormwater runoff to surface and groundwater.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

No measures are proposed to avoid or reduce such increases.

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

The proposal should have a positive effect on wildlife by reducing impacts to habitat from stormwater runoff.

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

The proposal will strengthen stormwater control and pollutant removal requirements for development and construction activities, providing more protection for surface and groundwater resources, and both terrestrial and aquatic habitat.

No measures are proposed to directly conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life.

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

The proposal is not likely to deplete energy or other natural resources.

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

The proposal will strengthen stormwater control and pollutant removal requirements for development and construction activities, providing more protection for natural resources, specifically surface and groundwater resources and aquatic habitats.

No measures are proposed to directly conserve energy or natural resources.

4. How would the proposal use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or those 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 will not use or negatively affect environmentally sensitive areas.

The stormwater and erosion control and water quality ordinances will work in conjunction with other development regulations, such as critical areas ordinances, to attain the goals of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan. The stormwater and erosion control ordinance requires that in the event a critical areas ordinance conflicts with requirements for stormwater, the most stringent or protective of the regulations apply. This will ensure that sensitive areas are protected.

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

The proposal will strengthen stormwater control and pollutant removal requirements for development and construction activities, providing more protection for environmentally sensitive areas, specifically surface and groundwater resources and aquatic habitats, and critical areas.

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

The proposal does not determine or alter designated uses of land and shoreline areas. The proposed regulations are intended to reduce impacts from proposed development and construction activities. The proposed ordinances are compatible with the goal of providing a long-range stormwater management program to minimize impacts from stormwater discharge from existing and new development, and subsequent policies in the Environmental Element of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan.

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

The proposed update of the county's ordinances will require development activities to provide greater control of stormwater runoff and more effective removal of pollutants, reducing impacts of individual development projects to surface water and groundwater.

The proposed ordinance has provisions for divergence from the stormwater requirements in circumstances where application of the provisions would deprive a project proponent of all reasonable use of the property, thereby reducing impacts on designated land use. The granting of a variance from the requirements of the stormwater ordinances requires that the variance provides equivalent environmental protection and is in the overriding public interest.

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

The proposal will increase the need for public services by regulating more activities, which will increase the numbers of proposed projects that need to be reviewed by the county. Initially there will also be an increase in the amount of time necessary for engineering review. While more oversight may benefit the environment, it will utilize public services.

Ensuring proper operation and maintenance of stormwater infrastructure is necessary for reducing impacts of development activities on surface and groundwater. More stringent requirements for operation and maintenance of publicly owned facilities may increase the need for public services.

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

The proposal supports an important policy in the Environmental Element of the county's Comprehensive Growth Management Plan of maintaining clear development review standards for the control of the quantity and quality of storm water discharge from development projects which emphasize on-site retention, treatment and infiltration of run-off to streams, rivers, wetlands, and lakes.

The proposal provides for more rigorous and standardized testing and site assessment for proposed projects, replacing previously unregulated processes that often produced varied results and required significant time for county staff to review. More rigorous submittal requirements for project proponents will allow for a standardized, through review. More rigorous facility operation and maintenance requirements are supplemented by the development of guidance manuals containing up to date procedures and practices, providing for more consistent and efficient use of public services.

Checklists and other standardized forms are being developed to help facilitate reviews and simplify submittal processes.

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

The proposal updates the county's stormwater and erosion control, and water quality ordinances in compliance with state and federal requirements. Potential conflicts with local regulations may exist. The

proposal allows project proponents to use of Low Impact Development techniques to manage stormwater runoff, which may conflict with transportation or building codes. The county plans to review local development regulations to identify and remove barriers to implement the proposed regulations where possible.

E. References

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Clark County, 2008. Stormwater Facility Maintenance Manual, Clark County Public Works Department, DRAFT January 2008.

Clark County Department of Community Planning, 2007. Clark County 20-Year Comprehensive Growth Management Plan 2004-2024, Adopted September 2007, Clark County Washington.

Clark County Department of Community Planning, 2007. Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Comprehensive Growth Management Plan of Clark County, Battle Ground, Camas, La Center, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal, and Yacolt. May 4th, 2007.

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