

## 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:

For nonproject proposals complete this checklist and the supplemental sheet for nonproject actions (Part D). The lead agency may exclude any question for the environmental elements (Part B) which they determine do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

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:  
Ongoing Maintenance of Eurasian Watermilfoil Control Efforts at Lake Tapps
2. Name of applicant:  
Alyssa Jergens  
Program Assistant  
Cascade Water Alliance
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:  
520 112<sup>th</sup> Ave. NE Suite 400  
Bellevue, WA 98004  
(425) 283-0368  
[www.cascadewater.org](http://www.cascadewater.org)
4. Date checklist prepared:  
12/19/14
5. Agency requesting checklist:  
Cascade Water Alliance
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Annual spring/summer aquatic non-native plant management activities over the next ten years (2015-2025) per the attached 2015 Lake Tapps Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan, Cascade Water Alliance (hereafter "Lake Tapps IAVMP"). Timing of management activities shall be based on climatic conditions and the growth status of the target plant species (*Myriophyllum spicatum*, Eurasian watermilfoil)

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

This is an aquatic non-native plant management program and does not include construction or development of land along shoreline areas. This program shall use adaptive management based on monitoring results and only isolated treatment activities are anticipated per the Lake Tapps IAVMP (see document for further details).

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

Lake Tapps IAVMP

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.

N/A (not applicable)

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

- Aquatic Plant and Algae Management General Permit, Washington Department of Ecology (current permit valid through March 2016).
- Bonney Lake Shoreline Exemption
- Pierce County Shoreline Exemption.

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.

The aquatic plant management goal for updated Lake Tapps IAVMP is to implement aquatic noxious weed control approaches that result in very low density of milfoil populations.

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.

Lake Tapps Reservoir is east of Tacoma, Washington, near the City of Bonney Lake and Auburn in north central Pierce County, Washington and in the northwestern portion of the Puyallup/White River Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 10. On December 18, 2009 Lake Tapps Reservoir was acquired from Puget Sound Energy (PSE) by Cascade Water Alliance (Cascade). Further details, including map, are provided in the Lake Tapps IAVMP.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

- a. General description of the site?  
Lake Tapps Reservoir is a lake.
- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?  
N/A (activities are in-lake and will not affect riparian and upland slopes)
- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.  
N/A
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.  
N/A
- e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.  
N/A
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.  
N/A
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?  
N/A
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:  
N/A

**2. Air**

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.  
N/A
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.  
N/A
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:  
N/A

### 3. Water

#### a. Surface Water:

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

Please see section Hydrologic Features in the Lake Tapps IAVMP. The flow from Lake Tapps to the White River is a fraction of that in the river channel.

- 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.

Please see the Lake Tapps IAVMP for detailed aquatic plant management activities.  
Note: no construction or structural modifications are planned.

- 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.

N/A

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

No

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

Yes, the project is within the lake shoreline and no treatment activities will affect structural characteristics of the lake.

- 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.

N/A

#### b. Ground Water:

- 1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

N/A

- 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.

N/A

#### 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.  
N/A
- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.  
N/A
- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.  
N/A

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

N/A

**4. Plants**

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: milfoil and sparse native aquatic plants
- other types of vegetation

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?  
See the Lake Tapps IAVMP; the plan is to control non-native aquatic Eurasian watermilfoil.
- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.  
None within the lake, for complete area map, please see the Lake Tapps IAVMP.
- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:  
Natural re-establishment of native aquatic plants is anticipated after control of Eurasian watermilfoil.
- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.  
Eurasian watermilfoil is classified as a class B noxious weed under WAC 16-750—11. Under RCW 17.10.140, the property owner shall perform or cause to be performed those acts as many be necessary to control and prevent the spread of all class B noxious weeds.

## 5. Animals

- a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.  
For a complete list of animal species known to occur in or near the lake, please see the Lake Tapps IAVMP.
- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.  
None listed by the Washington Natural Heritage Program, please see the Lake Tapps IAVMP.
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.  
Lake Tapps is an artificial waterbody with a diversion canal on the inflow that prohibits anadromous fish passage. Lake Tapps is an unlikely migration route for birds given the relatively recent establishment of the waterbody.
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:  
N/A
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.  
Asian clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) is found in scattered populations in Lake Tapps.

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

## 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.  
Federally- and state-approved aquatic herbicides will be applied by a licensed applicator according to herbicide label specifications.
- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.  
None known
- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas

transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

N/A

- 3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.  
See 7a above.
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.  
None anticipated; however the licensed applicator will provide necessary PPE during application, as required by the herbicide label.
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:  
See Item #4 above.

#### **b. Noise**

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

N/A

- 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.

N/A

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

N/A

#### **8. Land and shoreline use**

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

Residential and recreational

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

No

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

No

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

N/A; the site is a lake (in-lake structures include docks)

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

No

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

Open water reservoir

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

Water supply and recreation

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

N/A

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

No

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

None

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

None

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

N/A

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

N/A

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

N/A

## 9. Housing

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

## 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?

N/A



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

N/A

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

N/A

### 11. Light and glare

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

### 12. Recreation

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

Water contact, boating, and recreational fishing

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

The project is anticipated to enhance recreational uses by reducing the density of Eurasian watermilfoil.

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

Any control measures would be implemented during low recreational use times.

### 13. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.

N/A

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

N/A

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

N/A

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

N/A

#### 14. Transportation

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

N/A

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

N/A

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

N/A

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

N/A

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

N/A

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

N/A

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No

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

N/A

#### 15. Public services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No

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

N/A

**16. Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:


N/A

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.

N/A

**C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:   
Name of signee Alyssa Jergens  
Position and Agency/Organization: Program Assistant, Cascade Water Alliance  
Date Submitted: 1/9/2015



## DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL:** Ongoing Maintenance of Eurasian Water Milfoil Control Efforts at Lake Tapps over a 10-year period

**PROPONENT AND LEAD AGENCY:** Cascade Water Alliance

**LOCATION OF PROPOSAL, INCLUDING STREET ADDRESS, IF ANY:** Includes the Lake Tapps Reservoir located in northern Pierce County, Washington, approximately 30 miles southeast of Seattle and 18 miles east of Tacoma in Section 2, Township 19 North, Range 6 East.

**THRESHOLD DETERMINATION:** 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 of signature below. Comments must be submitted by January 20, 2015
- There is no agency appeal.

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL:** Michael A. Gagliardo

**POSITION/TITLE:** Director of Planning, Phone: 425-453-0930

**ADDRESS:** 520 112<sup>th</sup> Ave NE, Suite 400, Bellevue, WA 98004

Date: January 6, 2015

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael A. Gagliardo".

Michael A. Gagliardo, Director of Planning and SEPA Responsible Official  
Cascade Water Alliance