

WASHINGTON STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA)
ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
FOR PROJECTS & NON-PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY OF GRANITE FALLS

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

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.

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for non-project proposals:

For non-project proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NON-PROJECT ACTIONS (part III). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Contact Information

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Snohomish County Fire District 17 - Storage Building and Training Tower

2. Name of applicant:

Snohomish County Fire District 17

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

Snohomish County Fire District 17
Contact: Jim Haverfield
116 S Granite Ave, Granite Falls, WA 98252
(360) 691-5553

B. Checklist Information

1. Date checklist prepared:
July 2, 2021
2. Agency requesting checklist: City of Granite Falls

C. Project Schedule & Phasing

1. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):
Anticipated time for project to commence in October 2021 and be completed by March 2022
2. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.
Future addition of Headquarter Fire Station

D. Existing Environmental Documents & Government Approvals

1. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.
Drainage report by Harmsen, LLC.
Geotechnical report by Associated Earth Sciences, Inc.
2. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.
No
3. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.
Granite Falls Fill and Grade Permit
Department of Ecology Construction Stormwater Permit

E. Project Description & Location

1. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)
Snohomish County Fire District 17 is proposing to building a 3,700 SF Storage Building and 1,340 Training Tower located on the north end of their 5.1 acre (221,978 SF) lot. Provisions will be made for the addition of an approx. 15,000 SF Head Quarters Fire Station in the future, date TBD which will be placed closely to Gun Club Road on the south end of the site. Project includes drive access, asphalt and concrete paving, parking for visiting crew and storm facilities.

2. 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.

Subject is an approx. 5.1 acre lot located at 20217 Gun Club Road in Granite Falls, Washington. Site is bordered by recreational facilities and business properties to the north, east and west with Gun Club Road bordering the south property line. Legal Description: Parcel B, City of Granite Falls Boundary Line Adjustment #2018-003 Recorded under auditor's file no 201903070220, records of Snohomish County, Washington.

II ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

A. Earth

1. General description of the site [help] (check one):

- Flat,
- Rolling,
- Hilly,
- Steep Slopes,
- Mountainous,
- other, describe:

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

4%

3. 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.

Fine to medium sands. These are not agricultural soils.

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

No.

5. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Purpose is to prepare the site for development. Expected cut is 2,000 cy and expected fill is 500 cy. These numbers are increased over the plan to account for revisions during permit review. Source of fill is select on-site cut material.

6. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.
Anytime soil is exposed to the elements there is a potential for erosion. The site soils are granular and the threat is low.
7. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
95298 SF or 43% including future fire station and future paving
8. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:
A Surface Water Pollution Prevention Plan has been prepared using Best Management Practices to control erosion.

B. Air

1. 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.
Construction: temporary construction vehicle emissions as well as dust.
Completed: emissions from vehicles.
2. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.
No.
3. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [help]
Construction emissions will be temporary. The permanent emissions are controls by State emissions policies on vehicles.

C. Water

1. Surface Water:
 - a. 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.
No.
 - b. 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.
No.
 - c. 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.

- d. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.
No.
- e. Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.
No.
- f. 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.

2. Ground Water:

- a. 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.
No groundwater will be withdrawn. Surface runoff will be infiltrated to groundwater. See Drainage Report by Harmsen, LLC.
- b. 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.

3. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- a. 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.
Source of runoff is direct precipitation. Runoff will sheetflow to bioretention facilities and an infiltration trench. No surface runoff will leave the site.
- b. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.
The pavement will be subject to vehicle traffic and collect heavy metals, oils and grit.
- c. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.
No.

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

Runoff will be collected, treated in bioretention facilities, and infiltrated in underground rock trenches. See drainage report by Harmsen, LLC for additional information.

D. Plants

1. 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, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
 water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
 other types of vegetation, describe:

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

1.45 acres of grasses will be removed/altered.

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

None.

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

5. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.

None known. Himalayan black berry is assumed to be in the area.

E. Animals

1. 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. Examples include:

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: Crows

Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: Domestic pets, rabbits, mice

Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

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

None known.

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

Granite Falls is located within the Pacific Flyway.

4. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [help]

Perimeter landscaping.

5. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.

None known.

F. Energy and Natural Resources

1. 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.

Main source of energy is electricity for equipment, fixtures and appliance. Propane gas will also be used for gas fired radiant heaters.

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

This project would not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

3. 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:

Energy conservation features could include high performance Low-E windows, insulated overhead doors with high performance window panes and high efficiency mechanical and plumbing fixtures.

G. Environmental Health

1. 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.

- a. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

There are no known contaminants that current exist on the site.

- b. 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.

There are no known hazardous chemicals/ conditions that current exist on the site.

- c. 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.

Toxic or hazardous chemicals that may be stored and used on site during and after construction include gasoline (10 gallons stored in safety cans), motor oil (10L for emergency vehicles, 1,000 gal propane tank and fire fighting extinguisher foam (stored on fire trucks)

- d. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

No special emergency services would be required beyond those occasionally required by other similar public facilities. These include police, fire and emergency medical service

- e. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:
In the even that hazardous materials are encountered during construction, removal would be conducted in accordance with federal, state and local laws and regulations. Potential spills from construction machinery would be minimized through incorporation of a spill prevention and maintenance plan

2. Noise

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

There are no noises in the area that would affect the proposed project

- 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.

Construction activity shall only occur on weekdays during hours allowed by the City of Granite Falls. No night work is proposed. If required to meet construction/ project schedule, work may occur outside of normal operation hours to the extent necessary as approved. Sound levels during construction will vary depending on construction phase and equipment used. Generally, at a distance of 50 feet, sound level for various types of equipment or vehicles typically vary from 76 to 86 dBA

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

See response to item 7.b.2 above

H. Land and shoreline use

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

Proposed site is zoned LI - Light Industrial and is undeveloped. Property to the north and east of the proposed site is used as a gun range and is zoned LI - Light Industrial and HI - Heavy Industrial. Properties to the west of the proposed site are zone IR - Industrial/ Retail and are used as businesses.

- 2. Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

Use will not impact adjacent properties

- 3. 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 non-forest use?

Site has not been used for agriculture

4. 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:

Project is located approx. 5.6 miles from Mt. Baker National Forest, site use should not impact forest land.

5. Describe any structures on the site.

No existing structures.

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

No existing structures.

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

LI - Light Industrial

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

PI - Public/ Institutional

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

N/A

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

The site has not be classified as a critical area

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

Staffing will be largely transient as facilities will be used for training and storage only.

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

Site is vacant so the training and storage facilities will not displace employees.

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

N/A

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

None required at this time. Future Fire Station will go through a Conditional Use Permit process to ensure compatibility with codes and comprehensive plan measures.

15. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

N/A

I. Housing

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

J. Aesthetics

1. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

Training Tower will be 34'-0" to the top of the parapet.
Storage Building will

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

No Views will be altered or obstructed

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

None proposed

K. Light and glare

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

Sources of light and glare associated with the project proposal would include new overhead site lighting which would be present throughout the non-daylight hours

2. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
Night lighting might be considered a nuisance impact by some, but it would not create a safety hazard
3. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
There are no off-site sources of light or glare that would affect the proposal.
4. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:
Lighting types have been carefully planned to prevent the potential spill of light off the project site.

L. Recreation

1. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
Mt. Baker National Forest is located approximately 5.7 miles east of the project site.
Granite Falls Sportsman Club is located adjacent the project site.
2. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
Proposed project would not impact any of the existing recreation uses.
3. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:
See response to L.2 - No additional measures are proposed

M. Historic and cultural preservation

1. 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? If so, specifically describe.

There are no places or object on the historic or cultural preservation registry located on or within the immediate vicinity of the site.
2. 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.

There are no landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific or cultural importance located on or within the immediate vicinity of the site.

3. 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.
See response to M1 and M2 - No additional measure are required.
4. 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.
See response to M1 and M2 - No additional measure are required.

N. Transportation

1. 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.
Gun Club Road fronts the site to the south. This connects east to Mountain Loop Highway and into the City proper.
2. 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?
Community Transit Route 280 serves the area. There is a stop about 1/2 mile away at Stanley and Alder.
3. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?
Proposed project will not eliminate any parking spaces. New Storage Building and Training Tower will add 16 parking space included one van accessible, ADA compliance space.
4. 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).
No.
5. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.
No.
6. 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?
A traffic study was not required by the AHJ for submission of this project.

7. 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

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

None Proposed

O. Public Services

1. 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. Storage Building and Training Tower will be owned by and is intended for Fire District use only.

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

None Proposed

P. Utilities

1. Check utilities currently available at the site:

Electricity,
 Natural Gas,
 Water,
 Refuse Service,
 Telephone,
 Sanitary Sewer,
 Septic System,
 Other, describe:

2. 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.

Sanitary sewer and water service provided by the City of Granite Falls.
Electrical by Snohomish PUD.

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 (print) Michelle Langrehr

Position and Agency/Organization Architect - TCA Architecture

Date Submitted: 7/2/21

III. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NON-PROJECT ACTIONS

IT IS NOT NECESSARY to 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?

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

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

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

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

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

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?

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

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?

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

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

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

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