

# SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

## ***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:***

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. 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 nonproject proposals:*** [\[help\]](#)

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the [SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS \(part D\)](#). 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.

## **A. Background** [\[help\]](#)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)

**Non-project action: Proposed Amendments to Kittitas County Code, Title 9, Title 12 and Title 17.**

**The proposed amendments would adopt City of Ellensburg city code provisions and development standards for application to properties within the UGA of Ellensburg.**

**The proposed amendments would adopt traffic impact fees and park impact fees in the UGA of Ellensburg pursuant to Ellensburg City Code Chapter 14.02 and 14.04.**

2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)  
**Kittitas County**
  
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)  
**Kittitas County Community Development Services  
Dan Carlson, AICP, Community Development Services Director  
411 N. Ruby Street, Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926  
(509) 962-7506**
  
4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)  
**May 4, 2023**
  
5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)  
**Kittitas County**
  
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)  
**All proposed County Code amendments are scheduled to be adopted by June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**
  
7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
  
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)  
**None outside this checklist.**
  
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. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
  
10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)  
**Proposed changes will have to be approved through ordinance to come into effect.**
  
11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) [\[help\]](#)  
**Amendments to Kittitas County Code (KCC); proposed amendments to Kittitas County Code (KCC):**

- **KCC 9.50.190 Park Impact Fees in the UGA of Ellensburg. Pursuant to Kittitas County Resolution 2022-013 and consistent with Ellensburg City Code (ECC) Chapter 14.02 Park Impact Fees, Kittitas County agrees to collect park impact fees as described at ECC 14.02.150. Collection of the park impact fee shall occur when application is made for a building permit; provided, however, fees applicable to a single-family subdivision may be subject to an in-lieu-of fee arrangement at the preliminary plat stage.**
- **KCC 12.86 Land Use Developments requiring engineering review in the Urban Growth Area of the city of Ellensburg not utilizing city utilities.**
  - A. Rural Road Standards**  
Land use developments requiring engineering review in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg NOT utilizing city utilities shall meet Kittitas County rural road standards providing:  
The owner/developer dedicates sufficient right of way pursuant to the city's road and street plan.  
The owner/developer signs a waiver of protest for the County and City to the formulation of a future Local Improvement District (LID) for the development.
- **KCC 12.87 Land Use Developments requiring engineering review in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg utilizing city utilities.**
  - A. Developer reimbursement agreements**  
Developer reimbursement agreements in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg are pursuant to Ellensburg City Code Chapter 2.50.
  - B. Public Works Standards in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg**  
Public Works standards in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg are pursuant to Ellensburg City Code Title 4.
  - C. City of Ellensburg utilities**  
All land use development in the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg utilizing city utilities shall adhere to Ellensburg City Code Title 9.
- **KCC 12.88 Transportation Impact Fees**
  - A. Kittitas County accepts the City of Ellensburg Transportation Impact Fee study for use in the Urban Growth Area of the city, as provided in ECC 14.04.020(B) as currently enacted ore hereafter adopted. Fees are determined pursuant to Chapter 14.04, of the Ellensburg City Code.**
- **KCC 12.89 Development Agreements**  
Kittitas County Department of Public Works shall authorize development agreements pursuant to Revised Code of Washington 36.70B.170 – 210 and Washington Administrative Code 365-196-845(17). Prior to approval of any Development Agreement within the Urban Growth Area of the City of Ellensburg, the County shall provide 30 days written notice to the City of Ellensburg with a copy of the proposed agreement. Agreements will be negotiated following preliminary plat approval from the Board of County Commissioners and after the development has obtained final engineering plan approval from the County Engineer. Projects within the Ellensburg UGA utilizing city utilities will also require final

engineering plan approval from the City Engineer. Agreements shall remain in effect for an initial five-year period beginning upon the approval date from the Board of County Commissioners. Extension requests are pursuant to Kittitas County Code section 16.12.250.

- **KCC 17.22.030 Lot Size Required 2. Minimum lot sizes in the UR zone are as follows: a. Single family dwelling, seven thousand two hundred (7,200) square feet.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**The proposed amendments to Kittitas County Code will affect properties located within the City of Ellensburg UGA.**

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS** [\[help\]](#)

### **1. Earth** [\[help\]](#)

a. General description of the site: [\[help\]](#)

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other \_\_\_\_\_

**Rural areas within Kittitas County contain all of the general descriptions listed above. More mountainous areas exist in the western portion of the County, more rolling areas exist in the middle and eastern areas of the County, and flat areas exist within the lower or eastern farming areas of the County.**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#)

**Slopes within Kittitas County range from <5% slope in the valley to over 200% in the upper mountainous areas.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**Soil types include ashy sandy loam, stony ashy loam, and rock outcrops in the Nimue, Chinkmin, and Vabus series. The most common soil classifications are for rocky outcrops and gravelly loam in the Malaga series and the Drino Fortyday complex, Sagehill-Timmerman complex and the Fortyday Drino Nevo complex. Typical soils in the agricultural areas consist of alluvium soils mixed with volcanic ash.**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

**Unstable soils are expected to exist throughout the County. Future project-specific development proposals within the study areas will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and the Kittitas County Code.**

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal does not propose fill or grading. Future project-specific development proposals within the study areas that may include fill or grading will be reviewed consistent with the provision of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provision of the Kittitas County Code and State regulations.**
- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in erosion or other impacts to the earth, therefore no mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed consistent with the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**

## 2. Air [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly result in impacts to air quality. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may result in air quality impacts will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**
- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to the air quality. No mitigating measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed pursuant to SEPA and County Environmental Policy (KCC Title 15) to identify potential environmental impacts and applicable mitigating measures.**

## 3. Water [\[help\]](#)

### 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**Gold Creek, Coal Creek, Tunnel Creek, are headwater tributaries to Keechelus Lake. Two other major lakes, Kachess and Cle Elum exist in the western portion of the County fed by**

numerous other small lakes and streams. Yakima River, Columbia River, and Manastash Creek are the three major rivers in the area designated rural. Water channels used for irrigation, floodplains, and wetlands exist throughout the rural area and valley floor of Kittitas County.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**A non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**
  
- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**A non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**
  
- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)  
**A non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies. Future-project specific development proposals within the study area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**
  
- 5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)  
**Floodplains exist throughout the Kittitas County along waterbodies described in question 3.a.1.**
  
- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**A non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may include work over, in, or adjacent to water bodies will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not withdraw or discharge to groundwater. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may impact groundwater**

will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not withdraw or discharge to groundwater. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may impact groundwater will be reviewed consistent with the provision of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.**

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not withdraw or discharge to stormwater or produce additional surface runoff.**
- 2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action no waste materials are expected to be generated and therefore are not expected to enter ground or surface waters.**
- 3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**No.**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to surface, ground, or runoff water, therefore no mitigating measures are proposed.**

4. Plants [\[help\]](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- 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: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other  
 other types of vegetation

**Forested areas with various types of evergreen trees exist throughout the mountainous areas in the western and northern areas of Kittitas County. Additionally, deciduous trees**

are common throughout the County. Various shrub species are prominent in eastern Kittitas County. Wetland areas, existing throughout the County's valley and mountain areas are characterized by open water and wet soil plant types. Agricultural vegetation exists throughout the eastern valley areas of the County. Riparian vegetation is found along the river margins and banks of streams and rivers within the County.

- b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal will not remove or alter vegetation. Future project-specific development proposals within the study area that may remove or alter vegetation will be reviewed consistent with the provisions of the Comprehensive Plan and applicable provisions of the Kittitas County Code.
- c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
The Washington Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Inventory database contains one federally listed endangered plant species in Kittitas County, Wenatchee Mountain checker-mallow (*Sidalcea oregana* var. *calva*).
- d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to vegetation, therefore no mitigation measures are proposed. Future project-specific development proposals will be reviewed pursuant to SEPA and the County Environmental Policy (KCC Title 15) to identify environmental impacts and applicable mitigating measures.
- e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal does not include the use of or impacts to noxious weeds or invasive species.

## 5. Animals [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to result in impacts to birds, animals or fish.

birds: hawk, heron and cranes, eagle, owls, songbirds, turkey, waterfowl, crows, woodpeckers, grouses, pheasants, long-billed birds, swans, hummingbirds, and others.

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, wolves/coyotes, cougar/lynx/bobcat, pine martin, raccoon, opossum, rodents, marmots, big horn sheep, bats, otters, badgers, skunks, and others.

fish: bass, salmonids, trout, steelhead, whitefish, and others.

- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
Grizzly bear and gray wolf, both of which may inhabit the North Cascades and move through the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area (Singleton and Lehmkuhl 1999) exist in the northwestern portions of the County. Spotted owl siting has occurred in the northwestern areas of the County within heavy forested areas. Snoqualmie Pass has been identified as a fracture zone between the Central and South Cascades that is permeable to grizzly bear movement between areas of suitable habitat (Peter H. Singleton, William L. Gains, John F. Lehmkuhl 2004). The Columbia River is a migration corridor for both Columbia River bull trout and Middle Columbia River steelhead, providing access to tributaries like the Yakima River.



- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)  
**It is likely that portions of the County are part of one or more migratory routes. Elk are prominent throughout the County particularly in the southern range and hill areas. The Columbia River is a migration corridor for migratory waterfowl, the Columbia River bull trout, and the Middle Columbia River steelhead.**
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not impact wildlife and therefore no measures are proposed to preserve or enhance wildlife.**
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)  
**European starling and Eurasian collared dove are frequently observed in the County.**

## 6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly result in any additional need for energy. Future site specific developments may use electric, natural gas, propane, oil, wood stove, or solar energy sources.**
- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.**
- 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: [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**

## 7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to cause environmental health hazards. The use of any hazardous materials on a project-by-project basis will be subject to federal and state law and the County Building Code (KCC Title 14).**
- 1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.  
[\[help\]](#)  
**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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to cause environmental health hazards. The use of any hazardous materials on a project-by-project basis will be subject to federal and state law and the County Building Code (KCC Title 14).**

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal is not expected to cause environmental health hazards. The use of any hazardous materials on a project-by-project basis will be subject to federal and state law and the County Building Code (KCC Title 14).**
- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)  
**No special emergency services are required for this non-project proposal.**
- 5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action no measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards are included in the proposal.**

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? [\[help\]](#)  
**Kittitas County is primarily a rural county with very low noise levels. Existing noise levels in the study area range from very low levels in undeveloped rural lands to noise levels typical in small communities along highways and arterial roads.**
- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action no noise would be created or associated with the proposal.**
- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action no measures are proposed to reduce or control noise within the proposed amendments.**

8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)

- 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. [\[help\]](#)  
**The predominant land uses in the western part of the County include recreation, tourism, residential, and public lands. Undeveloped land is located throughout the County, particularly in the central County area where farms are predominant. A few small parcels of single family and multifamily are found along local roads throughout the County. The eastern area of the County contains public uses, natural areas, recreation destinations, and residential use. The rural area consists primarily of agriculture uses, mining activities, sparse residential development, and some commercial and industrial land uses.**
- 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? [\[help\]](#)  
**The middle and eastern areas of the County in the valley areas are currently, and have historically been, used for agriculture purposes. Working forest lands occur in the higher**

**elevation mountainous areas of the County. There will be no working farmlands or forest lands that will be converted.**

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: [\[help\]](#)  
**No, the non-project proposal will not affect, or be affected by, surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations.**

c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)  
**Structures throughout the County include residential homes, barns, outbuildings, schools, public facilities (fire, EMS, medical), commercial buildings and lots, shopping centers, churches, roads, bridges, sidewalks, parks, public access sites, recreational infrastructure, and storage facilities.**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)  
**No structures will be demolished as part of this non-project proposal.**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)  
**Zoning classifications in the County include: Residential, Residential -2,, Rural-3, Rural-5, Urban Residential, Rural Residential, Agriculture-3, Agriculture-5, Agriculture-20, Agricultural, Rural Recreation, Commercial Agriculture, Limited Commercial, Planned Unit Development, Master Planned Resorts, General Commercial, Highway Commercial, Light Industrial, General Industrial, Forest and Range, Commercial Forest, Airport, Liberty Historic, Wind Farm Resource Overlay, Solar Overlay, and Historic Trailer Court.**

**This non-project proposal does not include any rezones.**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)  
**There is no specific site for this non-project proposal. The County Code changes apply to the entire County. The Kittitas County Comprehensive Plan has seven land use designations: Rural Working, Rural Residential, Rural Recreation, Commercial Agriculture, Commercial Forest, Mining, Limited Areas of More Intense Rural Development, and Urban. The land use designations existing throughout the County will not be changed by this proposal.**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)  
**There is no specific site to this proposal. The County Code changes apply to the entire County. The Shoreline Master Program (SMP) for Kittitas County includes four environment designations: Urban Environment, Rural Environment, Conservancy Environment, and Natural Environment. The environment designations existing throughout the County will not be changed by this proposal.**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)  
**A number of designated critical areas exist throughout the areas being proposed for amendments including steep slopes, wetlands, floodplains/floodways, shorelines, and aquifer recharge areas. As a non-project action, the proposal does not include any work over, in, or adjacent to any specific critical areas.**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)  
**Not applicable as a non-project proposal.**

- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)  
**Not applicable as a non-project proposal.**
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**Not applicable as a non-project proposal.**
- L. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**Not applicable as a non-project proposal.**
- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**Not applicable as a non-project proposal.**

9. **Housing** [\[help\]](#)

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)  
**None.**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action with no additional units being provided and no units being eliminated, no measures are proposed to reduce or control housing impacts.**

10. **Aesthetics** [\[help\]](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? [\[help\]](#)  
**The proposal is a non-project action that does not include any proposed structures.**
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)  
**The proposal is a non-project action that will not alter or obstruct views.**
- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
**The proposal is a non-project action that will not directly affect aesthetics.**

11. **Light and Glare** [\[help\]](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)  
**The proposal is a non-project action that would not directly produce light and glare or be affected by light.**
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)  
**No, the proposal is a non-project action that will not produce light or glare.**

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)  
None, the proposal is a non-project action that will not be affected by off-site sources of light or glare.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal will not directly create light or glare impacts.

## 12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)  
A major portion of the economy for Kittitas County depends upon the recreation and tourism activity that occurs. Winter activities, motorized and non-motorized, are prevalent in the western part of Kittitas County. Also, year-round recreation is abundant with hiking, skiing, camping, fishing, and tourist opportunities. Rock and mountain climbing opportunities are recognized nationally and internationally. Streams and rivers provide boating and fishing opportunities throughout the County in centralized locations. All of the study area offers public land recreation opportunities for area residents and visitors.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action, the proposal will not displace existing recreational uses.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)  
As a non-project action that will not displace recreational uses. No measures are proposed to reduce or control impacts on recreation.

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

Sites with national, state, and local preservation registration exist throughout the County including:

- The Lake Keechelus Snowshed Bridge, located on I-90 near Snoqualmie Pass (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- The Mountaineers Snoqualmie Lodge (Washington Heritage Register)
- Roslyn Historic District (National Register, Washington Heritage Center)
- The Cabin Creek Historic District, located west of Easton (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- The Thorp Mill at Thorp Highway off of US 10 (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- The Thorp Grade School, Washington Historic Register
- Barn located at 1011 Sisters Road (Washington Heritage Barn Register)
- Barn located at 683 Goodwin Road (Washington Heritage Barn Register)
- The Kittitas Depot of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad, located in the City of Kittitas (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- First Railroad Avenue Historic District, Downtown Ellensburg Historic District, both located in the City of Ellensburg (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- Olmstead Place State Park (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)
- Kittitas County Fairgrounds (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)

- **Governer’s Mansion (Washington Heriage Center)**
- **Northern Pacific Railway Passenger Depot (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)**
- **Washington State Normal School (National Register, Washington Heritage Register)**

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**There are no known landmarks, features, or evidence of Indian or historic use that would be affected by this proposal.**

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not impact cultural and historic resources. Any project specific development will be subject to review for consistency with applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations.**

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action, the proposal will not impact historic or cultural features and therefore no mitigation measures are proposed.**

#### 14. **Transportation** [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)  
**I-90, I-82, and State Route 97 provide the predominant transportation routes within the County. County and State roads 903, 821, and 907 also carry a significant portion of the County’s traffic.**

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? [\[help\]](#)  
**Public transit exists between Yakima and Ellensburg to serve commuters. Additionally, a local transit operates within Kittitas County.**

c. 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). [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action this proposal would not require any new improvements to existing roads, street, pedestrian, bicycle, or state transportation facilities.**

d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)  
**As a non-project action this proposal does not use water, rail, or air transportation.**

e. 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? [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action this proposal would not generate vehicular trips.**

f. 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. [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action this proposal will not affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products.**

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action that will not affect vehicular trips, availability of parking, or movement of goods and services, no mitigation measures are proposed to reduce or control transportation impacts.**

#### 15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

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. [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action this proposal will not result in increased need for public services.**

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action that will not impact public services, no mitigation measures are proposed to reduce or control impacts on public services.**

#### 16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)

electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other \_\_\_\_\_

**All such services are available throughout the County.**

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. [\[help\]](#)

**As a non-project action no utilities are proposed.**

### C. Signature [\[help\]](#)

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 Zach Torrance-Smith

Position and Agency/Organization Planner / Kittitas County CDS

Date Submitted: May 4, 2023

### D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[help\]](#)

(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?  
**There is no expected increase in discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise from the implementation of the proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code. The proposed amendments do not include new uses that would result in increases in water discharge, emissions, or toxic substances.**

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

**As a non-project action with no expected impacts to discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise, no mitigation measures are included in the proposal.**

2. How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?  
**The proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code are not likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or aquatic life over what already occurs under the current County regulations. The proposed amendments do not include new uses or changes that would result in a significant impact to plants, animals, fish, or aquatic life.**

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

**As a non-project action with no expected affects to plants, animals, fish, or aquatic life no protection measures are included in this proposal.**

3. How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?  
**The proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code are not likely to deplete energy or natural resources. No amendments to mining or forestry regulations are proposed that would cause the depletion of those natural resources.**

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

**As a non-project action that is unlikely to deplete energy or natural resources no protection measures are included in the proposal.**

4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?  
**The proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code are not expected to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection. The proposed amendments do not include any new uses or changes that would result in affects to environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection.**

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



None.

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

**The proposed amendments to Kittitas County Code will not alter shoreline uses or regulations and will therefore are not likely to affect land and shoreline use.**

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

**As a non-project action that is not likely to affect land and shoreline uses; no measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are included in this proposal.**

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

**The proposed amendments to the Kittitas County Code are not expected to increase demand on transportation or public services and utilities. The proposal does not include any new uses or changes that would impact transportation or public services and utilities.**

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

**As a non-project action that is not expected to increase demands on transportation or public services or utilities. The non-project action adopts a mechanism to collect fees to address impacts to transportation and park facilities as development occurs in the urban growth area.**

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

**The proposed Kittitas County Code update does not conflict with local, state, or federal laws, or requirements for the protection of the environment.**

