



SEPA CHECKLIST

**Mouse Creek
Drainage Improvement Project Phase 2
(RC1582)**

Public Works
3000 Rockefeller
MS 607
Everett, WA
98201

Prepared by:

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Troy Fields

Snohomish County Public Works
TES-Environmental Services

October 2020

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.

SUMMARY

A. BACKGROUND

Name of proposed project:

Mouse Creek Drainage Improvement Project Phase 2

Name of applicant:

**Snohomish County Public Works
Surface Water Management Division**

Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Troy Fields, Senior Environmental Planner
(Contact)
(425) 388-6430**

Date checklist prepared:

October 20, 2020

Agency requesting checklist:

Snohomish County Public Works

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

Estimated Project Construction: 4 weeks (est. between July and October 2021)

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

No.

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

These documents were prepared for the 2019 Phase I project:

- **Mouse Creek (Alluvial) Fan Restoration Project (R2 Consultants, 10/4/2016)**
- **SEPA Checklist (Snohomish County Public Works, 5/1/2018)**
- **SEPA Determination of Non-Significance (Snohomish County, 5/10/2018)**
- **Hydraulic Project Approval (3/6/2019)**

- **Land Disturbing Activity Certification (5/2/2019)**
- **Snohomish County Critical Area Regulations Compliance (10/9/2017)**
- **Cultural Resources Survey (October 2018, revised May 2019)**

Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, please explain.

No, we are not aware of other applications that would directly affect the property where our proposal would be implemented.

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

[Click here to enter text.](#)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Permit/Approval:	Required from:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 404 Authorization: Nationwide Permit	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 7 Endangered Species Act Consultation	NOAA Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 106 National Historic Preservation Act	Federal Lead Agency (Corps of Engineers)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Section 401 Water Quality and CZM Certification	Washington State Department of Ecology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Drainage & Land Disturbing Activity Certification	Snohomish County – Public Works
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Critical Area Certification	Snohomish County – Public Works
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Flood Hazard Permit	Snohomish County – Planning and Development Services
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shoreline Substantial Development Permit, and Shoreline Conditional Use Permit	Snohomish County – Planning and Development Services
<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

1. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project 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).

Phase 2 of the Mouse Creek drainage improvement project on Sauk Prairie Road is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the Town of Darrington. The purpose of the project is to reduce flooding over Sauk Prairie Road. Flooding will be reduced by restoring the channel of Mouse Creek, which will also improve fish passage primarily for coho and other species. Mouse Creek transports a large sediment load as it flows northward toward Sauk Prairie Road. The sediment is deposited at Bridge 631 at the roadway, and results in aggradation in the stream channel. The aggradation has caused the stream to shift and migrate laterally to the northeast toward an existing 18-inch culvert, where it deposits additional sediment that leads to flooding that overtops the roadway. Phase 1 work included excavating the stream channel upstream of the roadway. Phase 2 proposes to excavate sediment from approximately 525 feet of Mouse Creek downstream of the roadway to re-establish and restore the historic stream channel, and to enable Mouse Creek to flow north toward the Sauk River. Approximately 70 feet of the channel will be on U.S. Forest Service property immediately adjacent to the north side of the roadway, and the remainder will be on private property for which the County has obtained a temporary easement.

2. Location of 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/range if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of areas, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide 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.

Mouse Creek is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the Town of Darrington in Sections 7 and 18, Township 32 North, Range 10 East, W.M. (see attached Vicinity Map). Mouse Creek flows under Sauk Prairie Road at Bridge 631.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (check one):

FLAT

ROLLING

HILLY

STEEP SLOPES

MOUNTAINOUS

OTHER (please describe): [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

1 to 3% slope.

- c. What general types of soil are found on the site (i.e., 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.

The soil types found in the project area include *Greenwater loamy sand* and *Sultan silt loam* according to the USDA Soil Survey of Snohomish County Area Washington. *Greenwater loamy sand* consists of deep, somewhat well drained soils on terraces. These soils formed in alluvium derived from andesite and pumice. The slope is 0 to 3 percent and elevation ranges from 400 to 600 feet. *Sultan silt loam* is a very deep, moderately drained soil that formed in alluvium, and which is found on floodplains. The slope is from 0 to 2 percent and elevation ranges from 10-120 feet. This is a hydric soil. This proposal will not affect or remove agricultural land of long-term commercial significance.

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

The site is located within 200 feet of the Glacier Peak lahar zone. Steep slopes are mapped to the south of the roadway.

- 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.

Approximately 525 linear feet of excavation will take place downstream of Sauk Prairie Road to re-create Mouse Creek's historic channel. Approximately 70 feet is on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) property immediately adjacent to the roadway, and 455 feet on private property to the north of the USFS property. It is estimated that 494 cubic yards of sediment, a mix of sand and gravel, will be removed (approximately 64 cubic yards on the USFS property, and 430 cubic yards on the private property.)

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

There is the potential for erosion to occur during clearing and grading activities such as during channel excavation and temporary stockpiling of excavated soils. However, these activities would not result in significant adverse erosion-related impacts.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (i.e., asphalt or buildings)?

Not applicable

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

No significant erosion impacts are expected as excavation activities will take place in the drier summer months during low-flow or no-flow conditions. A temporary erosion and sedimentation control plan will be implemented, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) will be inspected and maintained. To prevent

sediment entering stream channels, a sandbag cofferdam will be placed near the end of the excavation area. The proposed activity will comply with all local, state, and federal regulations and permit conditions.

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, please generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

During construction, minor emissions from equipment are expected, however, they will not exceed applicable state and federal air quality standards. Emissions from construction vehicles and equipment should have an insignificant impact on the air quality of the region. There would be no increase in emissions once construction is completed.

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

No offsite sources of emissions or odor will affect the project.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

The equipment and trucks used for construction will be in optimal operational condition, and emissions will not exceed state and federal air quality standards.

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, please describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Yes, Mouse Creek, a Type F stream, originates in a steep canyon south (upstream) of Sauk Prairie Road. It has a confluence with East Fork Mouse Creek, also a Type F stream approximately 250 feet south upstream of the roadway. Mouse Creek flows under the roadway at Bridge #631. Downstream of the roadway, the channel is currently undefined. The stream historically flowed north toward the Sauk River approximately one mile from the road.

There are three Category III wetlands within or close to the project area:

- Wetland B is a Category III emergent riverine wetland on the right bank of Mouse Creek, adjacent to and upstream of Sauk Prairie Road. Wetland B is on USFS land.**
- Wetland C is a Category III emergent/scrub-shrub riverine wetland on the left bank of Mouse Creek, adjacent to and upstream of Sauk Prairie Road. Wetland C is on USFS land.**

- **Wetland E is a Category III riverine palustrine emergent/scrub shrub wetland located downstream of Sauk Prairie Road on both banks of Mouse Creek. A small part of Wetland E is on USFS land and the remainder is on private property.**

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.

Yes. Approximately 525 linear feet of the channel of Mouse Creek downstream of Sauk Prairie Road will be excavated.

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.

The stream channel will be excavated to a depth of up to 1.7 feet, and a width of 15 feet. Approximately 494 cubic yards of sediment will be excavated. The stream channel is expected to be in a low-flow or no-flow condition when the excavation takes place in late summer 2021.

4. Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Please give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

The proposal does not require surface water withdrawals. While Mouse Creek is expected to be in a low-flow condition when the excavation takes place, a temporary stream diversion is proposed during construction. A sandbag cofferdam will be placed below the OHWM of the existing channel where the historic channel excavation will connect to it. This is at the northernmost point of excavation.

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

Yes, the majority of the downstream excavation area will be within the 100-year floodplain and 500-year floodplain of the Sauk River.

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

No, there will be no discharge of waste materials to Mouse Creek.

b. Groundwater:

1. Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, please give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well.

No.

2. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Please give a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No, water will not be discharged to groundwater.

3. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (i.e., domestic sewage, industrial, containing the following chemicals..., agricultural, etc.).

Not applicable.

4. 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.

Not applicable.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

1. Describe the source of runoff (including stormwater) 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, please describe.

The sediment removal activities will take place during the dry months of late summer when there is a reduced potential for stormwater runoff. Excavated material will be placed in a temporary stockpile area located on USFS property adjacent to the west side of Wetland E to the west of Mouse Creek, or hauled off-site to an approved disposal site. BMPs will be employed to reduce or control the potential for runoff.

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

There will be no waste materials on site that could enter ground or surface waters. Equipment will be in optimal condition and inspected daily to minimize the potential for leakages. A Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan will be in place on site during construction.

3. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, please describe.

The purpose of the project is to improve drainage in the vicinity of Bridge 631. Prior to the 2019 Phase I work, aggraded sediment in Mouse Creek on the upstream side of Sauk Prairie Road caused an avulsion of the stream toward an 18-inch culvert east of Bridge 631, resulting in flooding over the road during periods of high precipitation. In Phase 2, Snohomish County proposes excavation in Mouse Creek downstream of the roadway to remove sediment and restore the channel to its historic alignment so that future flows of Mouse Creek can flow under the bridge rather overflow over the roadway.

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

Construction would occur during the dry summer months. Limits of clearing and grading will be posted prior to any site disturbance. During and after construction, BMPs will be used to control and minimize adverse impacts if there is a precipitation event that results in surface runoff. Bare soil areas exposed by construction activities will be reseeded and/or planted or covered with certified weed-free straw mulch to control erosion.

4. Plants

a. Check all types of vegetation below found on or in close proximity to the site:

- deciduous tree: **red alder, big leaf maple, black cottonwood, willow**
- evergreen tree: **Douglas- fir, Western redcedar**
- shrubs: **salmonberry, Himalayan blackberry**
- grass: **reed canarygrass**
- pasture
- crop or grain
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops
- wet soil plants: **creeping buttercup, soft rush, sedges**
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation present: [Click here to enter text.](#)

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

Grasses, including reed canarygrass, will be the primary vegetation removed when the temporary access road and stockpile area are installed on USFS land north of the roadway. Some grasses, shrubs and small trees will be removed to provide access to the historic alignment area.

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

No threatened and endangered species are known to be on or near the site. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species database has no mapped priority species within the project area.

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

Reed canary-grass is found on the USFS property and the privately-owned property.

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

Vegetation will be preserved where possible. Post-construction, areas of disturbance will be seeded with a wetland mix approved by the USFS.

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. (i.e. **birds**: hawks, heron, eagle, songbirds, owls, ducks, woodpeckers; mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, opossum, raccoon, coyote, small

rodents; fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other):

Birds: hawk, eagle, songbird, owl, duck, woodpecker

Mammals: deer, bear, beaver, opossum, raccoon, coyote, small rodent

Fish: coho, cutthroat trout,

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

Chinook and steelhead are modeled as present in Mouse Creek. Mouse Creek is not designated critical habitat for either species. Listed salmonid species are mapped as present in the Sauk River, which is approximately one mile north of the project. Data from the USFWS Critical Habitat Mapper indicates that the site is farther than two miles from spotted owl and marbled murrelet designated critical habitat.

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

The site lies within the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds of all types. The flyway stretches between Alaska and South America. All migratory birds are protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Bald eagles are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act also administered by the USFWS.

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

There are no known invasive animal species on or near the project site.

- e. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Where federal threatened and endangered species are found, all work will conform to the requirements of the Endangered Species Act administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Where state listed species or Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) are found, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species recommendations will be followed, when appropriate. The most current PHS list, which includes coho, northern spotted owl, and harlequin duck, can be found at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/list/>

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? Please describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

The project will not require energy sources when completed.

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

No.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:
Not applicable.

7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, please describe.

No potentially hazardous materials have been identified at or in proximity to the project site. While there is a possibility that fuel may leak from construction equipment during project work, the equipment will be in optimal operational condition and inspected frequently. A Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan will be in place on site during construction.

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

There are no known or possible sources of contamination at the site from present or past uses. The project is located in a rural area and has never been developed.

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.

There are no known pipelines or existing hazardous chemicals or conditions within the project area or vicinity which are expected to affect the project.

3. Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or any time during the operating life of the project.

No toxic or hazardous chemicals would be stored, used, or produced during sediment removal other than construction equipment fuel and lubricants required for equipment operation.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Emergency response vehicles may be required in the event a worker experiences a construction accident or illness during construction. The completed project would not require any additional emergency services.

5. Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Spill control and cleanup materials would be staged on the project site. The crew leader or other designated person would have a spill control plan and be trained in spill prevention and cleanup. All equipment would be well maintained and in good repair to prevent the loss of any petroleum products. Refueling would generally occur a minimum of 150 feet from critical areas.

b. Noise:

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (i.e., traffic, equipment, operation, aircraft, other)?

The project is in a rural area and minor traffic noise from a passing car would not affect the project.

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

During construction, there will be short-term impacts from increased noise levels generated by heavy equipment. These noise levels will exceed existing background noise levels associated with the rural land uses in the project area, and would occur during daylight hours, Monday to Friday. However, upon completion of the project, there will be no long-term noise associated with the project.

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

While there are few nearby residents, vehicles will be turned off when idle and conform to OSHA and other applicable standards. Construction activities will be limited to daylight hours, Monday to Friday.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

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

Downstream of the roadway, the USFS land is partly forested with scattered open areas and adjacent properties are agricultural fields. The project is not expected to affect current land use on nearby or adjacent properties.

- b. Has the site been used as working farmlands or working forestlands? If so, please describe. How much agriculture or forestland 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 forestland tax status will be converted to non-farm or non-forest use?

The project site has not been used for working farmlands or working forest lands. No agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses. The USFS land within the project area is in their Forest Plan. This property is considered "Riparian Reserve" and this designation will remain after construction is complete.

1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farmland or forestland's normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

The project will not affect or be affected by any surrounding working farm or

forest land's normal business operations.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.

The only structure on the site is a disused wooden hut on the private property owner's land north of the roadway that was part of the tree farm before it was destroyed by flooding from Mouse Creek.

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

No.

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

The current zoning on the USFS property and on the private property north of the roadway is Forestry: Rural Diversification.

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

The current comprehensive plan designation for the USFS property is Commercial Forest/Forest Transition Area. For the private property owner, it is Rural Residential 5.

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

Rural Conservancy.

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

Mouse Creek is a Type F streams. There is a Category III wetland, Wetland E, adjacent to the west side of Mouse Creek.

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

No people will reside or work in the completed project.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

All work will be consistent with the applicable area comprehensive plans and policies. The project proposal will be reviewed by County planners.

- m. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement, if any:

The proposed project will not impact nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term significance, so no measures are proposed.

9. Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
Not applicable.
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.
Not applicable.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:
Not applicable.

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?
No structures are proposed for this project.
- b. What view in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?
No views will be altered or obstructed.
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:
None are proposed.

11. Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?
Not applicable because this is a sediment removal and restoration project.
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?
The project will not produce light or glare.
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?
Any existing offsite sources of light will not affect this project.
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any?
Not applicable.

12. Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
As the project is in a rural and agricultural area, designated and informal recreational opportunities are not in the immediate area.

No.

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

Not applicable.

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 and listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, please general describe.

The USFS area downstream of Sauk Prairie Road was part of a larger area screened for historic sites by Public Works staff on March 15, 2017, to determine the project's proximity to known archaeological and cultural sites. There are no known recorded sites located where potential ground disturbance activities are anticipated.

- b. Are there any landmarks, features or other evidence of Tribal 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, features, or other evidence of Native American or historic use or occupation located in the USFS area, including human burials or old cemeteries. There is no material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site. A cultural resources investigation was conducted at the site in May 2006 as part of supporting documentation for the replacement of Bridge 631. Apart from modern bottle glass, no cultural material was observed. The report stated that if any early ethnohistoric resources were present at the bridge location, they have most likely been removed and/or buried by repeated flooding of the area. A second cultural resources report dated October 2018 (a minor revision was made in May 2019) investigated the USFS property downstream of the road as part of a larger area that included the upstream side of the road. Areas that were examined included the proposed access road through Wetland E. No cultural materials were found.

- c. Describe 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.

Several methods over the past several years have been used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources near the project site. These include the May 2006 cultural resources investigation that involved consultation with the tribes and the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. The March 2017 cultural resources screening conducted by Public Works staff used archaeological site GIS data provided to

Snohomish County by the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation as part of a data sharing agreement. No recorded sites were found as part of this screening. The 2018 cultural resources report was provided to the WA Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, and also to the U.S. Forest Service.

The private property north of the USFS land was not included in the 2018 report because the County was not granted permission to the area. On March 12, 2020, the County consulted with the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe to ask if they had concerns about the area and to request that construction monitoring take the place of a survey. No response was received. A letter was sent again by the County on June 18, 2020; again, no response was received. The County requested that the Skagit River System Cooperative contact the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe but the County did not receive a response. Snohomish County's efforts to contact the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe was documented in the County's application for a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 permit, which requires compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. In an email dated September 2, 2020, the Corps stated that they did not have a notification agreement with the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe and had closed out Section 106 of their review.

- 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:

An Inadvertent Discovery Plan would be prepared and would be onsite and available during construction. Although no known archaeological sites are in proximity to the project location, there is still a possibility that cultural resources could be present. If cultural materials or resources are encountered, the County crew would suspend work and contact the Public Works project manager and the Snohomish County archaeologist. If suspected human remains are found, all project work would cease and additional contacts made with the appropriate Native American tribe(s), Snohomish County Medical Examiner, and the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

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.
Sauk Prairie Road is classified as "Local Access – Rural." It extends from Darrington to the Skagit County line. The 2017 Average Daily Traffic count was 263 cars. There are a number of residences located either side of the roadway between Darrington and the project site.

- b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, please
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Improvement Project, RC1582
- SEPA Checklist
October 2020

generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

No. Community Transit Route 230 provides transit service between Arlington and downtown Darrington. Therefore, the nearest transit stop is a distance of approximately 3 miles.

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

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

No.

- 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 or non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

The project will not generate additional vehicular trips.

- 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, please generally describe.

No.

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

The project is not expected to require specific measures to reduce transportation impacts. If any construction is performed from the bridge deck, appropriate safety measures would be taken.

15. Public Services

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

No.

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

Not applicable

16. Utilities

- a. Check all utilities currently available at the site:

Mouse Creek Drainage
Improvement Project, RC1582

- Electricity - **overhead power line on the north side of Sauk Prairie Road**
- Natural Gas
- Water
- Refuse Service
- Telephone - **underground telephone line on the north side of the road**
- Sanitary Sewer
- Septic System
- Other (please describe) [Click here to enter text.](#)

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site of in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No new utilities are required for the completed project.

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.

Date: _____

Troy Fields, Senior Environmental Planner