WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:
Swift Creek

2. Name of applicant: **Boise Cascade Corporation**
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:
208 N Kittitas Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
Marla Bieker

4. Date checklist prepared: **9/21/04**
5. Agency requesting checklist: **Department of Natural Resources**
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): **Harvest to be completed in 2005; roadwork will be done just prior to harvest operations.**

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

No

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

Forest Practices Application, Naneum Watershed Analysis, Geotechnical report (included with FPA), various FPA's in the area

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.

No

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

None

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.)

Harvest of 475 acres of timber in an uneven-aged fashion leaving either 21 trees greater than 10" dbh or 150 trees taller than 5' per acre post harvest. No aspen or trees smaller than 8" will be cut unless needed to safely fall a merchantable tree. Expected volume to remove is 2000 mbf. Two type 3 (fish bearing) streams exist in the unit. Naneum Creek is the west boundary of the unit and has a 100' no-entry buffer on it. Swift creek has a 75' no-entry buffer. Five type 4 streams are within the unit and have 50' no-entry buffers. Six type 5 streams exist within the unit and have 30' equipment limitation zones. Two ponds within the unit and one along the north boundary line have 50' no-entry buffers. No new roads will be built.

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.

Section 15 T20N, R19E (see FPA map)

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

EVALUATION FOR AGENCY USE ONLY

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

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

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? **60% (very limited; majority of unit is 10-35%)**

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 prime farmland.

Soil survey: Loneridge Stony Loam, Mippon very cobbly loam

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

Yes. See full description in Geotechnical report (included)

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

None

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

Yes. Some soil erosion could occur, but proper skid trail & road maintenance should keep sediment from reaching any typed waters.

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

0%

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

All skid trails will be waterbarred at appropriate intervals

Roads will have appropriate drainage structures (waterbars, rolling dips, culverts)

a. **Air**

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Emissions from logging equipment, dust from skidders and log trucks; haul roads will be watered to reduce dust if this unit is logged in the summer. Slash piles will be burned in the fall following the harvest in accordance with smoke management laws.

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

Does not apply

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

All slash burning is done by permit and in accordance with smoke management regulations.

3. **Water**

a. Surface:

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.

Naneum Creek (a type 3 stream) is the west edge of the harvest unit. A 100' no-entry buffer has been flagged on this stream. Swift Creek, a type 3 stream runs through the southeast end of the unit and has a 75' no-entry buffer on it. Three isolated type 4 streams and two type 4 streams that connect to type 3 waters also exist. The type 4's all have 50' no-entry buffers. Six type 5 streams exist; all have 30' equipment limitation zones. Two ponds exist within the unit; both have 50' no-entry buffers. A third pond exists on the north boundary of the unit; the portion within the unit has a 50' no-entry buffer. (See FPA map for exact locations)

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.

See 1) for buffer descriptions

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.

None

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

No

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

No

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

No

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

All roads will be properly drained. The main Naneum Basin road has an existing ditch which will be maintained. All other roads will be drained via rolling dips & water bars.

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

Minimal amounts of sediment could reach streams during large storm events.

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

Water bars (&/or rolling dips) will be placed on both the skid trails and roads to control any run-off that may occur

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

X_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other

X_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other

X_____ shrubs

X_____ grass

_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

_____ other types of vegetation

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

Approximately 2000 mbf of Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir and Grand Fir of merchantable size (greater than 8" dbh) will be removed; no aspen will be removed

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

None

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

None

5. **Animals**

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

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
None

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

N/A

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

Two wildlife trees will be left per acre

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

Does not apply

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, 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:

Does not apply

7. **Environmental health**

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

If fuel or oil spills were to occur, all Boise logging contractors are required to have spill kits on site for clean-up. Risk of catastrophic fire will be reduced by the project as the overstocked stand of timber will be thinned out. Slash piles will be burned post harvest to reduce fuel loading caused by this operation.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Fire protection, emergency medical via air

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

None needed

b. **Noise**

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

N/A

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

Log truck traffic, and noise from logging equipment; approximate hours of operation: 4:00a.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday-Saturday

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

None

8. **Land and shoreline use**

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

Forest land used for timber production. Secondary use is recreation.

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

No, site has always been forested; this parcel is also part of a large sheep grazing lease.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None

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

No

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

Commercial Forest

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

Commercial Forest

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

N/A

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

No

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

0

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

0

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

N/A

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

None Needed

9. **Housing**

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

None

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

None

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

N/A

10. **Aesthetics**

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

N/A

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

None – no structures within 6+ miles of the project

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

None

11. **Light and glare**

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

N/A

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

No

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

None

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

None

12. **Recreation**

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

Hiking, horseback riding, ORV use, hunting, camping

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

No

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

None

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

No

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

N/A

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

N/A

14. **Transportation**

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

See FPA "haul route" map

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

No

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

N/A

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

No

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

No

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

None

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

None

15. **Public services**

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

No

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

None

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

None

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.

None

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: .....

Date Submitted: 9/27/04

Reviewed by - Charlie McKinney
F.P. Coordinator, DNR