

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:

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

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**Green Diamond CG-2030 Road Use Permit
Agreement Number 50-108176**

2. Name of applicant:

Green Diamond Management Co. (for TCT Columbia Holdings LLC)

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

**92 Office Road
Underwood, WA
98605
(541)340-4755
Contact Person: Jeremy Grose**

4. Date checklist prepared:

11/21/2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington Department of Natural Resources

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

Spring 2025 through Fall 2027

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.

The following analyses, policies, procedures, documents, and data layers directly pertain to or were reviewed as part of this proposal:

- **DNR Policies and Implementation**
 - **Policy for Sustainable Forests (PSF; 2006a)**
 - **Final Environmental Impact Statement on the Policy for Sustainable Forests (2006b)**
 - **Alternatives for the Establishment of a Sustainable Harvest Level for Forested State Trust Lands in Western Washington Final Environmental Impact Statement (2019)**
 - **Landscape Assessment to Identify and Manage Structurally Complex Stands to Meet Older-Forest Targets in Western Washington, May 2024 (Revised September 2024).**
 - **Identifying Mature and Old Forests in Western Washington by Robert Van Pelt (2007).**

- **Silvicultural Rotational Prescriptions**
- **Land Resource Manager Reports and associated maps**
- **DNR Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan and Supplemental Information**
 - **Final Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP; 1997)**
 - **Final (Merged) Environmental Impact Statement for the Habitat Conservation Plan (1998)**
 - **Long-Term Conservation Strategy for the Marbled Murrelet Final Environmental Impact Statement (2019)**
 - **Final State Trust Lands Habitat Conservation Plan Amendment: Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy**
 - **Riparian Forest Restoration Strategy (RFRS; 2006)**
 - **Spotted Owl Habitat GIS Layer**
 - **Marbled Murrelet Habitat GIS Layer**
 - **WAU Rain-On-Snow GIS Layer and Reports**
 - **Biological Opinion on the HCP, USFWS; January 27, 1997**
 - **Biological Opinion on the HCP, NMFS; January 29, 1997**
 - **Biological Opinion on the HCP Marbled Murrelet Long-term Conservation Strategy Amendment, USFWS; November 7, 2019**
 - **Reinitiated Biological Opinion on the Incidental Take Permit (PRT-812521), USFWS; March 21, 2024**
- **Forest Practices Regulations and Compliance**
 - **Forest Practices Board Manual**
 - **Forest Practices Activity Maps**
 - **Trust Lands HCP Addendum and Checklist**
 - **Supporting Data for Unstable Slopes Review**
 - **State Lands Geologist Remote Review (SLGRR)**
 - **Lidar Data and Derivatives**
 - **Draft Landform Remote Identification Model (LRIM) screening tool**
 - **Published Landslide Inventories**
 - **Historic Aerial Photographs**
 - **Published Geologic Mapping**
- **Supporting Data for Cultural Resources Review**
 - **Historical Aerial Photographs**
 - **USGS and GLO maps**
 - **Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation database for architectural and archaeological resources and reports (WISAARD)**
- **Additional Supporting Data for Policy Compliance**
 - **Weighted Old Growth Habitat Index (WOGHI)**
 - **State Soil Survey**
 - **Stand Development Stage Assessment form**

Referenced documents may be obtained from the Pacific Cascade Region Office.

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.

None known.

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

Forest practices application – forest practices number has not yet been assigned.

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.)

The Green Diamond CG-2030 Road Use Permit is a project that would allow Green Diamond Resource Group to construct a road over and across State Land, to access their El Camino Harvest area. Green Diamond Resource Group manages the land adjacent to the State parcel, owned by TCT Columbia Holdings LLC.

The proposed road is 250 feet long, 30 ft wide, and has an area of roughly 0.17 Acres. The stand age is 59 years old. Less than 10 big leaf maple trees that are <20 years old will be removed with this proposal.

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.

NW1/4 NW1/4 SE1/4, Section 22, Township 3 North, Range 7 East, W.M.

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)?

The estimated steepest slope on the net harvest acres is 35 percent.

- 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.

Well drained, very gravelly loam soil texture.

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

No surface indication or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity have been observed or documented.

- 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.

Purpose: **Removal of forest products**

Approx. acreage new roads: **0.17 Acres**

Approx. acreage new landings: **N/A**

Approx. quantities: **40 to 50 Cubic Yards**

Fill Source: **Native Material and rock from a commercial source**

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

Yes. Some erosion could occur as a result of building new roads, installing culverts, and hauling timber.

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

None. The road will be abandoned and replanted with native conifer.

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

Protection measures to reduce erosion associated with roads:

- **All areas of soil exposed through road construction will be re-vegetated.**
- **Roads will be constructed during dry weather conditions.**
- **Sediment control measures will be used as necessary during active haul to prevent sediment delivery into typed waters.**
- **Timing restrictions or temporary shutdown will be used as necessary during active haul to prevent sediment delivery to typed water.**

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Minor amounts of engine exhaust from road construction equipment and dust from vehicle traffic on roads will be emitted during proposed activities.

There will be no emissions once the proposal is complete.

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

None.

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

None.

3. Water

- a. Surface Water:

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

None.

- 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.

None.

- 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.

None.

- 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 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.

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.

Does not apply to this proposal.

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.

Water runoff, including storm water, from road surfaces will be collected by roadside ditches and diverted onto the forest floor via ditch-outs and cross drain culverts.

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

Waste materials, such as sediment may enter surface water.

No additional protection measures will be necessary to protect these resources beyond those described in B-1-h.

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

No significant changes to drainage patterns are expected.

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

No additional protection measures will be necessary to protect these resources beyond those described in B-1-h.

4. Plants

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

- deciduous tree: **alder, big-leaf maple**
- evergreen tree: **Douglas fir, western hemlock**
- shrubs: **oregon grape, salal, western sword fern**
- 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

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

Some shrubs and young deciduous trees will be removed as part of this proposal as a result of road building activities.

c. List threatened and 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:

Slash and downed-wood removed with this proposal will be left and scattered on site. Following completion of the project, the site will be re-planted using native conifer species.

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

None.

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.

birds: **hawk, eagle, songbirds, owls**
mammals: **deer, bear, elk, beaver**
fish: **salmon, trout**
Other: **frogs, salamander, toads, lizards, snakes**

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

This proposal is within a nesting, roosting, and foraging management area for the Northern Spotted Owl. The Northern Spotted Owl is federally listed as being threatened, and listed as endangered by the State of Washington.

This proposal is located within the Rock Creek Spotted Owl Management Unit (SOMU). At the time of preparing this document, the Rock Creek SOMU is at 50% habitat threshold.

The foot print of this project is located within a “non-habitat” habitat classification, and will not be removing or impacting any habitat or next-best habitat classifications that contribute towards the management objectives for the SOMU. The SOMU will remain at a 50% habitat threshold, with no changes to the habitat acres.

Additionally, this proposal will not cut or remove any conifer species. Some young deciduous trees will be cut, but all cut trees and woody debris will be scattered on-site, contributing to downed wood and woody-debris.

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

All of Washington State is considered part of the Pacific Flyway. No significant impacts are anticipated as a result of this proposal.

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

This sale has been designed to comply with the Department’s State Lands HCP and provides for the protection of wildlife and their habitats. Well engineered and constructed roads reduce the potential water quality impacts for downstream fish populations. Revegetating exposed soils aids water quality and provides forage for ungulates.

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

None observed on or near site.

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.

Petroleum fuel (diesel or gasoline) will be used for heavy equipment during active road building and for transportation. No energy sources will be needed following project completion.

- 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:

None.

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.

Minimal hazards incidental to operation of heavy machinery. These include the risk of fire or small amounts of oil and other lubricants being accidentally discharged.

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

None known.

- 2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

None known.

- 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.

Petroleum-based fuel and lubricants may be used and stored on site during the operating life of this project.

- 4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

The Department of Natural Resources, private, and fire protection district suppression crews may be needed in case of wildfire. In the event of personal injuries, emergency medical services may be required. Hazardous material spills may require Department of Ecology and/or county assistance.

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

No petroleum-based products will be disposed of on site. If a spill occurs, containment and cleanup will be required. Spill kits are required to be onsite during all heavy equipment operations.

The cessation of operations may occur during periods of increased fire risk. Fire tools and equipment, including pump trucks and/or pump trailers, as per WAC-332-24, Forest Protection requirements will be required on site during fire season.

b. Noise

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

None.

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.

There will be short term, low level and high level noise created by hauling operations within the proposal area. This type of noise has been historically present in this geographical area.

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

Current use of site and adjacent land types:

The land surrounding this proposal is managed for timber production by the DNR.

This proposal will not change the use of or affect the current/long term land use of areas associated with this sale.

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?

This proposal site has been used as working forest lands. This proposal will retain the site in working forest lands.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None.

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

No.

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

All units are zoned as commercial forest.

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

The comprehensive plan designation is resource lands, forest for long term significance.

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

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

None.

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

None.

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

Does not apply.

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

This project is consistent with current comprehensive plans and zoning classifications.

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

None.

9. Housing

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

Does not apply.

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

Does not apply.

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

None.

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?

Does not apply.

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

None.

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

Does not apply.

11. Light and Glare

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

None.

- 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?

There are no recreation facilities within the proposal area. However, hunting, hiking, mushroom and berry picking and other dispersed outdoor recreation activities may occur within the proposal area.

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

There may be some disruptions to recreational use during periods of road building, harvesting and hauling.

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

None at this time.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

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

No.

- 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.

No.

- 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.

The area was accessed by a DNR Cultural Resource Technician, reviewing historic maps and recorded cultural resources. Layout was reviewed by a forester trained in Cultural Resource Identification.

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.

If presently-unknown skeletal remains, cultural resource, or both become known during project operations, DNR will comply with the Discovery of Skeletal Remains or Cultural Resources procedure.

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.

Highway 14 to SW Rock Creek Drive, to Foster Creek Rd, to Red Bluff Road, to forest roads which provide access to the site.

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?

No. Nearest transit spot is approximately 5 miles away.

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).

Yes. 250 feet of new road will be constructed.

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

No.

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 nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Approximately 4 to 5 truck trips per day while the operation is active. Peak volumes would occur between 6:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The completed project will generate less than one vehicular trip per day. Estimates are based on the observed harvest traffic of past projects.

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.

No.

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, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No.

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

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: _____
DocuSigned by:
Jeremy Grose

Name of signee: Jeremy Grose
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Position and Agency/Organization: Green Diamond Management Co. (for TCT Columbia Holdings LLC)

Date Submitted: 12/17/2024