

# 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.

**RECEIVED**  
**September 16, 2024**  
**Washington Geological Survey**

## A. Background [Find help answering background questions](#)

1. **Name of proposed project, if applicable:** St. Regis Gravel Pit
2. **Name of applicant:** JJC Resources LLC
3. **Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**  
  
Jesse Bruch  
PO Box 428  
Port Angeles, WA. 98362  
(306) 461-2934
4. **Date checklist prepared:** December 1, 2023
5. **Agency requesting checklist:** Department of Natural Resources
6. **Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):** Start upon approval. Site will be mined in nine phases with a max of 10 acres of new disturbance at a time.
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.** Geotechnical Report
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.** Jefferson County SM6, Department of Ecology Sand & Gravel General Permit, Department of Natural Resources Reclamation Permit, and Olympic Clean Air Agency Permit.
11. **Give a 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.)** St. Regis Gravel Pit is an old existing gravel pit that does not currently have any permits tied to it. JJC Resources is applying for a DNR Permit to allow for further extraction on this site. The permit will encompass a total of 157.6 total acres, with 64.5 acres to be disturbed by mining. Site will be mined in 9 phases. Per Jefferson County code mining is an allowed use, with a of maximum new disturbance of 10 acres at a time. Reclamation will occur as mining progresses. Total material to be extracted is 4.3 MCY, with a max annual production of 150,000 CY. Extraction of materials is expected to last approximately 28 years.

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. The St. Regis Gravel Pit is located 16.2 miles south of Forks, Washington. Site access is located 0.3 miles south of the Hoh Mainline and HWY 101 intersection, along private Forest Road MCL-1000. The existing pit is located approximately 0.5 miles up the private Forest Road.

Township 26 North, Range 12 West, W.M., Jefferson County, Washington. All of the Northwest ¼ of Section 3.

## B. Environmental Elements

### 1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](#)

#### a. General description of the site:

Circle or highlight one: **Flat**, rolling, **hilly**, steep slopes, mountainous, other:

#### b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? 200%

#### 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.

Kalaloch Gravelly Loam - KCC  
Klone Gravelly Silt loam - KGD  
Klone-Hoko Association - KND

#### d. **Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.** Yes. The Geotechnical Report conducted by GeoResources notes a potential landslide risk on the western side of the property. Due to this hazard the report recommends a setback from the crest of the slope found on the western edge of the parcel. Mining to progress in max 15 acre increments before reclamation occurs. All stormwater to be directed and collected away from slope. Mining Limits will reflect this setback. See Reclamation Plans and Geotech Report for details on site plans as it pertains to these recommendations.

- 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.** The permit boundary will encompass 157.6 acres. Mining will occur inside a 64.5 acre permit boundary. The proposed mining depth is 70-ft to a mine floor elevation of 395-ft msl. The site is expected to yield approximately 4.3 MCY of sand and gravel, with an annual production rate of 150,000 CY. Upon reclamation the slopes will be backfilled with approximately 238,000 CY of locally sourced clean fill and will be placed with guidelines in the Geotechnical report.
  
- f. **Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.** Localized areas of erosion could occur. All slopes will direct runoff to the channels and infiltration ponds onsite. Proper BMP's will be utilized and maintained to prevent erosion from occurring.
  
- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?** None, at reclamation, site will be returned to forestry.
  
- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.** Site will maintain vegetated setbacks and slopes. Stormwater will be directed through vegetated and rock lined channels that will lead to infiltration ponds. Proper BMP's will be employed to ensure minimal impacts to the surrounding environment.

## 2. Air [Find help answering air questions](#)

- 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.** Normal construction dust associated with material haul, equipment operation, and processing. Dust emissions will be managed with a water truck when necessary.
  
- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.** No
  
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any.** All equipment will operate within legal parameters for emissions. A water truck will be used to manage dust emissions when necessary.

### 3. Water [Find help answering water questions](#)

#### a. Surface Water: [Find help answering surface water questions](#)

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.** The site has wetlands, Type F stream 285382, and a pond. The pond flows to the stream which flows into the wetlands. The wetlands flow into other streams that flow into the Hoh River.
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.** Operations will adhere to a 300-ft setback from the wetlands, a 150-ft setback from Type F stream 285382, and a 50-ft setback from the pond.
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 a 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 Water: [Find help answering ground water questions](#)

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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.** No groundwater will be utilized at the site, mining will remain above the groundwater table.
2. **Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.** None.

**c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):**

- a) **Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.** No water is used during mining. All water on-site comes from natural means. All stormwater will be directed through grass and rock lined channels which lead to two on-site infiltration ponds.
- b) **Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.** All equipment will be refueled and maintained in a selected area that will incorporate pollution prevention methodology. Equipment will be monitored and checked daily for leaks. Site will follow an approved Site Management Plan and employ proper BMP's to ensure waste does not enter surface waters or the ground.
- c) **Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.** No, because the site is underlain by porous sand and gravel material. Site will have channels and infiltration ponds to capture all stormwater.
- d) **Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.** Site activities will be conducted in accordance with Best Management Practices and stormwater runoff will be directed to infiltration ponds and retained onsite.

**4. Plants** [Find help answering plants questions](#)

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

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other**
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other**
- shrubs**
- grass**
- pasture**
- crop or grain**
- orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops.**
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other**
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other**
- other types of vegetation**

*B. 4. DNR special concerns report does not list any T&E plant species within the Section. The Section is listed as containing Sitka spruce and western hemlock vegetation zones (comment by Nicole Damer, DNR, 11/26/2024).*

- b. **What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?** Areas to be mined will be stripped of vegetation. Buffers will remain undisturbed. Approximately 64.5 acres will be disturbed and revegetated upon reclamation.
- c. **List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife list Northern Spotted Owl to potentially be on-site. This species has not been observed.

- d. **Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any.** Site will be revegetated upon reclamation. See attached Revegetation Plans within the Reclamation Plans for details.
- e. **List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.** None Identified.

**5. Animals** [Find help answering animal questions](#)

- a. **List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.**

Examples include:

- **Birds:** hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
- **Mammals:** deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
- **Fish:** bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: Cutthroat, Coho

*B. 5. DNR special concerns report lists threatened species wolverine within 5,280 feet of the Section. Chinook salmon, coho salmon, cutthroat trout, and steelhead trout are documented within the Section (comment by ND, DNR, 11/26/2024).*

- b. **List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.** None identified.
- c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.** None identified.
- d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.** Site has setbacks to remain undisturbed. Pit will be returned to forestry use upon reclamation.
- e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.** None identified.

**6. Energy and Natural Resources** [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)

- 1. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.** None
- 2. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.** No.
- 3. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any.** Site will have no impacts to energy.

**7. Environmental Health** [Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)

- a. **Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur because of this proposal? If so, describe.** No.

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.** Site will have fluids used to fuel and run heavy equipment. All materials will be kept within secondary containment and under a shelter to avoid contaminants from polluting the ground and surface waters. Proper BMP's will be employed and an approved Site Management Plan will be followed.
  
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 identified.
  
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.** Site will have fluids used to fuel and run heavy equipment. All materials will be kept within secondary containment and under a shelter to avoid contaminants from polluting the ground and surface waters. Proper BMP's will be employed and an approved Site Management Plan will be followed.
  
4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.** None
  
5. **Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any.** Site will operate with best management practices and follow an approved Site Management Plan.

**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)?** Heavy equipment operation. Per County Code site can operate Monday – Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
  
3. **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.** Heavily vegetated buffers and natural topography of the area.



## 8. Land and Shoreline Use [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)

- 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.** Site is an existing Gravel Pit and has been logged many times. Adjacent properties are zoned as CF-80 Commercial Forest. DNR Olympic PRG 532 Sand and Gravel Mine is within a mile of the site.
- 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 because 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? Site has been logged many times. 64.5 acres of the 320.69 acre parcel will be mined. Upon completion of mining the site will be revegetated and returned to Forestry use.**
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.** Site will have a scale house, and a few shipping containers to hold materials needed to upkeep heavy equipment.
- d. **Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?** None.
- e. **What is the current zoning classification of the site?** CF-80 Commercial Forest
- f. **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?** CF-80 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 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?** Work is based on market needs. Site will employ 2-4 workers. A watchman may be on-site and reside in a travel trailer.
  
- j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?** None.
  
- 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.** Obtaining proper permits.
  
- m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any.** No major impacts. Site will be revegetated and reclaimed to forestry use.

**9. Housing** [Find help answering housing questions](#)

- a. **Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.** None. Site will be reclaimed to Forestry Use.
  
- 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** [Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)

- a. **What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?** Shipping Containers will be used on-site. Standard Container is 8-ft tall.
  
- b. **What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?** None.
  
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.** Site will maintain a heavily vegetated buffer and the west facing slope. These will block the site from view.

**11. Light and Glare** [Find help answering light and glare questions](#)

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**  
Headlights of vehicles during dusk/dawn times of operation. Operations occur during daylight hours only.
- 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?** N/A
- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.** None. No impacts are expected.

**12. Recreation** [Find help answering recreation questions](#)

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**  
Hiking within Olympic National Park and fishing are attractions to the area.
- 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. There will be no impacts to recreational opportunities in the area.

**13. Historic and Cultural Preservation** [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)

- 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.** None.
- 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.** None Observed/reported.

*B. 13. DNR special concerns report lists archaeology sites and a historic register site within 5,280 feet of the Section (comment by ND, DNR, 11/26/2024).*

- 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. Historical maps of the area, aerial photos, and online databases.**
- 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 during operations evidence of artifacts or areas of cultural significance are discovered, mining will cease and the County and local tribes will be notified.**

#### **14. Transportation** [Find help with answering transportation questions](#)

- 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. Site access is off private Forest Road MCL-100 which connects to HWY 101. See Reclamation Plans for Site Vicinity Map.**
- 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, closest public transit is within Forks, Washington approximately 16 miles north of the site.**
- 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). No.**
- 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? At full operation of 150,000 CY production annually, approximately a maximum of 60 inbound/outbound truck trips per day are expected at peak times of the year. See attached Traffic Memo for details.**
- 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. No major impacts to transportation are expected. Site is located within a rural area zoned mainly for commercial forest and is off of a main highway.**

**15. Public Services** [Find help answering public service questions](#)

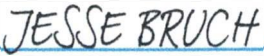
- a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. No.**
  
- b. **Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. No public services are in the area. No impacts are expected.**

**16. Utilities** [Find help answering utilities questions](#)

- 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. Site will have a generator for electricity and portable bathrooms for the employees.**

**C. Signature** [Find help about who should sign](#)

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.

X   
JESSE BRUCH (Dec 7, 2023 09:51 PST)

**RECEIVED**  
**September 16, 2024**  
**Washington Geological Survey**

Type name of signee: Jesse Bruch

Position and agency/organization: Owner Partner/General Manager; JJC Resources, LLC

Date submitted: 12/1/2023

**D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions** [Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](#)

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section for project actions.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal, or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

**1. How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?**

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

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

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

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

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

**4. How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection, such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?**

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

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

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

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

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

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