

APPENDIX C

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

RECEIVED
June 11, 2024
Washington Geological Survey

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.

¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/Checklist-guidance>

A. Background

[Find help answering background questions²](https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background)

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Major Road Mine

2. Name of applicant:

Vaagen Brothers Lumber, Inc.

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

565 West 5th Avenue, Colville WA 99114

Contact: Jeff Waterman, 509-680-1773

4. Date checklist prepared:

May 31, 2024

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)

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

Late Summer/Fall 2024.

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

Not at this time.

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

None.

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 are known.

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

DNR approval and issuance of a Surface Mine Reclamation Permit; Site Management Plan for the Washington Department of Ecology Sand and Gravel General Permit.

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.)

² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-A-Background>

The proposed project consists of developing an aggregate mine to provide crushed rock and fill for road construction and maintenance on timber management roads. Activities will include incremental removal of vegetation, topsoil, and overburden; extraction of resource materials; loading and hauling; crushing, screening, and stockpiling of aggregate materials; and storage of topsoil and overburden in designated storage areas to be used later in site reclamation. Blasting is not anticipated; but if hard bedrock is encountered toward the end of mining, controlled blasting will be used to extract bedrock resource. The proposed permitted mine site is 42.8 acres.

- 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 Major Road Mine is located at 2940 Leslie Creek Road in tax parcel 2622401 approximately 8 miles north of Chewelah. The site located in the NW ¼ of Section 12, Township 33 North, Range 40 East of the Willamette Meridian. Refer to Figures 1 and 2 included with the DNR expansion permit application.

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

[Find help answering earth questions](#)³

- 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)?**

The steepest slope is about 65% in the northeast corner and outside of the proposed limits of extraction (LOE; Figure 3). The steepest slope in the LOE is about 30%.

- 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.**

The US Department of Agriculture – Natural Resources Conservation Service’s (NRCS) Web Soil Survey (<https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/App/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>) maps soils in the proposed permit area as Rock outcrop-Donovan complex, 30 to 65 percent in the northeast LOE; Aits loam, 25 to 40 percent over the rest of the LOE; and Aits loam, 15 to 25 percent southwest of the LOE. None of these soils are mapped as prime farmland or agricultural land of long-term commercial significance.

³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-earth>

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

No.

- 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 site will be mined for aggregate resource, consisting of glacial drift, colluvium, and weathered Addy Quartzite bedrock. The permit area will consist of 42.8 acres, of which approximately 13 acres will be disturbed by mineral extraction and related activities. The total volume to be excavated including topsoil, overburden, and resource is approximately 433,000 cubic yards. Topsoil and overburden will be removed and stored in perimeter berms and temporary stockpiles. An operations area will also be constructed in the south site using overburden as fill, which will require up to 38,000 cubic yards. Stored topsoil and overburden will be replaced back over the final mine slopes and floors during reclamation at the completion of mining.

- f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

Erosion could occur along actively mined sections prior to reclamation. However, the site will be mined to direct stormwater and any potential erosion toward the incised mine floor or designated stormwater infiltration areas.

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

None.

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

Mining activity will take place such that potential erosion from disturbance of native materials will be directed back into the active mining area or designated stormwater infiltration areas and infiltrated. Topsoil and overburden will be located in designated storage areas and seeded to stabilize the soils and prevent erosion.

2. Air

[Find help answering air questions](#)⁴

- 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.**

Emissions from equipment associated with mining operations; dust as a result of crushing and general operations.

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

No.

⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-Air>

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

Mobile equipment will utilize requisite emission control devices. Processing equipment will use best management practices to reduce fugitive dust in accordance with state standards, such as using fog nozzles to wet material during crushing and stockpiling. Access roads will be wetted as needed using a water truck.

☐☐Water

[Find help answering water questions](#)⁵

a. Surface:

[Find help answering surface water questions](#)⁶

- 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.**

Leslie Creek (Type F stream) is mapped offsite at least 200 feet west of the permit boundary and more than 500 feet west of the LOE, flowing south to the confluence with Bayley Creek (Type F stream) about 4,000 feet south of the permit boundary.

- 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.**

No.

- 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.

⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water>

⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Surface-water>

b. Ground:

[Find help answering ground water questions](#)⁷

- 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 withdrawals are associated with this proposal. Stormwater from precipitation and seasonal snowmelt will be directed to the mine floor and designated areas for infiltration. Volumes will be similar to what currently falls and infiltrates into the site subsurface.

- 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):

- 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.**

Runoff will be limited to stormwater from precipitation and seasonal snowmelt that will be diverted around the mining disturbance or will be collected from disturbed areas and contained on site. It will be directed to the mine floor and designated areas and readily infiltrate into the underlying soils.

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

There will be no waste materials on site. Any potential sediment from runoff will be contained on site.

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

No.

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

Segmental mining/reclamation and best management practices such as onsite infiltration, ditching, check dams, and topsoil replacement for revegetation will be incorporated to control surface runoff. Runoff from undisturbed areas will be diverted around active mining areas where practical.

⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-3-Water/Environmental-elements-Groundwater>

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

As mining proceeds, approximately 13 acres of vegetation (trees and shrubs) will be removed and subsequently restored according to the reclamation plan.

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

None are known.

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

Reclaimed areas will be revegetated and reforested according to DNR reclamation standards and requirements.

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

None are known.

5. Animals

[Find help answering animal questions](#)⁸

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: crows, jays, vultures**

⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-5-Animals>

B. 4. DNR Special Concerns Report does not list any T&E plant species within the Section. The Section is listed as containing Douglas fir, Ponderosa pine, and western hemlock vegetation zones (comment by Nicole Damer, DNR, 12/18/2024).

B. 5. DNR Special Concerns Report does not list any T&E animal species within the Section. Northwest White-tail deer and Rocky Mountain Elk are documented (comment by ND, DNR 12/18/2024).

- **Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other: rodents**
 - **Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:**
- b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.**
None are known.
- c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**
Yes – Pacific flyway (along with all of State of Washington).
- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any.**
The site will be reclaimed back to forestry use, which will provide wildlife habitat similar to the surrounding area.
- e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**
None are known.

6. Energy and natural resources

[Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)⁹

- 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 products (diesel and gasoline) will power excavation and hauling equipment and a portable crusher.
- 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.**
Not applicable.

7. Environmental health

[Health Find help with answering environmental health questions](#)¹⁰

- 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.**
Petroleum products will be used for mobile equipment and a portable crusher. Accidental fuel or oil spills are possible, but a Spill Control Plan (SCP) will be followed

⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-6-Energy-natural-resou>

¹⁰ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-7-Environmental-health>

and revised as necessary throughout the life of the project according to the site's Sand and Gravel General Permit requirements.

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

None are 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 are 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.

Fuel and oil for mining equipment will be used on the site. Mining equipment will require occasional refueling and maintenance.

4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None.

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

Best management practices (BMPs) described in the SCP will be employed to reduce the potential for accidental fuel or oil spills during equipment refueling. BMPs will also be used to clean up any spills quickly and completely and remove any spill-contaminated materials to an approved disposal site.

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)?

Sporadic noise will be generated by mining equipment and haul trucks during operating hours (generally 6 am to 7 pm). Occasional, seasonal need for crushing and building product inventory may extend work hours to dawn-to-dusk. As needed and based on the degree of bedrock fracturing at later stages of mining, blasting will generate short-term noise during daylight hours.

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

Appropriate mufflers will be used on all mining equipment and truck traffic. Neighboring properties will be notified at least 24 hours ahead of blasting, if used.

8. Land and shoreline use

[Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)¹¹

- 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.**

The site has been used for commercial forestry. Surrounding land-use is also dominated by commercial forestry with a few rural residences. The flat-lying field south of the site is used as a hayfield. The proposed mine project will not affect current land uses in the surrounding area and will be reclaimed back to forestry use.

- 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?**

The proposed mine area has been used for forestry. The relevant parcel is not designated as Agriculture or Forest land use by the Stevens County Comprehensive Plan.

- 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?**

Not applicable.

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

Rural Area RA-10.

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

Rural.

- 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.**

Some slopes in the site vicinity are greater than 30 percent gradient and are thus categorized as Geologically Hazardous Areas by Stevens County. Slopes on site and on adjacent parcels do not show signs of past landsliding.

¹¹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-8-Land-shoreline-use>

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

Two to five employees will work on the site.

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

None.

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

Not applicable.

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

The proposed project and post-mining use are compatible with surrounding rural land use and zoning.

- m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

None.

9. Housing

[Find help answering housing questions](#)¹²

- 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:**

Not applicable.

10. Aesthetics

[Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)¹³

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

Not applicable.

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

None.

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

¹² <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-9-Housing>

¹³ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-10-Aesthetics>

None.

11. Light and glare

[Find help answering light and glare questions](#)¹⁴

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

Excavation and hauling will generally take place during daylight hours. Therefore, lighting will not normally be required. Occasional maintenance or seasonal work may require work outside daylight hours. Overhead lighting and head lights will be utilized on haul trucks and loading equipment as needed.

- 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:**

All temporary sources of overhead lighting, as needed, will be hooded and directed at the specific work area to avoid the escape of glare.

12. Recreation

[Find help answering recreation questions](#)

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

Hunting and fishing are likely available within a half-mile of the site.

- 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:**

No mining activities will affect existing recreational opportunities.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

[Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)¹⁵

- 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.**

B. 13. DNR Special Concerns Report lists GLO trails within 2,640 feet of the Section and archaeology sites with 5,280 feet (comment by ND, DNR, 12/18/2024).

¹⁴ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-11-Light-glare>

¹⁵ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-13-Historic-cultural-p>

None are known.

- 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 known or observed.

- 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.**

No evidence of pre-contact human use or disturbance is apparent from site observations. The Washington State Dept of Archaeology and Historical Preservation (DAHP) WISAARD predictive model suggests proposed mining could be located in areas of moderately low to high risk of encountering cultural resources based on slope gradient. No Government Land Office (GLO) maps show roads or trails near the site.

- 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 cultural resources are encountered during soil disturbance (which occurs prior to resource extraction), site activities will be immediately suspended in the vicinity of the discovery; and the DAHP will be contacted for guidance in compliance with regulations.

14. Transportation

[Find help with answering transportation questions](#)¹⁶

- 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.**

The site is served by a gravel access road off of Major Road, which is also a gravel road.

- 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. The nearest transit stop is in Chewelah, 8 miles south 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.**

¹⁶ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-B-Environmental-elements/Environmental-elements-14-Transportation>

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?**

The proposed mine (not the completed project) would generate approximately 10 to 30 round-trip truck loads per day.

- 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.**

None are anticipated.

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

None.

15. Public services

[Find help answering public service questions¹⁷](#)

- 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

[Find help answering utilities questions¹⁸](#)

- 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.

¹⁷ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-15-public-services>

¹⁸ <https://ecology.wa.gov/regulations-permits/sepa/environmental-review/sepa-guidance/sepa-checklist-guidance/sepa-checklist-section-b-environmental-elements/environmental-elements-16-utilities>

C. Signature

[Find help about who should sign](#)¹⁹

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 Kurtis Vaagen

Type name of signee: Kurtis Vaagen

Position and agency/organization: Vice President

Date submitted: 6/6/24

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¹⁹ <https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/SEPA/Environmental-review/SEPA-guidance/SEPA-checklist-guidance/SEPA-Checklist-Section-C-Signature>