

# SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

## A. Background [\[help\]](#)

**1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:**

Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail: Crab Creek Trestle

**2. Name of applicant:**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

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

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission  
Attn: Chelsea Harris  
Eastern Region Headquarters  
270 9<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Suite 200  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802  
[chelsea.harris@parks.wa.gov](mailto:chelsea.harris@parks.wa.gov)  
(509) 665-4339

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

May - June 2021

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

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

Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2021, and finish in July 2022.

**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.**

- Eastern Washington University, 2021. Cultural Resources Survey for Crab Creek Trestle. Prepared for Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.
- GeoEngineers Inc. 2021. Critical Areas Report for Crab Creek Trestle. Prepared for Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.
- GeoEngineers Inc. 2020. Hydraulics Memo for Crab Creek Trestle. Prepared for Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.
- GeoEngineers Inc. 2021. Mitigation Plan for Crab Creek Trestle. Prepared for Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission.

**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 other applications are known.

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

- Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Grant County: Critical Areas Review, Shoreline Exemption and/or Substantial Development Permit, and Floodplain Development Permit
- Compliance with Executive Order 21-02
- Letter from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers no permit required

**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.)**

Crab Creek Trestle is located 10 miles east of Beverly, Washington in Grant County. Crab Creek Trestle is part of the Palouse to Cascades Trail, which is a 185-mile-long State Park trail that starts in North Bend, Washington, and extends into Idaho. The trail follows an abandoned railroad grade that is now owned by the State of Washington. The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission (State Parks) is planning to replace the railroad trestle, which burned down in 2019, with a new bridge structure to reconnect the trail across Crab Creek.

The railroad trestle over Crab Creek was badly burned in 2019. The entire superstructure was damaged and either burned or was removed from the site. The only remaining components are several piles and pile stubs that remain in the channel. The purpose of the project is to replace the trestle with a new bridge structure to maintain trail connectivity in either direction from the stream crossing. In light of the damage that occurred, replacement is considered the best option to repair the trail crossing of Crab Creek. The replacement bridge design is currently being developed. The bridge will span the entire channel between the existing bridge approaches that consist of railroad ballast and fill that was historically placed to elevate the railroad prism above the surrounding floodplain. No new structures will be placed within the channel. Existing burned piles and other debris currently remaining in the water will be removed.

The bridge design will be compliant with according to WDFW standards, including those applicable to water crossing designs to benefit fish habitat, preservation of adjacent wildlife habitat conservation areas, and floodplain development standards. There will be no piers located within the water body or its associated floodplain and there will be no net fill below the applicable 100-year flood water surface elevation. Existing derelict creosote-treated piers and other bridge debris will be removed from the waterway, benefitting fish habitat through removal of existing obstructions and contaminated materials. Staging areas, access routes, work platforms and all bridge components have been located outside of existing native habitat and wetland/floodplain areas. The girders are profiled to be thinnest over the middle of the creek. This along with an open railing system will help minimize shading on the year-round portion of the channel.

**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 proposed project is located along the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail, east of Beverly, Washington, in Grant County, in Section 31 of Township 16 N and Range 25 E of the Willamette Meridian.

## B. Environmental Elements [\[help\]](#)

### 1. Earth [\[help\]](#)

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

The site is mostly flat with steep slopes from the railroad and trail prism.

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

The steepest slope on the site is 60 percent.

#### c. What general types of soils are found on the site (e.g., 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.

Geologic maps (Riedel 1988<sup>1</sup>) indicate surficial soils in the vicinity of the trestle consist of recent alluvium (silt, sand and gravel) overlying Wanapum basalt. Basalt exposures are located a few hundred feet north of the site as well as to the south on the Saddle Mountains. Nearby water wells indicate the thickness of alluvium overlying the basalt may vary from about 40 to 50 feet. GeoEngineers, Inc. (GeoEngineers) completed a boring on the west abutment in 2020; the boring encountered approximately 10 feet of embankment fill consisting of silty, sandy gravel underlain by sand silt. The fill is underlain by native alluvial deposits consisting of very soft to medium stiff silt with variable amounts of sand and loose to medium dense silty sand. At a depth of approximately 23 feet, very dense gravel with silt was encountered. The gravel overlies bedrock, which was encountered at a depth of 31 feet. A sample of the bedrock was not obtained, but the presence of bedrock was inferred based on drilling action.

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

No surface indicators of unstable soils were observed in the immediate vicinity of the project location; however, based on GeoEngineers' evaluation of the subsurface conditions at the site, there is some minor risk of ground movement and associated settling of the proposed structure during an earthquake. This risk will be mitigated to the extent feasible as part of the geotechnical design for the bridge foundations. Anticipated ground settlement resulting from liquefaction during the design earthquake are estimated to be 4 inches or less.

#### 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 project can be divided into temporary and permanent actions.

##### Temporary actions:

- Temporary wall materials consisting of either sheet pilings, H piles with lagging, or other Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall types will be temporarily installed at the edge of the existing railroad/trail prism at both sides of the bridge construction site. Approximately 4,600 square feet or 3,900 cubic feet of a mix of native materials and imported fill materials will be temporarily placed behind the temporary wall to form a work platform.

##### Permanent actions:

A small amount of net fill is required as a result of the bridge thickness that is necessary for structural strength without placing any piers within the waterway, which results in a higher elevation trail finish surface than the prior trestle. This necessitates adding approach fill along each approach ramp where the trail will need to gain elevation from the existing trail prism up to the finish elevation of the bridge deck surface. The approach ramps have been designed to meet ADA accessibility requirements. Net fill amounts to approximately 2,430 cubic feet, entirely above

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<sup>1</sup> Reidel S.P., 1988. Geologic Map of the Saddle Mountains, South-Central Washington, Washington Division of Geology and earth Resources Geologic Map GM-38, scale 1:48,000.

the OHWM of the creek and above the 100-year flood water surface elevation of the floodplain.

- Approximately 2,400 square feet of existing embankment areas on either side of Lower Crab Creek will be excavated before bridge footing construction. A total of 4,000 cubic feet of existing railroad ballast material will be removed from these areas to accommodate permanent fill associated with bridge footings and backfill around the footings.
- Permanent fill consisting of 1,630 cubic feet of concrete will be installed for bridge footings.
- Permanent fill consisting of 1,600 cubic feet of native backfill material will be installed around the concrete bridge footings.
- Permanent fill consisting of 1,800 cubic feet of imported fill material will be installed at the bridge ends.
- Permanent fill consisting of 1,400 cubic feet of crushed rock will be installed on top of the bike path at the approaches to the bridge.

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

The risk of erosion occurring as a result of construction will be reduced through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) and Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control plan (TESC) measures, such as wood chip mulch, straw wattles, and/or silt fences. All bare soils will be protected with arborist wood chip mulch or slash after project completion. Scour protection may be installed around the new bridge abutments and slopes to minimize scour and prevent erosion.

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

The bridge will consist of approximately 2,016 square feet of non-pollution generating impervious surface; however, the bridge is replacing a previously burned down structure that consisted of approximately 1,776 square feet of impervious surface. The new bridge is slightly larger and will result in approximately 240 square feet of net additional impervious surface at the site. The project site is situated on a long, linear bike path owned by State Parks. An additional 240 square feet of impervious surface would represent a small net change (less than 1 percent) along the entire site corridor.

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

State Parks will develop a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the project. The project will be constructed during the summer to minimize potential erosion related impacts. Potential stormwater, erosion and sediment impacts during construction will be addressed using BMPs that are detailed in but not limited to the SWPPP. These include erosion control barriers (i.e., silt fence, mulching and temporary covers). Timely restoration of the disturbed surface will further reduce erosion potentials. The contractor will monitor and review the use and maintenance of BMPs throughout construction and restoration activities. Permanent techniques and measures include utilizing a native seed mix and mulching to restore disturbed areas.

**2. Air [\[help\]](#)**

**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.**

Sources of emissions during construction include fugitive dust and construction equipment exhaust. The quantities of emissions generated and transported off-site from the project site will depend upon wind and weather conditions but are anticipated to be minor and of short duration. Odors from construction materials may occur and engine exhaust will be present during construction. No long-term sources of air emissions associated with the operational phase of this project are anticipated.

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

There are no known off-site sources of emissions that will affect the proposed project.

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

Standard emission control devices, in conformance with federal and state air quality standards will be utilized during construction. Dust control BMPs, including wetting of exposed soil surfaces and/or use of approved soil tackifiers, will be implemented as needed by the contractor to limit dust-generating sources. Efficient construction practices and timely restoration of areas of temporary disturbance will further reduce dust-generating sources.

**3. Water** [\[help\]](#)

**a. Surface Water:** [\[help\]](#)

- 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 project crosses Lower Crab Creek, a Shoreline of the state and a tributary to the Columbia 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.**

The project involves removing relict creosote treated timber piles and steel rails located within the stream channel and constructing a new bridge over the stream, including new abutments placed on either side of the stream and outside of the stream Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). Temporary work platforms constructed within the extents of the existing fill prism are also located within 200 feet of Crab Creek.

- 3. Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

The project plans to remove derelict creosote timber piles and steel rails located within the Lower Crab Creek channel. Piles encountered during construction that are located outside of the channel will also be removed. It is estimated that there are approximately 60 to 70 creosote piles and 4 to 10 steel rails at the project site; however, it may not be possible to locate and remove all the piles. Any depressions that are created in the streambed as a result of pile removal will be allowed to naturally backfill with stream sediment. The creosote pile removal, handling and disposal will follow the BMPs developed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources for derelict piling removal (found here: [https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr\\_rest\\_pileremoval\\_bmp\\_2017.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr_rest_pileremoval_bmp_2017.pdf)). No fill or dredge material will be placed in or removed from wetlands.

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

No.

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

The majority of the project is located outside of the 100-year floodplain; however, the timber pile removal will occur within the stream channel and 100-year floodplain. No fill will be placed within the 100-year floodplain.

- 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.**

The project does not involve the discharge of waste materials to surface waters. Waste materials potentially generated during pile removal will be contained using standard BMPs referenced above, including a debris boom, oil-absorbent boom and/or silt curtain placed in the channel downstream of the work area.

b. **Ground Water:** [\[help\]](#)

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 groundwater will be withdrawn as part of this project.

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

The proposed project will not result in the discharge of waste material into the ground.

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

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

No permanent stormwater collection and conveyances are proposed. The bridge will have a normal crown with rainwater draining directly into the creek along each edge for the full length of the bridge. State Parks will develop a SWPPP to ensure project construction does not negatively impact stormwater at the project site.

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

It is not anticipated that waste materials will enter ground or surface waters.

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:**

State Parks will develop a SWPPP to manage temporary stormwater impacts during construction of the project.

4. **Plants** [\[help\]](#)

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?**

Because the project is almost entirely confined to the existing trail prism that is sparsely vegetated with weedy herbaceous species, there will be minimal vegetation removal or alteration. Bridge abutments and work areas will be located on the existing prism. Pile removal equipment will operate from work areas developed on the existing prism, but will reach over and into the water to pull and/or cut derelict piles associated with the old trestle. Some of this work as well as placement of BMPs (e.g., debris and oil-absorbent booms) may require construction personnel to work within the water on foot and/or via a small boat. Any vegetation removal to access the waterway, which is characterized by cattails and other aquatic vegetation, will be minimized, will not include disturbance of subsurface root structures, and will be completed using hand tools only. Access routes have been identified that utilize existing vehicular access to the trail prism as well. Staging areas utilize existing parking areas. Therefore, no vegetation clearing will be required for staging and access.

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

There are no threatened or endangered plant species known to occur at the project site. The Washington Department of Natural Resources maps an occurrence of gray cryptantha (*Cryptantha leucophaea*), a state threatened plant, approximately 2 miles west of the project location.

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

A native seed mix will be used to restore areas disturbed during project construction.

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

Russian olive (*Eleagnus angustifolia*) and Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) are known to be near the site.

**5. Animals [\[help\]](#)**

**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. Examples include:**

Birds: **hawk**, heron, eagle, **songbirds**, other:

Mammals: **deer**, bear, elk, **beaver**, other:

Fish: bass, **salmon**, **trout**, herring, shellfish, other:

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

Upper Columbia River Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) are a state candidate and federally threatened species. Mid-Columbia River fall-run Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) that may occur in Crab Creek are not state or federally listed. Ferruginous hawk (*Buteo regalis*) is a state threatened species.

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

Yes. Mid-Columbia River fall-run Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Upper Columbia River Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) both migrate through Lower Crab Creek.

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

The removal of relict creosote piles within the Crab Creek channel will improve salmonid habitat. Wood preservatives, such as creosote, can leach contaminants that negatively impact water quality and aquatic habitat. Creosote contains carcinogens and is considered toxic to fish and wildlife. State Parks has been coordinating with WDFW engineers to ensure the design of the bridge is compatible with the goal of improving salmonid habitat.

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

No invasive animal species are known to be on or near the site.

**6. Energy and Natural Resources [\[help\]](#)**

**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.**

There are no energy needs being proposed.

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

The proposal will not affect the use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

**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:**

No energy conservation features are included in this proposal.

**7. Environmental Health [\[help\]](#)**

**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.**

There is a risk of fire or a spill from construction equipment; however, the use of proper BMPs will reduce this risk. The proposal also involves the removal of existing creosote timber piles within the Crab Creek channel. The proposal will not increase any environmental health hazards.

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

Creosote treated timber piles are the only known contaminants at the site, which are proposed to be removed.

**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.**

Creosote treated timber piles are the only known environmental hazard at the site, which are proposed to be removed.

**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.**

Gasoline and diesel will be used and potentially stored onsite during project construction. No toxic or hazardous chemicals will be stored or used onsite after project completion

**4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

The potential exists for a gasoline explosion and diesel and gasoline spills from equipment during construction. The possibility of an explosion is very remote provided the contractor follows State safety rules. A diesel or gasoline spill could occur during equipment refueling or operation. If a spill were to occur the contractor would be required to immediately contain the spill and implement appropriate cleanup procedures.

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

Construction BMPs will be used in conjunction with a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures plan developed for project construction. The creosote pile removal, handling and disposal will follow the BMPs

developed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources for derelict piling removal (found here: [https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr\\_rest\\_pileremoval\\_bmp\\_2017.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/aqr_rest_pileremoval_bmp_2017.pdf)).

**b. Noise**

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

No existing noises will affect the proposed project.

- 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 (e.g., traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

A short-term increase in noise will result from construction activities which will include the use of heavy equipment. Construction will be generally confined to normal daytime weekday hours, with the possibility of some work on Saturdays. After project completion, there are no anticipated long-term noise impacts.

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

Construction will be generally limited to daylight hours.

**8. Land and Shoreline Use [\[help\]](#)**

- 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 contains upland areas, wetland habitat and one stream, Lower Crab Creek. The site is located on land owned by the Washington State Department of State Lands (now Washington Department of Natural Resources) and surrounded by undeveloped land that is either privately owned or owned by the Washington State Department of Game (now Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife). The site is currently used as a recreational pathway for hikers, bikers and horse-back riders. The proposal will not affect current land uses at or nearby the project location and will restore use of the trail which has been detoured since the trestle burned in 2019.

- 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 non-forest use?**

No; not applicable.

- 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?**

Not applicable.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

An old railroad prism currently surfaced with gravel for use as a recreational trail is located at the site on either side of Crab Creek. Timber piles from the old trestle bridge are still located within the Crab Creek channel. A second bridge along the trail is still intact and is located approximately 50 feet east of the project location.

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

Timber piles and steel rails will be removed from within the Crab Creek stream channel.

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

Rural remote

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

Open space

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

Natural, aquatic

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

Yes. Crab Creek is considered a Fish and Wildlife Habitat Area per Grant County Code (GCC) 24.08.300. The project site is also surrounded by riverine wetlands and shrub-steppe habitat which are considered critical areas per GCC 24.08.200 and GCC 24..08.300.

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

The completed bridge may be visited on a routine basis for maintenance and inspection, but no personnel will work or reside full time at the site.

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

None.

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

None required.

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

The proposed project will be designed consistent with Grant County Critical Area requirements. The project will reconnect the Palouse to Cascades trail and allow continued recreational use of the trail.

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

None.

**9. Housing [\[help\]](#)**

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

## 10. Aesthetics [\[help\]](#)

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

The edge girders of the bridge will have a variable profile: they will drop down in depth over the center of the creek and will reach a 4-foot maximum height above the deck surface at the piers. The top of railing will extend 4-foot-6 inches above the deck surface but will have some open mesh to let light through.

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

The proposed bridge structure will not alter or obstruct views in the immediate vicinity.

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

None proposed.

## 11. Light and Glare [\[help\]](#)

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

No new lighting is proposed with the project.

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

Not applicable.

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

No existing sources of light or glare will affect this proposal.

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

None proposed.

## 12. Recreation [\[help\]](#)

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

The Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail, a 185-mile-long State Park trail that starts in North Bend Washington and extends into Idaho is located at the project. The trail follows an abandoned railroad grade. The trail is used by hikers, bikers and horseback riders. The project will reconnect portions of the trail on either side of the creek that were disconnected after a fire burned down the trestle bridge that formerly spanned Lower Crab Creek.

- 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 proposed.

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation [\[help\]](#)

- 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.**

Archaeologists from Eastern Washington University identified one transmission tower and revisited a section of previously recorded site 45GR3458, the abandoned Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway bed. The transmission

tower is associated with the Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA's) Midway-Rocky Ford No. 1 Transmission Line. Site 45GR3458, comprised of the Site Access route, is not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

- 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.**

Archaeologists from Eastern Washington University identified one precontact lithic material site within the western portion of the project area (Noll et al. 2021<sup>2</sup>).

- 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 archaeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

Detailed methods to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources at the project site are included in the Cultural Resource Survey by Eastern Washington University archaeologists (Noll et al. 2021).

- 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.**

All construction traffic, staging and storage areas will be located outside of identified cultural resource areas. The site area will be flagged and avoided during project construction.

#### 14. Transportation [\[help\]](#)

- 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 project is accessed from two locations off of Road 17 SW in Grant County, Washington. The west side of the project area is accessed by parking at the Lenice Lake Public Access Parking lot (located north off of Road 17 SW) and traveling east along the Palouse to Cascade Trail for approximately 4.2 miles. The east side of the project area is accessed via a maintained gravel driveway that connects Road 17 SW to the bike path prism approximately 2.75 miles east of the project 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?**

The site is not currently served by public transit.

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

The project will not provide or eliminate parking spaces.

- d. 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).**

The project will not require improvements to any existing transportation infrastructure.

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<sup>2</sup> Noll et al, 2021. Cultural Resources Survey for Crab Creek Trestle. Archaeological and Historic Services, Eastern Washington University.

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

No.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project 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?

The proposed project is unlikely to generate additional vehicular trips.

- g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

No.

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

None proposed.

#### 15. Public Services [\[help\]](#)

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

The proposed project will not increase the need for public services.

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

No measures are required or proposed.

#### 16. Utilities [\[help\]](#)

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

No utilities are currently available at the site.

- 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.

No utilities are proposed for the project.

### C. Signature [\[help\]](#)

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: 

Name of signee: Chelsea Harris

Position and Agency/Organization: Environmental Planner/Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Date Submitted: June 7, 2021