



KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL D I S T R I C T

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST WAC 197-11-960

Purpose of checklist:

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

Instructions for applicants:

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

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

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

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

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

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

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

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan

2. Name of applicant:

King County Flood Control District

NOTE:

King County is the service provider for the King County Flood Control District through an interlocal agreement adopted by Ordinance 16341.

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

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King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
Phone: (206) 296-6587
FAX: (206) 296-0192

4. Date checklist prepared:

May 12, 2010

5. Agency requesting checklist:

King County Flood Control District

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

The King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan is expected to be transmitted to the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors in the first half of 2010.

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

The King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan will be incorporated as an annex to the 2006 King County Flood Hazard Management Plan, which is the comprehensive plan for the Flood Control District. The 2006 Flood Plan must be updated no later than January 2012 and the incorporation of the District Hazard Mitigation Plan will occur during that 2006 Flood Plan update process. During the 2006 Flood Plan update both plans will undergo an extensive public outreach process including the establishment of a citizen's advisory committee, public meetings and coordination with other agencies and stakeholders.

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

- King County Salmon Office. 1999. Return of the Kings: Strategies for the long-term conservation and recovery of the Chinook salmon. Seattle, WA.
- Washington State, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office. 1999. Extinction is not an option: Draft statewide strategy to recover salmon. Olympia, WA.
- Tri-County ESA Response Coalition. 2001. Tri-County model 4(d) Rule response proposal: A salmon

conservation program. Seattle, WA.

- Tri-County ESA Response Coalition. April 2002. Biological review Tri-County model 4(d) Rule response program. Prepared by Parametrix, Kirkland, WA.
- Regional Road Maintenance ESA Forum. January 2002. Regional road maintenance ESA program guidelines – King County Dept. of Transportation, Seattle, WA.
- WRIA 7 Steering Committee. June 2005. Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan. Prepared by the Snohomish River Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee
- WRIA 8 Steering Committee. July 2005. Final Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish (WRIA 8) Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan. Prepared by the WRIA 8 service provider team on behalf of the WRIA 8 Steering Committee.
- King County and WRIA 9 Steering Committee. 2005. Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed Salmon Habitat Plan: Making Our Watershed Fit for a King. Prepared by the WRIA 9 Steering Committee.
- Shared Strategy Development Committee. January 2007. Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan. Prepared by Shared Strategy for Puget Sounds.
- Johnson, A., K. McDonald and P. Trotter. 2003. Programmatic Biological Effects Analysis: King County River Management Program. Prepared for King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division. Seattle, WA.

The following document provides specific policy guidance and project recommendations for the King County River and Floodplain Management Program mitigation actions:

- King County, 2006. Flood Hazard Management Plan: King County, Washington. King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division. Seattle, Washington.

The following documents provide technical design guidance for the routine maintenance and flood damage repair activities covered by this Checklist:

- King County Surface Water Management Division. 1993. Guidelines for Bank Stabilization Projects in the Riverine Environments of King County, Washington. Seattle, WA.
- Federal Interagency Stream Restoration Working Group. 1998. Stream Corridor Restoration: Principles, Processes, and Practices. Washington, D. C.
- Tri-County Urban Issues Advisory Committee. February 2000. Tri-County Urban Issues ESA Study: Guidance Document. Seattle, WA.
- King County Department of Natural Resources. 2001. Lower Green River levee and revetment repairs: Construction years 2001-2003 Batched Biological Assessment for Puget Sound Chinook and Coho Salmon, Bull Trout and Bald Eagle. Seattle, WA.
- Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Ecology, and Transportation. 2001. Integrated Streambank

Protection Guidelines/Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines.

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.

This proposal is a non-project action in accordance with WAC 197-11-704(b)(iii). However, the District has an adopted 10-year work program and some of the mitigation actions included in Tables 17-4 and 17-5 of the King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan are in various stages of feasibility review, design, permitting and construction.

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

This Hazard Mitigation Plan must be approved by Washington State Military Department, Emergency Management Division as well as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). In addition it must be formally adopted by the King County Flood Control District Board of Supervisors.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan is a mitigation planning document prepared in accordance with the federal Disaster Mitigation Act, commonly known as the DMA or the 2000 Stafford Act amendments (Public Law 106-390). Adoption of this hazard mitigation plan will allow the King County Flood Control District to seek grant funding under the federal Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan includes the following goals:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support emergency services.
3. Promote public awareness.
4. Encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound flood risk reduction projects.
5. Leverage partnering opportunities.

The King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan is structured as follows:

Chapter 1 provides an overview of disaster planning and sets the stage for the remainder of the plan.

Chapter 2 describes the process through which this plan was developed.

Chapter 3 describes the public outreach process employed for this plan.

Chapter 4 establishes the plan's scope, goals, and objectives.

Chapter 5 describes the plan adoption process.

Chapter 6 describes how this plan will be maintained over time, including annual reporting, ongoing public involvement, and how other jurisdictions can partner with the District on this plan.

Chapter 7 describes risk assessment methodology and tools used in this plan.

Chapter 8 provides an overview of the King County Flood Control District governance, funding, projects, and programs.

Chapter 9 evaluates flooding hazards.

Chapter 10 evaluates dam failures.

Chapter 11 evaluates earthquake hazards.

Chapter 12 evaluates landslide hazards.

Chapter 13 evaluates severe weather hazards.

Chapter 14 evaluates volcanic hazards.

Chapter 15 evaluates wildland fire hazards.

Chapter 16 ranks hazard risks in King County.

Chapter 17 presents mitigation initiatives to reduce the risk exposure to the various hazards, gives an overview of the benefits and costs of these initiatives, and prioritizes mitigation activities.

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 King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan covers the entire King County Flood Control District, which coincides with the boundaries of King County, Washington. The mitigation actions identified in the plan are both site-specific and regional in nature. For flood hazards and dam failure, the Plan applies district-wide. The site-specific mitigation actions for flood hazards focus on the six major rivers in the District: the South Fork Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Sammamish, Cedar, Green and White and their major tributaries such as Tokul Creek, Kimball Creek, Coal Creek (Snoqualmie), Issaquah Creek, Fifteen Mile Creek and Holder Creek. Mitigation actions for earthquake, landslide, severe weather, volcanic (lahar) and wildfire are limited to the infrastructure owned and maintained by the District. Most of the programmatic actions, such as the flood warning program, hazard public outreach and hazard mapping, apply district-wide.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, the sites for mitigation actions are flat and long river banks.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, the overbank areas adjacent to flood mitigation projects include flat, urban, fully developed land covered with impervious surfaces; flat or gently undulating (zero to two percent slopes) undeveloped agricultural fields and riparian forests; and step valley wall side slopes at near-vertical inclinations. Areas on the landward sides of existing levees generally lie several feet in elevation below the levee crest, while those on the landward sides of existing revetments are at approximately the same elevations as the revetment crest. The slopes on the riverward sides of existing flood protection facilities range from 1.5:1 to 3:1, with the average slope equal to 2:1.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, the soils within the floodplains and river and stream banks are quite diverse, including disturbed urban soils, agricultural soils, fine-grained natural alluvial soils with inclusions of peat, muck and clay, and coarse to fine-grained riverine gravel, sand and silt.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, soils within over steepened levees and revetments can be unstable and prone to several modes of slope failure including toe and face erosion and saturation slumping. Unstable soils are also found in landslide hazard areas identified on Map 12-1 and in areas subject to liquefaction identified on Map 11-5 in the King County Flood Control District Hazard Mitigation Plan.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, some filling or grading is required when repairs are made or maintenance conducted on existing flood protection facilities such as levees and revetments. Because these facilities are located within the 100-year floodplain, compensatory storage would be required for sites within unincorporated King County and within some cities. Fill used would be clean fill obtained from commercial quarries or other permitted excavation sites. The quantities have not been determined for this mitigation planning document.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, best management practices would be used when implementing projects identified in the mitigation plan. These practices will minimize erosion due to alterations that include grading, clearing and construction activities during flood facility repair projects, and re-vegetation of riparian and floodplain areas, where possible.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, hazard mitigation activities do not entail increases in impervious area.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The movement of water and sediment creates dynamic channel conditions that may lead to localized impacts on flooding and erosion, but this natural geomorphic process also creates diverse instream habitat conditions that are beneficial for a wide range of fish and wildlife. This proposal includes a program for sediment management to monitor erosion and deposition of sediment in river channels, and provides the policy and programmatic basis for limited sediment removal if specific conditions are met.

2. Air

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, dust from soils disturbance could be associated with individual hazard mitigation actions.

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

None are known at present.

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

Best Management Practices and compliance with regulations applicable to individual actions are anticipated.

3. Water

a. Surface:

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

The site-specific mitigation actions for flood hazards focus on the six major rivers in the District: the South Fork Skykomish, Snoqualmie, Sammamish, Cedar, Green and White and their major tributaries such as Tokul Creek, Kimball Creek, Coal Creek (Snoqualmie), Issaquah Creek, Fifteen Mile Creek and Holder Creek.

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.

Yes. This is a non-project action and no specific plans are available. However the flood mitigation actions identified in the plan are likely to include work over, in, or adjacent to the described.

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.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, fill is strictly limited in order to reduce flood hazard.

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

None are anticipated. However, it is possible for mitigation measures to entail reconnecting side channels and floodplain areas.

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

Yes. This is a non-project action regarding flood management so most of the mitigation actions will occur in 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.

None are anticipated.

b. Ground:

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

No ground water withdrawals or discharges are anticipated. Flood hazard mitigation measures may affect hyporheic zones.

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

None are anticipated.

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.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

It is not anticipated that flood hazard mitigation measures would result in waste materials entering ground or surface waters.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. In general, however, planned flood hazard mitigation measures are constructed during the dry season, not when flooding may occur.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle 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
- 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?

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

There are no known threatened or endangered species of vegetation on or near the flood mitigation sites.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

5. Animals

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

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

Any of these animals may be present at a site for which a specific flood hazard mitigation measure is proposed.

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

Several species are listed as threatened in King County. Puget Sound Chinook, Puget Sound steelhead and bull trout are present in King County rivers. Orca whales are also a listed species that could be in Puget Sound waters.

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

Some waterways in King County are used by migratory species.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, flood hazard mitigation measures often improve ecological conditions by allowing more room for natural system functions. For example, providing flood water storage to decrease water velocity and erosion also provides winter rearing habitat for aquatic species. Setting back levees improves riparian conditions. Purchasing property with high flood damage risk sometimes precludes ecologically harmful land uses.

6. Energy and natural resources

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, flood hazard mitigation projects do not typically require ongoing energy use.

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

It is possible that a flood hazard mitigation project would include tree planting. In this case, trees could shade 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:

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

7. Environmental health

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

Heavy equipment operation is typically associated with levee modifications. In some cases, King County uses non-toxic lubricants on equipment used in sensitive areas. No fire, explosion or waste hazards are anticipated.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The Hazard Mitigation Plan includes emergency response measures.

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

The purpose of the plan is to promote preparedness for hazards addressed in the plan. The goals of the plan are to protect life and property, support emergency services, promote public awareness, encourage the development and implementation of long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound flood risk reduction projects, and leverage partnering opportunities.

b. Noise

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, equipment operation may result for construction projects.

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.

Construction projects are typically short duration and conducted during work day hours.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However Agricultural Production Districts have been established under the King County Comprehensive Plan for compliance with the Washington State Growth Management Act. The Agricultural Production Districts are found at certain locations along some of the rivers and large streams and in floodplains affected by this proposal. In addition, some of these floodplain lands are enrolled in the Farmland Preservation Program, where King County has made a public investment by purchasing development rights to preserve agricultural soils.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. A diverse array of structures, ranging from residences, farm buildings to offices and major shopping malls are present in the areas affected by this proposal.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, the proposal recommends the acquisition of repeatedly-flood damaged properties from willing sellers, and the relocation or demolition of structures on these properties.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The proposal potentially affects areas with all zoning classifications in King County.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The proposal potentially affects areas with all comprehensive plan classifications in King County.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The proposal applies to rivers and large streams in all shoreline master program designations.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. . However, the proposal applies to aquatic areas (mostly rivers and large streams) and their buffers, and floodplain areas in unincorporated King County and cities through which river and large streams flow. There are also areas of steep slopes along many of the river systems.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

9. Housing

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The National Flood Insurance Program currently identifies 55 unmitigated repetitive loss properties within unincorporated King County and additional numbers within cities. Future mitigation actions to address these at-risk homes, could involve acquisition and demolition of these homes or in-situ home elevations. It is possible that all 55 unmitigated repetitive loss properties could be removed from the floodplain. These properties are mostly medium and low-income properties.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

10. Aesthetics

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

11. Light and glare

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

12. Recreation

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, measures are often incorporated into specific projects to enhance recreation.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. Indirectly, the requirements to leave river and stream banks, riparian areas and floodplains undeveloped and in native vegetation will contribute to the reduction and control of impacts on recreational opportunities by providing passive recreation opportunities.

13. Historic and cultural preservation

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

King County employs cultural resource experts to assist with project planning to avoid impacts to cultural resources.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However there is the potential to unearth artifacts of historic or cultural significance during construction or repair of flood protection facilities. Project level environmental review will be conducted for projects proposed in this Plan; projects will comply with all local, state and federal requirements for historic and cultural preservation.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

14. Transportation

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

15. Public services

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. The proposal recommends continuation of King County's existing flood warning and emergency response services.

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action. However, the plan itself is intended to reduce the need for emergency response.

16. Utilities

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

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

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.

Does not apply. This is a non-project action.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: *Priscilla Kaufman*
Date Submitted: *May 13, 2010*

D. SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS

(do not use this sheet for project actions)

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

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?

The Mitigation Strategy in Part 3 of the plan includes several projects that would entail demolition or construction activities. During implementation of these projects, it would be possible to increase dust emissions to air, release contaminants that may be present at sites, or to produce noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

Procedures to control silt and erosion would be employed, along with Best Management Practices for site management. Measures to identify potentially hazardous substances are used prior to authorizing demolition work. No hazardous substances, other than those typically associated with permitted development are expected to be encountered. Noise levels are limited to levels associated with earth moving equipment. Heavy equipment noise typically occurs during weekday work hours. In some cases, emergency operations are conducted during flood events and in those cases, people affected by the noise are generally supportive.

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

Implementation of the Mitigation Strategy is expected to benefit to animals and aquatic organisms in King County. Projects to acquire properties and remove homes from flood hazard areas are included. These properties are planted with native species after home removal. Projects to realign and setback levees generally improve fish and wildlife habitat quality. Installing engineered logjams to reduce erosion risk also improves fish and wildlife habitat. Some projects entail increasing flood water storage capacity, which is also typically ecologically beneficial. Some projects however, entail repair and maintenance of existing facilities in ways that perpetuate ecologically harmful conditions associated with those facilities.

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

Efforts to limit construction-related adverse effects will be implemented. Projects will be planned to maximize ecological benefits to the maximum extent allowed. Efforts to increase those allowances will also be continued. For example, on-going efforts with the Corps of Engineers to allow more vegetation on levees will continue.

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

In some cases, by maintaining ecologically impaired conditions, for example in the confined reaches for the Green River, some species that are already in decline will continue to decline.

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

When possible, levee removals and setbacks are used to achieve the goals in the plan. In addition, home buyouts and elevations are conducted. Implementing the plan also entails legal and regulatory measures, including land use planning.

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?

Implementation of the plan generally aids governmental protection of parks and other public resources.

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

A fundamental goal of the plan is to implement long-term, cost-effective and environmentally sound flood risk reduction projects. We are learning that we cannot achieve long-term and cost-effective projects without also planning for environmental issues. Allowing room for flood water storage, channel migration and riparian vegetation dramatically reduces flood hazards and also provides stewardship of natural resources.

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?

In some cases, maintaining flood hazard facilities (such as levees) is interconnected with land use. However, flood hazard mitigation is one of several factors that influence land use. Local government land use regulations and plans also determine land use. In some cases, local governments fail to recognize flood hazards in existing plans.

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

Measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts include providing scientifically sound technical information during the planning process, collaborating with our partners in King County, public involvement, and to maintain focus on shared goals (to protect life and property and the other goals).

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

No increase in demand for these services is anticipated.

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.

No conflicts are anticipated. Compliance with local, state and federal laws is planned.