STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA) CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Port of Anacortes – Wyman's Boat Ramp Rehabilitation

2. Name of applicant:

Port of Anacortes

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

Connie Thoman
Environmental Administrator
Port of Anacortes
P.O. Box 297
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 299-1818

4. Date checklist prepared:

March 26, 2010

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Port of Anacortes

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

Rehabilitation of the existing Wyman's Boat Ramp would begin in the summer of 2010 after receiving permits and work would be completed by January 2011.

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

None anticipated.

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

None directly related to this project.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

None known.

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

Permits for in-water work will be necessary from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 10/404 Permits, including agency consultations under the federal Endangered Species Act (Section 7), Magnuson Act (Essential Fish Habitat) and National Historic Preservation Act (Section 106). Other permits required include the Washington Department of Ecology Section 401 Water Quality Certification; Ecology NPDES Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities; Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Hydraulic Project Approval; and City of Anacortes Shoreline Substantial Development permit and building and construction 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.)

The existing Wyman's Boat Ramp is currently used by commercial drop frame barges to transport fuel trucks, construction supplies, and other goods to the San Juan Islands. The Washington State Ferry System does not allow fuel to be transported on the State Ferries. The barges are flat-bottomed and come up the ramp above the tide line and drop the front section of the bow to form a ramp for trucks and vehicles to drive onto the barge (similar to a ferry). There is an uneven gravel lot on the upland that trucks use for parking to wait for the barges' arrival.

The boat ramp is in poor shape and is difficult to use because of the deteriorating and uneven concrete surface, rails, rocks, and steepness of the ramp into the water. During low tides in the summer it is sometimes impossible for the barges to use the ramp. The Port's ramp is the only one between Everett and Bellingham that can be used by the barges, thereby providing a valuable service to the islands. The barges also provide emergency transport service in the event the Guemes Ferry is out of service for any reason. The barges can carry cars and emergency vehicles and supplies across the Guemes Channel.

The Port proposes to remove the existing Wyman's boat ramp and embedded rails, two four-pile dolphins, and a crane and outrigger located on the adjacent dock. The existing ramp will be graded to lower the slope of the ramp above mean higher high water. A new concrete ramp two feet wider than the existing ramp will be installed. It will consist of both poured-in-place concrete and concrete planks. Four 12- to 16-inch steel pilings for temporary barge tie-off will be installed on the east side of the ramp. A tie-off ring will be installed into the natural rock formation on the west side of the ramp.

As shown in the attached aerial figure, the remains of an existing wave attenuator are directly waterward of the boat ramp which creates an obstacle for the barges upon entering and leaving the ramp. Two creosote pile dolphins will be removed to allow the barges a turning radius instead of the multiple forward and backward maneuvers now required. The existing crane and outrigger will also be demolished because it is a safety hazard and creates an obstacle for some barges. Installation of four new mooring piles will allow the barges to tie up

while loading and unloading instead of running the engines in forward gear to keep the barge in place. This will also reduce impacts from propeller wash in the area.

A fenced and locked parking area will be constructed on the upland property to allow fuel trucks and other large cargo to be dropped off for later pick-up by a barge.

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 project site is located on the south side of the Guemes Channel on the shoreline off of 3rd Street between "T" and "U" Avenues in Anacortes Washington. The property is located in the northwest corner of Section 18, Range 2E, and Township 35N. The entire site is approximately one acre.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

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

The site is generally flat with the boat ramp sloping toward the water.

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

The boat ramp slope to the Guemes Channel begins at a 9% grade and ends at an 18% grade below mean higher high water.

b. 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.

The site is primarily rock with assorted fill material placed on the upland throughout the last century.

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

No.

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

On the upland portion of the site some gravel will be laid to even out the surface for truck parking. For the boat ramp, approximately 2,150 cubic feet of old concrete, rock and rails

will be removed and 3,309 cubic feet of fill (concrete blocks and crushed rock) will be added in its place, widening the ramp by one foot on either side. Concrete will come from a manufacturer in Skagit County and the crushed rock will be from a permitted pit.

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

No clearing or new construction will be performed.

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

No new impervious surfaces will be added except for the boat ramp widening, which is one foot on each side of the existing ramp for a length of 263 feet.

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

None required.

2. Air

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

No increased air emissions from drop-frame barges or trucks will result because boat ramp use is estimated to remain at existing levels.

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

No.

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

The new mooring piles adjacent to the boat ramp will allow the barges to tie up and turn off their engines while loading vessels. This is anticipated to reduce the amount of engine emissions to the local air.

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 Wyman's Boat Ramp is located on the south side of Guemes Channel.

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, part of the existing boat ramp is below mean higher high water (MHHW). Existing concrete and rock will be removed and new concrete will be installed above MHHW. Concrete blocks will be installed below MHHW. Standard excavation techniques will be used and will be performed at tides lower than mean high water. Two dolphins with approximately 3 creosote piles each will be removed to allow the barges a better turning radius upon approaching the boat ramp. Up to four new steel piles between 12 and 16 inches in diameter will be installed adjacent to the east side of the ramp to allow barges to tie up and turn off their engines while waiting or loading cargo.

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.**

   No dredging will be performed. Existing dolphins will be removed as shown on the attached photo.

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.**

   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 waste material will be discharged to surface waters. A coffer dam will be installed at the waterward end of the boat ramp (below elevation 1) to allow work on the ramp to be performed in the dry and to ensure that material does not escape into the open water.

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.

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.**

   Not applicable.

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.

Stormwater flow rates will remain approximately the same because there will be minimal increase in impervious surface required for the one-foot widening on each side of the boat ramp.

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

In the unlikely event of a malfunction causing a spill of fuel or material into waters of Guemes Channel, the constructor would immediately stop work and implement spill containment procedures to protect the water.

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

Implementation and maintenance of best management practices to control stormwater discharges will be implemented by the Port's contractor.

4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site: None

_____ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
_____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other **(at perimeter of site)**
__X__ 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?

None.

c. List threatened or 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:

None.

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:

Observed birds and animals-

Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, gulls, common loon, Brandt's cormorant, osprey, great blue heron
Fish: salmon, bull trout, crab

Several bald eagle nesting territories occur in the Guemes Channel area and on Guemes Island. Numerous waterfowl and shorebirds also use the Guemes Channel area, primarily in the winter and during migration.

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

Federally listed or threatened species that could potentially occur in the Guemes Channel include the Puget Sound Chinook salmon, Puget Sound Steelhead, Coastal-Puget Sound Bull Trout, Marbled Murrelet, and Southern Resident Orca.

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

The Puget Sound area is part of the Pacific flyway; birds that are seen in the area vary seasonally due to migration.

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

None proposed.

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.

Not applicable.

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

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

None proposed.

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.

No.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

None required.

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

None proposed.

b. Noise

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

Existing noise will not affect use of the boat ramp.

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.

During regrading of the parking area and boat ramp, temporary noise could be generated from vehicles and equipment. Construction would take place between 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. No long-term noise increases over existing levels would be generated.

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

None are necessary beyond the current limitation on hours of operation.

8. Land and shoreline use

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

The property is currently used by the drop-frame barges for loading fuel trucks and other cargo for transport to the San Juan Islands. The Port occasionally rents out the upland parking area to contractors for construction staging or storage of materials.

The adjacent Wyman's Marina buildings are closed and have been vacant and deteriorating for many years. The area is partially fenced for public safety.

Property to the north and west is owned by the Port of Anacortes and on the west side of the ramp is leased to a restaurant. Manufacturing and shipping uses with an active shipyard are located further to the west. Residences are located south and east of the property.

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

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Structures on the site include the vacant and derelict Wyman's Marina buildings.

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

The old crane and outrigger on the adjacent derelict dock will be removed because it has become a safety hazard and interferes with boat ramp access by some barges.

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

Manufacturing and Shipping.

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

The City of Anacortes 2007 Comprehensive Plan designates the site as Manufacturing and Shipping.

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

The current shoreline master program designation is Urban I.

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

No.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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 project is listed in the Port of Anacortes 2008 Comprehensive Plan. It provides a quiet buffer use between the shipbuilding and bulk loading operations to the west and the adjacent residences to the east.

9. Housing

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

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

No new structures are proposed.

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

Existing views would not be altered.

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

None proposed.

11. Light and glare

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

No new lighting is proposed.

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

No.

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

None.

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

None.

12. Recreation

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

Except for recreational boats using the Guemes Channel, there are no recreational opportunities in the immediate area of the marine terminal. The adjacent restaurant provides scenic views of the Guemes Channel and views of Port operations on surrounding properties.

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 required.

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.

No.

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

No specific landmarks or evidence of historic, archeological, scientific, or cultural significance are known in the area.

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

None required.

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.

Wyman's boat ramp is located north of downtown Anacortes. No new access is proposed. The truck access route is R Avenue, which becomes Q Avenue, and provides the north-south connection between State Route (SR) 20 through Anacortes. Primary access to the site is via R/Q Avenue to 4th Street, then left on T Avenue, right on 3rd Street, and left into the site. Improvements at the site will include some grading and gravel placement for parking and a security fence with a locked gate.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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).

No.

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

Yes, the boat ramp rehabilitation is to accommodate water transportation of fuel and other goods such as large construction material to the San Juan Islands.

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

No increase in boat or truck traffic is anticipated.

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

None required.

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.

No.

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

Not applicable.

16. Utilities

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

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.

Utilities and providers at the site are as follows:

Electricity	Puget Sound Energy
Natural gas	
Telephone	
Water, Sewer, Refuse services	

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:

Connie Thoman, Environmental Administrator
Port of Anacortes

Date Submitted: **March 26, 2010**