

## Determination of NONSIGNIFICANCE

### DISTRIBUTION LIST

#### PROJECT:

Chelatchie Prairie Rail-Trail Corridor Study Plan Adoption (Study Plan)

Date Published: June 20, 2008

---

Please find enclosed an environmental Determination of Non Significance (DNS) issued pursuant to State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules (Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code). The enclosed review comments reflect evaluation of the environmental checklist by the lead agency as required by WAS 197-11-330(1)(a)(i).

Written comments may be submitted on this determination within fifteen (15) days of its issuance, after which the DNS will be reconsidered in light of the comments received.

---

Please address all correspondence to:

**Contact Person:**

Troy Pierce, Project Manager  
(360) 397-6118 x4403  
P.O. Box 9810  
Vancouver, WA 98660 (98666-9810)  
(360) 397-2446 x4944

---

### DISTRIBUTION

**Federal Agencies**

US Army Corps of Engineers - Enforcement  
Bonneville Power Administration

US Fish & Wildlife Department of Ecology  
Washington State Parks

**Regional Agencies:**

Fort Vancouver Regional Library  
Clark County Health District  
Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation

**Special Purpose Districts:**

City of Vancouver  
Fire District No. 5  
Fire District No. 9  
Clark County Fire Protection District No. 6  
Clark Public Utilities Electrical  
Clark Public Utilities Water  
Clark Regional Wastewater District  
City of Battle Ground  
Town of Yacolt

**Neighborhood Associations**

**State Agencies:**

Department of Natural Resources SW Washington  
Department of Ecology  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Department of Transportation

**Local Agencies:**

Clark County Dept. of Community Development  
Code Enforcement  
Fire Marshall  
Central Files  
Water Quality Division  
Clark County Community Planning  
Clark County Sheriff's Office  
Clark County Board of Commissioners  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
Northwest Natural Gas  
Comcast

**Media:**

The Columbian  
The Oregonian

Andresen/St. Johns Neighborhood Assoc.  
Concerned Citizens of Hockinson Neighborhood Assoc.  
Daybreak Neighborhood Assoc.  
East Fork Hills Rural Assoc.  
East Fork Frontier Neighborhood Assoc.  
East Minnehaha Neighborhood Assoc.  
Enterprise / Paradise Point Neighborhood Assoc.  
Fairground Neighborhood Assoc.  
Felida Neighborhood Assoc.  
Fisher-Mill Plain Neighborhood Assoc.  
Greater Brush Prairie Neighborhood Assoc.  
Green Meadows Neighborhood Assoc.  
Heritage Neighborhood Assoc.  
Maple Tree Neighborhood Assoc.  
Meadow Glade Neighborhood Assoc.  
NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Assoc.  
North Fork Lewis River Neighborhood Assoc.  
North Salmon Creek Neighborhood Assoc.  
Pleasant Highlands Neighborhood Assoc.  
Proebstel Neighborhood Assoc.  
Ramblin' Creek Estates / South Salmon Creek Ave  
Neighborhood Assoc.  
Ridgefield Junction Neighborhood Assoc.  
Roads End Neighborhood Assoc.  
Sherwood Hills Neighborhood Assoc.  
Sifton Neighborhood Assoc.  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Assoc.  
Washougal River Neighborhood Assoc.  
West Hazel Dell Neighborhood Assoc.

## DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

### Description of Proposal:

The non-project action is to adopt the Chelatchie Prairie Rail-Trail Corridor Study Plan Adoption (Study Plan), which is an alignment study and feasibility analysis of future construction for a shared use rail and regional trail for the entire 33-mile corridor. Ultimately, the trail will follow the existing rail right-of-way wherever possible. Where conditions (e.g. steep slopes) do not allow for trail construction within the right-of-way alternative alignments would be developed. Existing trails and future roadway improvements will be used along some areas of the alignment.

Proponent: **Clark County Department of Public Works**

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:

**Clark County, Washington**

Lead Agency: **Department of Public Works, Clark County, Washington**

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

The lead agency has determined that the requirements for environmental analysis, protection, and mitigation measures have been adequately addressed in the development regulations and comprehensive plan adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW, and in other applicable local, state, or federal laws or rules, as provided by RCW 43.21C.240 and WAC 197-11-158. Our agency will not require any additional mitigation measures under SEPA.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below.

Comments must be submitted by: **July 5, 2008**

Responsible Official: **Peter Capell, P.E.**

Position/Title **Clark County Department of Public Works  
Director of Public Works/County Engineer**

Contact Person: **Troy Pierce, Project Manager**

Address: **1300 Franklin Street, PO Box 9810, Vancouver, WA 98666-9810**

Date:

JUNE 10, 2008

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Peter Capell

## Clark County SEPA Environmental Checklist

### A. Background

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

Chelatchie Prairie Rail-Trail Corridor Study Plan Adoption (Study Plan)

**2. Name of applicant:**

Clark County Public Works

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

1300 Franklin Street  
PO Box 9810  
Vancouver, WA 98660 (98666-9810)  
(360) 397-2446 x4944

Contact Person:

Troy Pierce, Project Manager  
(360) 397-6118, extension 4403

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

April 2, 2008

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

Clark County

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

Study Plan Adoption in July, 2008

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

Yes. The purpose of the current non-project action is to adopt the Study Plan, which identifies the preferred alignment(s) of a new multi-use trail along the existing rail corridor. Future project-actions include construction of the trail based on the Study Plan.

**8. List any environmental information that has been or will be prepared related to this proposal.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will prepare environmental reports as necessary for permitting and construction (e.g. Wetland Delineations, Geotechnical Reports).

**9. Are other applications pending for governmental approvals affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, please explain.**

Not at this time.

**10. List any government approvals or permits needed for your proposal:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions have the potential to involve several local, state and federal regulatory agencies. The following jurisdictions and agencies could have permitting authority depending on the type and location of the action: cities of Vancouver, Battleground, and Yacolt; Clark County; Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife; Washington State Department of Ecology; and, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Specific project actions may require all or a combination of the following local permits: Wetland Permit, Shoreline Permit, Habitat Permit, Flood Plain Permit, Geologic Hazard Area Permit, and Archaeological Permit, as well as a SEPA Checklist. In addition, any work necessary near or over streams, or below the ordinary high water mark will require a Hydraulic Project Approval from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife and a Section 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers. The Section 404 permit from the Corps of Engineers will also trigger a Water Quality Certification from the Washington Department of Ecology. In addition, consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be required if threatened or endangered species are present.

**11. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and size of the project and site. There are several questions addressed later in this checklist asking 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 Chelatchie railroad right-of-way extends diagonally through Clark County for 33 miles from Burnt Bridge Creek at Fruit Valley Road (Stewart Glen Trailhead) to the site of an old paper mill a few miles from Yale reservoir in the northeast corner of the county.

The non-project action is to adopt the Study Plan, which is an alignment study and feasibility analysis of future construction for a shared use rail and regional trail for the entire 33-mile corridor. Ultimately, the trail will follow the existing rail right-of-way wherever possible. Where conditions (e.g. steep slopes) do not allow for trail construction within the right-of-way alternative alignments would be developed. Existing trails and future roadway improvements will be used along some areas of the alignment.

The completed study plan provides recommendations for alignment and design guidelines for the rail/trail corridor. The plan also includes a phasing plan, cost estimate, finance options, identification of permitting requirements, public outreach and involvement, operation and maintenance principles, and safety, cultural and environmental interpretive signage plans.

**12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including street address, section, township, and range. If this proposal occurs over a wide area, please provide the range or boundaries of the site. Also, a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map. You are required to submit any plans required by the agency, but not required to submit duplicate maps or plans submitted with permit applications related to this checklist.**

The Chelatchie Prairie Railroad-Trail Corridor extends diagonally through Clark County for 33 miles. The trail commences at Vancouver Lake and joins the railroad right-of-way at the Burnt Bridge Creek Trail Stewart Glenn trailhead located at Fruit Valley Road and NW Bernie Drive and extends across the county terminating at Chelatchie Prairie northeast of Amboy, just past the junction of NE Healy Road and Yale Bridge Road (Figure 1).

Table 1 lists the Townships, Ranges and Sections of the Willamette Meridian in which the project occurs.

**Table 1: Township, Section & Range**

Township	Range	Sections
2N	1E	1,9,10,11,12,14,15
2N	2E	5, 6
3N	2E	2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 21, 22, 23, 28, 31, 32, 33
4N	2E	24, 35, 36
4N	3E	2, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 30, 31
5N	3E	12, 13, 14, 15, 22, 26, 27, 35

## B. Environmental Elements

### 1. Earth

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

The landscape of Clark County ranges from the generally flat floodplains in the central and southwest areas of the county rising to the foothills of the Cascade Mountains in the eastern and northern areas of the County.

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site and the approximate percentage of the slope?**

Clark County GIS steep slope information indicates the presence of slopes greater than 25% between the following locations along the proposed alignment:

- Trailhead at Fruit Valley Road to just east of Hazel Dell
- I-5 to Saint Johns Road

Sections of slopes greater than 15% percent primarily exist at the following locations along the proposed alignment:

- Alki Road to Highway 99
- Along Curtin Creek, Cedar Creek, and East Fork Lewis River
- NE 259<sup>th</sup> Street to NE 279<sup>th</sup> Street
- NE Amboy Road to end of trail

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (e.g., clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? Please specify the classification of agricultural soils and note any prime farmland.**

Because the railroad corridor covers such a long distance within Clark County, it crosses multiple soil types. Specific soil types will be identified during project action analysis.

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

Yes. Clark County GIS data identifies one area on the north side of the trail just west of NW Overlook Drive as being an area of historic or active landslides. The following sections along the proposed alignment are identified as being areas of potential instability:

- Trailhead at Fruit Valley Road to Saint James Road
- Near Brush Prairie in the area of NE 142<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and NE 159<sup>th</sup> Street
- Section within the city limits of Battle Ground
- Adjacent to NE Lucia Falls Road
- Amboy to the end of the trail

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in filling and grading associated with, but not limited to, the following activities:

- Construction of the trail
- Improvements to existing trail sections
- Improvements to or creation of trail crossings
- Off-road connections
- Intersection improvements
- Wetland or stream crossings
- Improvements to the railroad grade

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in erosion.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions will result in an increase of impervious surfaces as a result of trail development.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will follow Washington State Department of Ecology's best management practices to reduce and control erosion.

---

**2. Air**

**a. What types of emissions to the air would result from this proposal (e.g., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and after completion? Please describe and give approximate quantities.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in minor exhaust and minor fugitive dust emissions. Trail development will create an alternative transportation link within Clark County and would reduce emissions.

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

No off-site sources of emissions or odor will affect this proposal.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air:**  
None for this non-project action. Future project actions will include measures to reduce emissions.
- 

**3. Water**

**a. Surface:**

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

Yes, there are a number of streams within the vicinity of the project, many of which cross the right-of-way. In addition, the National Wetlands Inventory and the Clark County Local Wetlands Inventory have identified wetlands as existing within the project area. No specific discussion is provided for this non-project action. Future project actions will provide project-specific descriptions as applicable.

- 2) Will the project require any work within 200 feet of the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may occur within 200 feet of the waters described above.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in dredge or fill activities.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Please provide description, purpose, and approximate quantities:**

Not applicable for this non-project action. No future permanent withdrawals or diversions are anticipated at this time.

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

Yes, areas of the proposed alignment are within a 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.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in a discharge to surface waters.

**b. Ground:**

- 1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Please give description, purpose, and approximate quantities.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions not anticipated to require discharges to groundwater. Withdrawals of groundwater may be necessary to provide water at trailhead locations.



- 2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources; (e.g., domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals; agricultural; etc.). Describe the size and number of the systems, houses to be served; or, the number of animals or humans the systems are expected to serve.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may require septic systems at trailhead locations.

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

- 1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal. Include quantities, if known. Describe where water will flow, and if it will flow into other water.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in stormwater runoff and collection.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions are not anticipated to result in the discharge of waste materials to ground or surface waters.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will include measures that follow federal, state, and local government stormwater regulations and other best management practices.

---

**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:
- Water plants:
- Other types of vegetation

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in the removal or alteration of native and non-native vegetation.

**c. List threatened or endangered species on or near the site.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will describe impacts or avoidance measures for threatened or endangered species that may be present within the corridor.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may include measures to preserve or enhance vegetation.

---

**5. Animals**

**a. Circle any birds and animals that have been observed on or near the site:**

- Birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other;
- Mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other; and,
- Fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other.

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

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service lists the following ESA-listed species as existing in Clark County: Bull trout, Gray wolf, Northern spotted owl. In addition, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) identifies several ESA-listed salmonids in Clark County. These species are present in the following streams along the proposed alignment: Cedar Creek (chinook, coho, steelhead), East Fork Lewis River (chinook, coho, steelhead), Salmon Creek (coho, steelhead), Chelatchie Creek (coho) and Big Tree Creek (coho).

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

Yes. Salmon and steelhead migrate through one or more of the following streams: Cedar Creek, Salmon Creek, East Fork Lewis River, and Big Tree Creek. In addition, Clark County is situated in the Pacific Flyway, a broad bird migratory corridor that extends from Alaska to Central America, and is used by hawks, falcons, songbirds, shorebirds, waterfowl, and sandhill cranes.

**d. List proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may include measures to preserve or enhance wildlife.

---

**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.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may require electricity for lighting along the trail or at trailheads.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions are unlikely to affect the potential 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:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may include energy conservation measures.

---

**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, please describe.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions will follow best management practices to limit the potential for environmental health hazards.

**1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None for this non-project action. It is not anticipated future project actions will require additional police, fire, or medical services.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will follow best management practices to limit the potential for environmental health hazards.

**b. Noise**

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

None for this non-project action. Existing noise sources along the proposed alignment are not anticipated to affect future project actions.

**2) What types and levels of noise are associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (e.g., traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours the noise would come from the site.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may have short term noise increases for construction and may result in a localized increase in noise resulting from the use of trails and trailheads and associated traffic.

**3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts:**

None for this non-project action. Noise impacts caused by future project actions will be controlled by using best management practices during construction. It is not anticipated trail access or trail use will create noise impacts to a level where mitigation measures will be necessary.

---

**8. Land and shoreline use**

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

Not applicable for this non-project action.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action.

---

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

Bridges exist at multiple locations along the Study Area.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, please describe.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions are not anticipated to require any demolition.

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

Not applicable for adoption of the Study Plan.

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

Not applicable for adoption of the Study Plan.

**g. What is the current shoreline master program designation of the site.**

Not applicable for adoption of the Study Plan. However, there are designated shoreline areas within the study area.

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

Yes. Areas along the Study Area include one or more of the following critical areas: wetlands, riparian habitat conservation areas, habitat conservation areas, rare plants, floodway, floodplain, streams, and geologic hazard areas. In addition, the East Fork Lewis River is designated as critical habitat for the Columbia River Chum Salmon ESU.

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

None for this non-project action. No people will work or reside in future completed project actions.

**j. How many people would the completed project displace?**

None for this non-project action. No people will be displaced as a result of future project actions.

**k. Please list proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts:**

None proposed. No displacement impacts will occur.

**l. List proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans:**

Local governments and interested parties will receive a copy of this checklist and will have the opportunity to comment on consistency with existing land uses and plans. At this time, the proposal appears to be compatible with existing land uses and plans. Future project actions will apply for and abide by the terms and conditions of all necessary permits.

---

**9. Housing**

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

Not applicable. Future project actions will not provide housing.

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

Not applicable. No housing will be eliminated by future project actions.

**c. List proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts:**

Not applicable. No housing impacts will occur as a result of this non-project action or future project actions.

---

**10. Aesthetics**

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Structures likely to be included in future project actions include interpretive signage, bridges, boardwalks, restrooms, and other amenities associated with the trail. The location, orientation, and design of any structures will be determined through a public process.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may alter views in the immediate vicinity of the trail; however, views are not expected to be obstructed.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts:**

Future project actions will be guided by design guidelines to reduce potential visual impacts.

---

**11. Light and Glare**

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may propose lighting along the trail or at trailheads.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Potential light sources from future project actions will be minimal and are not expected to create a safety hazard or interfere with views.

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Off-site sources of light or glare will not affect future project actions.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts:**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions will be guided by design standards including measures to reduce and control light and glare impacts, if necessary.

## 12. Recreation

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

Numerous designated and informal recreational opportunities exist within Clark County in the vicinity and connect to the proposed trail alignment. Opportunities are available along existing trails and bike paths, at parks and open spaces, and along waterways.

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

Not applicable. Future project actions may temporarily displace recreational uses during construction. Overall, recreational uses will increase with the development of each segment of the planned 33 mile shared-use trail corridor.

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

The purpose of the non-project action is to adopt a study in order to determine how to enhance recreational opportunities within Clark County.

---

## 13. Historic and cultural preservation

### a. Are there any places or objects on or near the site which are listed or proposed for national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, please describe.

Not applicable for the adoption of the Study Plan.

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

Not applicable for the adoption of the Study Plan. This analysis will be completed as part of a future action.

### c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts:

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will include archaeological surveys, as necessary, to identify cultural and historic resources and provide appropriate recommendations. Proper clearances will be obtained prior to construction.

---

## 14. Transportation

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. However, the study area and railroad corridor are accessible by multiple roadways and state, local and city transportation systems.

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

The southwest half of the proposed trail is served by public transit. C-Tran routes running along the following streets are crossed by the proposed alignment: Main

---

Street (Battleground), NE Caples Road, NE Saint Johns Road, NE Highway 99, NE Hazel Dell Avenue, and NW Lakeshore Avenue.

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

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may involve the creation of parking spaces at trailhead locations. Elimination of existing parking spaces is not anticipated.

**d. Will the proposal require new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, please describe and indicate whether it's public or private.**

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may require pedestrian/bike crossing improvements or intersection improvements along public roads. Where the alignment follows existing road ways, improvements to the roadway, shoulder, and adjacent land may be required to create the trail.

**e. Will the project use water, rail, or air transportation? If so, please describe.**

Not applicable for this non-project action.

**f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? Indicate when peak traffic volumes would occur.**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions will likely generate additional vehicular trips per day on local roads.

**g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts:**

None for this non-project action. Future proposals for project actions that may increase transportation impacts will be analyzed and appropriate mitigation measures will be taken, as necessary.

---

**15. Public services**

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

Not applicable for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in an increased need for public services from local law enforcement and Emergency Management Services (EMS).

**b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services:**

None for this non-project action.

---

**16. Utilities**

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

Not applicable. The location of utilities has not been determined.

**b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on or near the site:**

None for this non-project action. Future project actions may result in the need for utilities such as electricity.

**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: Troy Price

Date Submitted: 6-10-08



## **D. SEPA Supplemental sheet for non-project actions**

### **Instructions:**

**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 of the proposal and the types of activities likely to result from this proposal. Please respond briefly and in general terms.**

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

The adoption of the Study Plan will direct future projects to be built in order to increase recreational use along the 33-mile corridor. The current non-project proposal will not directly affect water, air, or hazardous substance release to the environment, but the study will prioritize future project actions which may have effects. Those effects will be analyzed through future project-action SEPA analyses.

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

Future project actions resulting from the Study Plan will comply with state and local government stormwater regulations and best management practices. In addition, trail development will abide by the terms and conditions of all required local, state, and federal permits.

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

The adoption of the Study Plan will direct future projects to be built in order to increase recreational use along the 33-mile corridor. The current non-project proposal will not directly affect plants, animals or fish, but the study will prioritize future project actions which may have impacts to these elements. Those effects will be analyzed through future project-action SEPA analyses.

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

Future development will be designed to minimize impacts to plants, animals, fish and habitat. Where impacts are unavoidable, mitigation will occur to compensate for those impacts, in accordance with applicable local, state and federal regulations.

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

The adoption of the Study Plan is unlikely to have a direct effect on the depletion of energy or natural resources.

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

The adoption of the Study Plan encourages the development of an alternative transportation corridor. This will increase the opportunity for other transportation options and could result in the conservation of energy resources (e.g. bike instead of automobile use).

**4. How would the proposal use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or those 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?**

The non-project action of adopting the Study Plan will not affect environmentally sensitive areas. The Study Plan will prioritize the development of future trail segments to be constructed along the railroad corridor. The trail development may affect these elements, but those effects will be analyzed through future project-action SEPA analyses.

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

Future actions associated with development of the trail will be subject to environmental regulations administered by federal, state and local governments. All required permits and approvals will be obtained prior to any development. In addition, during design efforts will be made to avoid and minimize impacts to sensitive areas. Mitigation will occur for all unavoidable impacts.

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

The non-project action does not affect land or shoreline use. Future project actions may require permitting through the Shorelines Ordinance, depending on the scope of the project action at that time.

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

None directly related to this non-project proposal.

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

No increase in these services is directly contemplated by this proposal.

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

None related to this proposal directly.

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

The current proposal is not in conflict with any known local, state or federal laws or requirements for protection of the environment.

## References

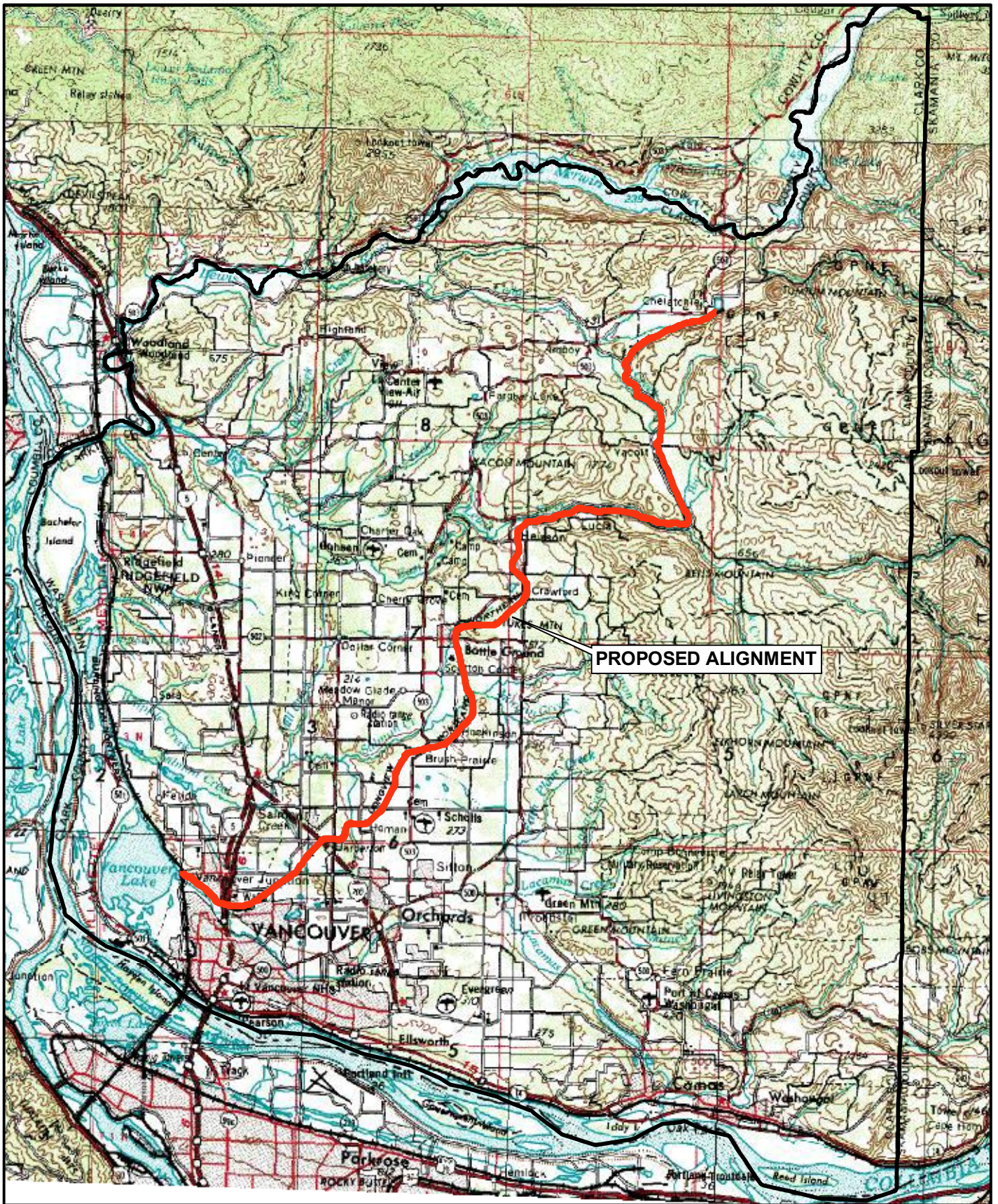
Clark County. August 1974. Shoreline Management Master Program, Clark County, Washington.

Clark County. GIS Data. Available at <http://www.gis.clark.wa.gov>

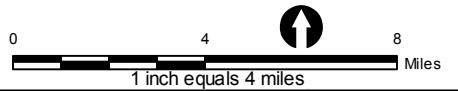
National Marine Fisheries Service. February 26, 2008. Endangered Species Act Status of West Coast Salmon & Steelhead. Available at <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/Species-Lists.cfm>

Streamnet. Accessed March 6, 2008. Fish Distribution in Clark County. <http://www.streamnet.org>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Western Washington Fish and Wildlife Office. November 1, 2007. Listed and Proposed Endangered and Threatened Species and Critical Habitat; Candidate Species; and Species of Concern in Clark County. Available at: [http://www.fws.gov/westwafwo/se/SE\\_List/Endangered\\_Species.asp](http://www.fws.gov/westwafwo/se/SE_List/Endangered_Species.asp)



**PROPOSED ALIGNMENT**



	Project #:	75018.000
	Date:	APRIL 2008

**VICINITY MAP**  
 CHELATCHIE PRAIRIE RAIL-TRAIL  
 PROPOSED ALIGNMENT  
 CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

FIGURE  
**1**