



Public Services

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VERN M. REDIFER, P.E. - Director

DATE: April 21, 2017

TO: Interested Agencies and Parties of Record

FROM: Byron Gumz, Senior Project Planner

SUBJ: SEP2017-00006 – Yakima County Critical Areas 2017 GMA Update
Threshold Determination - Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)

Yakima County, as lead SEPA agency for this proposal, is issuing the attached DNS for comment under WAC 197-11-340(2). Your views on this proposal are welcome and you may provide written comments on issues related to this threshold determination. Comments must be submitted within 14 days.

After the comment period has ended, Yakima County will issue a Notice of Decision and retain, modify or withdraw the DNS, without an additional comment period. That final determination can be appealed to Yakima County Superior Court within 21 days of issuance. The full submittal is available in our office for review. If you have any questions on this proposal, please call me at (509) 574-2300.

Copy: Interested Agencies
Parties of Record

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DNS_bjg.doc

DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

1. **Description of Proposal:** The Yakima County Planning Division is proposing to update its Critical Areas Ordinance (Yakima County Code Title 16C) as required by the Washington State Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A130).
2. **File Number:** SEP2017-00006
3. **Proponent:** Yakima County Public Services
128 N. 2nd Street
4th Floor, Yakima County Courthouse
Yakima, WA 98901
4. **Location:** Unincorporated Yakima County
5. **Lead Agency:** Yakima County Planning Division
6. **Determination:** The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after a careful review of the completed environmental checklist, and other information on file with the lead agency. This information (including all environmental documentation) is available to the public on request and can be examined in our offices during regular business hours or online at <http://www.yakimacounty.us/1862/CAO-Update>. Environmental documents include the SEPA checklist, this threshold determination, and submittal materials.
7. **Comment and Appeal Information:** This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2). The Lead Agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issuance. You may submit comments on this proposal to the address below before 4:00 p.m. on May 8, 2017. Agencies and those providing comments will receive a copy of the final decision. The final threshold determination can be appealed to Yakima County Superior Court within 21 days of issuance. For information on the comment or appeal processes, or on other issues relating to this proposal, contact Byron Gumz, Senior Project Planner, at (509) 574-2300.
8. **SEPA Responsible Official:** Lynn Deitrick, AICP
9. **Designee:** 
Jason Earles
10. **Address:** 128 N. 2nd St.
4th Floor Courthouse
Yakima, WA 98901
11. **Date:** 4/24, 2017

SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

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

Instructions for Lead Agencies:

Please adjust the format of this template as needed. Additional information may be necessary to evaluate the existing environment, all interrelated aspects of the proposal and an analysis of adverse impacts. The checklist is considered the first but not necessarily the only source of information needed to make an adequate threshold determination. Once a threshold determination is made, the lead agency is responsible for the completeness and accuracy of the checklist and other supporting documents.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals: [\[help\]](#)

For nonproject proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proponent," and "affected geographic area," respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements –that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

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

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: [\[help\]](#)
2017 Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO) Update
2. Name of applicant: [\[help\]](#)
Yakima County Public Services, Planning Division
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: [\[help\]](#)

**Tommy Carroll, Planning Section Manager – Long Range/Environmental
128 N 2nd Street, Fourth Floor Courthouse, Yakima, Washington 98901
(509) 574-2300**

4. Date checklist prepared: [\[help\]](#)
January 21 – 26, 2017

5. Agency requesting checklist: [\[help\]](#)
Yakima County

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): [\[help\]](#)
Anticipated schedule fo calendar year 2017:

**Planning Commission public hearing – March 2017
Board of County Commissioners public hearing – May 2017
Board of County Commissioners adoption – June 2017**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, according to RCW 36.70A.130, each city or county fully planning under RCW 36.70A.040 must complete a periodic update of their entire comprehensive plan and development regulations to ensure they comply with the Growth Management Act. Per the schedule provided by the Department of Commerce, Yakima County must complete its update by June of 2017 and every 8 years thereafter.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal. [\[help\]](#)

- **Final Determination of Non-Significance for the 1995 CAO, file number ER 31- 1993.**
- **SEPA/GMA Integrated Environmental Analysis for the Yakima County Comprehensive Plan 2015.**
- **Yakima County's Review of Best Available Science (BAS) For Inclusion in CAO Update (10/2006).**
- **Final Determination of Non-Significance on Proposed Edits to Title 16C, the Critical Areas Ordinance (6/11/2009).**
- **Amendments to YCC Title 16C, Critical Areas Ordinance of Yakima County and YCC Title 13 Building and Construction, Appendix J Clearing and Grading (J102.1 of YCC 13.05) (Ordinance No. 2-2009).**
- **2017 BAS Record Update (to be prepared).**
- **2017 BAS Update Findings Report (to be prepared).**
- **A determination of non-significance, mitigated determination of non-significance, or significance for this proposal (to be prepared).**

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A. This proposal does not relate to a specific parcel in the County.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. [\[help\]](#)

Local approval and adoption by Board of County Commissioners.

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

Yakima County is proposing to update (provide edits and revisions to) the CAO (Title 16C) to comply with current state law. The CAO are development regulations that designate critical areas and protect critical area functions and values, while also protecting the health and safety of the public, as mandated by the Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A.060). Yakima County critical areas include 1) stream corridors, 2) flood hazard areas, 3) wetlands, 4) critical aquifer recharge areas, 5) geologically hazardous areas, and 6) fish and wildlife habitat. See www.yakimap.com for a map of all known critical areas. A copy of current revisions, as proposed by Yakima County Planning staff is provided in Appendix A, as well as a summary describing the proposed changes to the CAO. Any future revisions or substantive documents produced relating to this proposal will be available online at <http://www.yakimacounty.us/1862/CAO-Update>.

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. [\[help\]](#)

This Critical Areas Ordinance update is for Yakima County-wide and has applicability to unincorporated areas of Yakima County, excluding areas under the jurisdiction of Yakima County's Regional Shoreline Master Program (Title 16D), the closed areas of the Yakama Nation, and lands of the US Army Yakima Training Center. See 16C.01.05 in Appendix A for more detailed information regarding applicability.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS [\[help\]](#)

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

a. General description of the site: [\[help\]](#)

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____
Yakima County contains all of the above.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? [\[help\]](#) **Yakima County topography ranges from very steep to flat.**

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils. [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains all of the soils found in the *Soil Survey of Yakima County Area, Washington* (US Department of Agriculture, 1985).

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains all levels of soil stability.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill. [\[help\]](#)

N/A. No construction activity is proposed.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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

N/A.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: [\[help\]](#)

No additional measures are proposed in this CAO Update. The existing CAO includes provisions to control erosion for new developments and complies with state law.

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

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

No air emissions would result from this proposal.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed. However, the Yakima Region Clean Air Agency is given the opportunity to comment on all CAO permit applications to inform of applicant of clean air requirements.

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

a. Surface Water:

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. [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains a range of freshwater environments as described in the Critical Areas Ordinance. This includes perennial and intermittent streams, and wetlands.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan. [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) calculated floodplains, including floodways, and 100-year floodplains.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

b. Ground Water:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

No additional measures are proposed in this CAO Update. The existing CAO includes provisions to control water-related impacts for new developments and complies with state laws.

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

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: [\[help\]](#)

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

Yakima County contains a wide variety of vegetation, including native and non-native species.

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Vascular plants and mosses: beaked cryptantha, basalt daisy, diffuse stickseed (S, T), Brewer's cinquefoil (S, T), dwarf rush (S, T), Kellogg's rush (S, E), Kalm's lobelia (S, E), marginate splashzone moss (S, T), rosy owl-clover (S, E), large-awned sedge (S, T), Sierra onion (S, T), and Umtanum Desert buckwheat (F, T; S, E).

F – federal S – state E – endangered T – threatened

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: [\[help\]](#)

No additional measures are proposed in this CAO Update. The existing CAO includes provisions to preserve and enhance vegetation for new developments and complies with state law.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Known Noxious weeds are the following.

Class A: Dyer's woad, Johnsongrass, oriental clematis, ravenna grass, Mediterranean sage, Texas blueweed, and wild four o'clock.

Class B: Dalmatian toadflax, houndstongue, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, Russian knapweed, spotted knapweed, Japanese knotweed, purple loosestrife, parrotfeather, perennial pepperweed, poison hemlock, pucturevine, rush skeletonweed, myrtle spurge, sulfure cinquefoil, tansy ragwort, musk thistle, Scotch thistle, yellow floating heart, yellow nutsedge, yellow starthistle, and Eurasian watermilfoil.

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

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other _____

All the above have been observed in Yakima County except herring.

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

Canada lynx (F, T; S, T), Columbia River bull trout (F, T), Columbia

River steelhead (F, T), ferruginous hawk (S, T), greater sage-grouse (S, T), northern spotted owl (F, T; S, E), Sandhill Crane (S, E), Western Gray Squirrel (S, T), and yellow-billed cuckoo (F, T).

F – federal S – state E – endangered T – threatened

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, Yakima County is part of the Pacific Flyway for migratory birds, elk migrate through wild lands, and fish migrate through many of Yakima County streams.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any: [\[help\]](#)

No additional measures are proposed in this CAO Update. The existing CAO includes provisions to preserve and enhance wildlife and wildlife habitat that could be affected by new developments and complies with State law.

e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site. [\[help\]](#)

American bullfrog.

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

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

N/A.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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: [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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

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

None.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. [\[help\]](#)

The CAO Update does not relate to a specific property. Known contaminated site information is available from the Washington Department of Ecology and is available online at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/neighborhood/>.

2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: [\[help\]](#)
No additional measures are proposed. The existing CAO includes provisions that prohibit the use of hazardous materials in hydrologically related critical areas and protect critical aquifer recharge areas and complies with State and local laws.

b. Noise [\[help\]](#)

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

N/A.

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. [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None proposed.

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

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
Yakima County contains a wide range of land uses throughout the county. The existing CAO and the CAO update, once approved, applies to all properties within in Yakima County's jurisdiction, as described in question A.12 (above).

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use? [\[help\]](#)
Yakima County has extensive working farmlands and many areas that are forested. This proposal would not convert any lands.

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how: [\[help\]](#)

The CAO, Title 16C, and the proposed CAO Update does not regulate agricultural activities. Agricultural activities are regulated under CAO Title 16A and will be regulated under the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP), an alternative regulatory protection of critical areas on agricultural lands, if adopted by the Washington State Conservation Commission. The VSP working group is comprised of agricultural groups, environmental groups, and the Yakama Nation. The VSP working group are developing a work plan that identifies goals and benchmarks to protect critical areas while maintaining the viability of agriculture through voluntary, incentive-based measures (WAC 365-191-010(1)).

This CAO Update will not apply to forest practices, as defined by the CAO, carried out under a Washington Department of Natural Resources Forest Practice permit, unless 1) the project involves a conversion of forest land to a non-forestry use, 2) involves a conversion of option harvest plan, or 3) takes place on lands platted after January 1, 1960. If one of 3 listed exception is involved, developments on forested lands must comply with the development standards in the existing CAO and the CAO update once approved.

c. Describe any structures on the site. [\[help\]](#)
N/A.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what? [\[help\]](#)
N/A.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? [\[help\]](#)
Yakima County contains a wide range of zoning districts, including Forest Watershed, Agriculture, Remote/Extremely Limited Development Potential, Rural – 10/5, Rural Transitional, Rural Settlement, Highway Tourist/Commercial, Mining, Planned

Development, Suburban Residential, Single-Family Residential, Two-Family Residential, Multi-Family Residential, Professional Business, Local Business, Small Convenience Center, Large Convenience Center, General Commercial, and Light Industrial.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains a wide range Comprehensive Plan land use designations, including Urban Areas; Rural Areas: Rural Settlement, Rural Transitional, Rural Self-Sufficient, and Remote Rural/Extremely Limited Development Potential; Resource Lands: Agricultural Resource, Forest Resource, and Mineral Resource.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? [\[help\]](#)

The Jurisdiction of the existing CAO and the CAO Update does not include lands that are under the jurisdiction of the Yakima County's Regional Shoreline Master Program (Title 16D).

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, the existing CAO and CAO Update designates critical areas by the County, which include 6 critical areas: 1) stream corridors, 2) flood hazard areas, 3) wetlands, 4) critical aquifer recharge areas, 5) geologically hazardous areas, and 6) fish and wildlife habitat.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? [\[help\]](#)

The most recent federal decennial census for 2010 had Yakima County at a population of 243,231, and the Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) has the County at a 2015 population of 249,970.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? [\[help\]](#)

None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed as no displacements would occur.

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: [\[help\]](#)

The existing CAO and CAO Update were written to implement the goals and policies of Yakima County's Plan 2015 and the Horizon 2040 Comprehensive Plan and are compatible with these plans. Planning staff carefully reviewed the CAO for compatibility with the plans.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any: [\[help\]](#)

Agricultural activities are not regulated through the Title 16C (the existing CAO and CAO Update which is the subject of this proposal) and therefore it cannot be

incompatible. See 16C.01.05(3) in Appendix A for information regarding how Title 16A applies to agricultural activities and as well as the Voluntary Stewardship Program, in which Yakima County is enrolled. Forest lands are protected from degradation through the use of development standards, critical area buffers, and mitigation in the existing CAO and CAO Update.

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

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. [\[help\]](#)

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed as there are no housing impacts.

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

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

N/A. No structures are proposed.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? [\[help\]](#)

None.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed as the CAO Update does not have or address any aesthetic impacts.

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

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? [\[help\]](#)

None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? [\[help\]](#)

No.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? [\[help\]](#)

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed as the CAO Update does not have or address any light and glare impacts.

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

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? [\[help\]](#)

There is a variety of recreational opportunities within Yakima County, including but not limited to hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, boating, sightseeing, bike riding, rock climbing, geocaching, birdwatching, rockhounding, golfing, skiing, snowmobiling, ATV riding, and individual and team sports activities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. [\[help\]](#)
No.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: [\[help\]](#)

None are proposed as the CAO Update does not impact recreation.

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

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, there are historic sites throughout Yakima County that are eligible for listing. See Washington Information System for Architectural & Archaeological Records Data for specific sites at <http://www.dahp.wa.gov/learn-and-research/find-a-historic-place>.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources. [\[help\]](#)

Yes, there are landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation, including material evidence throughout Yakima County. Reports, submitted to Yakima County, are project specific and kept on file. However, many reports are confidential and exempt from disclosure under RCW 42.56.300, as they contain historically and culturally sensitive materials.

c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc. [\[help\]](#)

None. The existing CAO and the CAO Update does not have any potential impacts to cultural and historic resources.

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required. [\[help\]](#)

No additional measures are proposed in the CAO Update. The existing CAO protects cultural and historic resources by inviting the public; a variety agencies (which include federal, state, and local agencies); and the Yakama Nation to comment on every development that requires a CAO permit. A cultural resource survey and report may be

required, if warranted, and those with expertise, such as the Yakama Nation and the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, may review the report for accuracy and compliance with applicable laws. Each CAO permit issued requires the following of the applicant: If archaeological resources are uncovered during excavation, developers and property owners shall immediately stop work and notify Yakima County, the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, and any affected Indian tribes. Archaeological sites are subject to RCW 27.44 (Indian graves and records) and RCW 27.53 (Archaeological sites and records), and development or uses that may impact such sites shall comply with WAC 25-48 (Archaeological Excavation and Removal Permit).

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

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any. [\[help\]](#)

Yakima County contains a wide range of streets and highways.

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop? [\[help\]](#)

Public transit is provided primarily in urban areas within city limits with some overlap into County jurisdiction. Public bus service is provided in the City of Yakima, Selah, Union Gap, Pahto Public Passage connects Toppenish, Wapato, Harrah, Brownstown, and White Swan.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate? [\[help\]](#)

None.

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private). [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

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

N/A.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? [\[help\]](#)

N/A.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)

No.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: [\[help\]](#)
None proposed as there are no impacts.

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

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe. [\[help\]](#)
No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. [\[help\]](#)
None are proposed as public services would not be impacted.

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

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: [\[help\]](#)
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other _____
All the above utilities are in various locations throughout Yakima County.

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. [\[help\]](#)
N/A.

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

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

Signature: *Daniel De Bord*

Name of signee Daniel De Bord

Position and Agency/Organization Environmental/Natural Resource Planner

Date Submitted: 2/7/2017

D. supplemental sheet for nonproject actions [\[help\]](#)

(IT IS NOT NECESSARY to 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 CAO and CAO Update would not increase discharges to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise. The CAO would likely decrease discharges to water and prohibits the storage, handling, and disposal of material or substances that are dangerous or hazardous with respect to water quality and life safety in hydrologically related critical areas.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

No additional measures are proposed in the CAO Update or required by law.

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

The existing CAO and CAO Update would reduce impacts to plant, fish, and wildlife through limiting development in critical areas and their buffers, and where impacts are unavoidable, require mitigation to offset impacts.

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

No additional measures are proposed in the CAO Update or required by law.

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

The existing CAO and CAO Update would not deplete or effect energy resources. The CAO would likely reduce the degradation of natural resources through development standards, critical area buffers, and mitigation.

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

No additional measures are proposed in the CAO Update or required by law.

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?

The existing CAO and CAO Update protects function and values of the following sensitive areas: stream corridors, flood hazard areas, wetlands, critical aquifer recharge areas, geologically hazardous areas, and fish and wildlife habitat through the use of development standards, critical area buffers, and mitigation. Historic and cultural resource sites are protect through the process outlined in question 13. Prime farmlands are not affected or addressed in the CAO or the CAO Update, unless it involves converting agricultural lands to a new use. In such cases, the project must meet the development requirements of the CAO.

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

No additional measures are proposed in the CAO Update or required by law.

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?

The CAO Update does not affect shoreline use as the CAO only applies to critical areas outside of shoreline jurisdiction. The CAO affects land use by limiting development that is within critical areas or within the critical area buffers that could have an adverse affect on a proposed development, the environment, the use and enjoyment of nearby properties, and safety of people.

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

The existing CAO and CAO Update has no effect on shorelines, as the CAO does not apply to land within shoreline jurisdiction. The CAO regulates the use of land by limiting development that is within critical areas or within the critical area buffers that could have an adverse affect on a proposed development, the environment, the use and enjoyment of nearby properties, and health and safety of people.

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

The CAO Update would have no affect on transportation or public services and utilities.

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

None are proposed or required by law.

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

The proposed CAO Update has been updated to conform with local, state, and federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.