

City of Cle Elum, Washington  
Comprehensive Plan 2022 Annual Update  
SEPA Checklist March 16, 2023

**A. Background** [Find help answering background questions](#)

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

*City of Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan 2022 Annual Update*

**2. Name of applicant:**

*City of Cle Elum, WA*

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

*Virgil Amick  
City of Cle Elum  
119 West First Street  
Cle Elum, WA 98922  
509-674-2262 x110*

**4. Date checklist prepared:**

*March 16, 2023*

**5. Agency requesting checklist:**

*City of Cle Elum, WA*

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

*The City of Cle Elum is completing the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Plan Update process. Draft amendments to the Goals and Policies in the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan have been prepared to more actively protect the City from the risk of wildfires. These amendments were prepared by the City's Firewise Advisory Committee and have been refined by the City Planning Commission. A draft of these amendments is now being circulated for state agency and public review prior to adoption. It is anticipated that following the adoption of these amendments, that the City in collaboration with its regional partners, will prepare uniform development standards to implement the amended Goals and Policies.*

*Written comments on the draft Comprehensive Plan amendments and/or the likely SEPA Threshold Determination must be received at Cle Elum City Hall **no later than Friday, March 31, 2023**. In addition, written or oral comments may be submitted at a public hearing to be conducted by the Cle Elum Planning Commission on **Tuesday April 4, 2023, at 6 pm** at the Cle Elum City Hall. All comments received will be reviewed by the Planning Commission and will be included as a part of the public*

*record that is forwarded to the Cle Elum City Council. It is anticipated that the Planning Commission will finalize their final recommendation on the proposed amendments to the City's Comprehensive Plan at their May 2 Planning Commission meeting. It is further anticipated that the City Council will review the Planning Commission's recommendation and may take action on the proposed amendments at a regularly scheduled meeting(s) in May or June 2023.*

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

*The Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan may be subject to amendments no more than once a year and shall be updated every eight years in accordance with the provisions of the Washington State Growth Management Act. The 2023 Annual Update process will be initiated in March of 2023 and the next state-mandated periodic review and update must be completed by June of 2026.*

*It is anticipated that following the adoption of these 2022 Comprehensive Plan amendments, that the City in collaboration with its regional partners, will prepare uniform development standards to implement the amended goals and policies.*

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

*The environmental damage caused by wildfires has been well documented. It is anticipated that the City will adopt the "National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy" (<https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy/thestrategy.shtml>) to guide local efforts to address the challenges associated with:*

- The management of vegetation and fuels for wildfires.*
- The protection of lives and property.*
- Managing the potential for human-caused ignitions; and*
- Effectively and efficiently responding to fires.*

**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.*

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

*Amendments to the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan and the City's Development Regulations must be approved by the City Council. Since wildfires are not constrained by political boundaries it is anticipated that uniform development standards will be prepared that may also be adopted by Kittitas County, the City of Roslyn, and the Town of South Cle Elum.*

- 11. Give a 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.)**

*Western or "Upper" Kittitas County, including the City of Cle Elum, is experiencing an increasing threat of catastrophic wildfires as the annual fire season becomes longer and the weather more severe. These conditions, coupled with extensive residential development in the unincorporated areas, the planned growth within the city, the projected growth within Urban Growth Areas, the high and increasing levels of recreational activities within forested areas, and proximity to I-90, make it imperative that the City adopt and actively implement policies to minimize the risk of wildfires to the greatest extent possible. Recent experiences with large fires that had the potential to devastate the entire upper county, as well as the fire scare at the entrance to the city, serve to underscore the urgency of this threat and the very real need to more actively protect our community. The City of Cle Elum realizes that wildfires do not recognize boundary lines or jurisdictional boundaries. The City and its regional partners share the wildfire risk and the responsibility to mitigate those risks. The City understands the importance of taking proactive steps to reduce wildfire impacts within the city, as well as the surrounding areas and jurisdictions across broader "Upper" Kittitas County region.*

*A new goal to the Cle Elum Comprehensive Plan is proposed to actively protect the city from the risk of wildfires. Thirteen new policies have been prepared to implement this Goal. These policies emphasize the importance of a regional approach to address the threat of wildfires including the adoption of uniform development standards. A copy of the draft goals and policies is attached.*

- 12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

*The proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments would be applicable within the city limits and to the Cle Elum Urban Growth Area. Related actions taken by regional partners could be applicable to forested areas beyond the Urban Growth Area boundaries.*

**B. Environmental Elements**

**1. Earth Find help answering earth questions**

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

*The City of Cle Elum is located in western or “Upper” Kittitas County. In general terms, this area is very rural in character and is characterized by timber harvesting, coal mining, and outdoor recreation. The areas surrounding the city are heavily forested with hilly, steep slopes, and mountainous terrain.*

**Circle or highlight one: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other:**

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?** *N/A*
- 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.** *N/A*
- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**  
*Yes. A map highlighting potential geological hazard areas can be viewed on the City’s and the Kittitas County website.*
- 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.** *N/A*
- f. Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.** *N/A*
- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?** *N/A*
- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.**  
*The City Development Regulations include standards to control erosion and to manage storm water runoff as well as standards to govern development activities near geological hazard areas. It is expected that the proposed new goals and policies will result in more stringent and uniform development standards that will reduce the risk of wildfires and associated damage to the environment.*

**2. Air** [Find help answering air questions](#)

**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. N/A**

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

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

*The City Development Regulations include environmental review procedures that will protect air quality. It is expected that the proposed new goals and policies will result in more stringent and uniform development standards that will reduce the risk of wildfires and associated damage to the environment.*

**3. Water** [Find help answering water questions](#)

**a. Surface Water:** [Find help answering surface water questions](#)

**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 Yakima and the Cle Elum River pass through the city, and these rivers are fed by numerous streams and creeks, including Crystal Creek. There are numerous wetlands associated with these rivers, streams, and creeks, as well as the Hanson Ponds located near the City's Sewage Treatment Plant, adjacent to the Yakima River.*

**2. Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans. 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. N/A**

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

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

**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. N/A**

**b. Ground Water:** [Find help answering ground water questions](#)

**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 a general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known. N/A**

2. Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (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. *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. *N/A*
  2. Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe. *N/A*
  3. Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe. *N/A*
  4. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any. *N/A*

**4. Plants** [Find help answering plants questions](#)

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site: *N/A*

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

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

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

*Endangered or threatened vegetation species occurring in the Cle Elum UGA vicinity include:*

- Utes ladies'-tresses*
- Oregon checker mallow*
- Basalt daisy*
- Columbia milk vetch*
- Wenatchee larkspur*
- Clustered lady's slipper*
- Hoover's desert parsley*
- Seely's silene*
- Hoover's tauschia*
- White eatonella*
- Adder's tongue*

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

*The City Development Regulations include provisions to protect shorelines and native vegetation, as well as environmentally sensitive areas. It is expected that the proposed new Goals and Policies will result in more stringent and uniform development standards that will reduce the risk of wildfires and associated damage to the environment.*

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

**5. Animals** [Find help answering animal questions](#)

a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site. *N/A*

Examples include:

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

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

*Fish and wildlife species documented as occurring in Cle Elum and its immediate vicinity that are federally and/or state listed as endangered, threatened and/or candidate/proposed for listing include:*

- Bull trout
- Chinook salmon
- Steelhead
- Marbled Murrelet
- Northern Spotted Owl
- Yellow Billed Cuckoo
- Northern Goshawk
- Sage Thrasher
- White-Headed Woodpecker
- Canadian Lynx
- Gray Wolf
- North American Wolverine
- Sharp-tailed Snake
- Westside cutthroat
- Coho-Rainbow Trout
- Dolly Varden
- Elk

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

*Migratory bird species that seasonally breed in the Cle Elum vicinity include:*

- Black swift
- Brewer's sparrow
- Lewis's woodpecker
- Olive sided flycatcher
- Williamson's sapsucker
- Willow flycatcher

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

*The City Development Regulations include Environmental Review procedures and standards to protect Critical Areas and wildlife habitat. It is expected that the proposed new Goals and Policies will result in more stringent and uniform development standards that will reduce the risk of wildfires and associated damage to the environment.*

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

**5. Energy and Natural Resources [Find help answering energy and natural resource questions](#)**



1. **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. N/A**
2. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe. N/A**
3. **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. N/A**

7. **Environmental Health** Find help with answering environmental health questions

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

1. **Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses. N/A**
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. 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. N/A**
4. **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

*The proposed goals and policies are intended to reduce the need for special emergency services.*

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

*The City Development Regulations include environmental review procedures to prevent and control environmental health hazards. It is expected that the proposed new Goals and Policies will result in more stringent and uniform development standards that will reduce the risk of wildfires and associated damage to the environment.*

**b. Noise**

1. What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? *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)? *N/A*
3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any. *N/A*

**8. Land and Shoreline Use** [Find help answering land and shoreline use questions](#)

- 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.**

*There are approximately 2,500 acres within the Cle Elum city limits and approximately 650 acres within the Cle Elum UGA in unincorporated Kittitas County.*

*Within the city limits, approximately 251 acres are used for single family residences, 600 acres are used by government agencies, approximately 160 acres are in commercial and industrial uses, and approximately 1,450 acres are undeveloped.*

*Within the Cle Elum UGA in the unincorporated County, approximately 46 acres are used for single family residences, 45 acres are used by government agencies, approximately 39 acres are in commercial and industrial uses, and approximately 519 acres are undeveloped.*

- 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 because 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?**

*The proposed goals and policies are intended to reduce the risk of wildfire to designated timberlands and forested areas.*

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?

*The proposed amendments are intended to promote compliance with standards to reduce the risk of wildfires.*

- c. Describe any structures on the site.** *N/A*

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

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

*The Official Zoning Map includes the following zoning districts within the city:*

- Single Family Residential (SFR)
- Multi-Family Residential (MFR)
- General Commercial (GC)
- Entry Commercial (EC)
- Downtown Commercial (DTC)
- Industrial (I)
- Planned Mixed use (PMU)
- Public Uses (PU)

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

*The Future Land Use Map includes the following designations within the City and the Cle Elum UGA:*

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Public Use
- Planned Mixed Use

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

*The Yakima River and the Cle Elum River are designated as Shorelines of the State.*

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

*The following environmentally sensitive areas can be found in the City and are protected by the City's Development Regulations.*

- Critical aquifer recharge areas
- Wetlands
- Frequently flooded areas
- Geologically hazardous areas
- Fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas

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

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

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any. N/A**

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

*It is expected that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will result in the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires that would be applicable within the Cle Elum city limits, the Cle Elum UGA within unincorporated Kittitas County, and in the surrounding forested areas.*

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

*It is expected that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will result in the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires that would be applicable within the Cle Elum city limits, the Cle Elum UGA within unincorporated Kittitas County, and in the surrounding forested areas.*

**9. Housing [Find help answering housing questions](#)**

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. N/A**
- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing. N/A**
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any. N/A**

**10. Aesthetics** [Find help answering aesthetics questions](#)

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? *N/A*
- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? *N/A*
- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any. *N/A*

**11. Light and Glare** [Find help answering light and glare questions](#)

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? *N/A*
- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? *N/A*
- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? *N/A*
- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any. *N/A*

**12. Recreation** [Find help answering recreation questions](#)

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**  
*The forested areas in and surrounding the Cle Elum UGA are widely used for a variety of recreational activities including hiking, biking, fishing, and snowmobiling.*
- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.** *N/A*
- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any.**  
*It is expected that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will result in the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires that would be applicable within the Cle Elum city limits, the Cle Elum UGA within unincorporated Kittitas County, and in the surrounding forested areas.*

**13. Historic and Cultural Preservation** [Find help answering historic and cultural preservation questions](#)

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe. *N/A*
- 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. *N/A*
- 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. *N/A*
- 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.  
*It is expected that the proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan will result in the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires that would be applicable within the Cle Elum city limits, the Cle Elum UGA within unincorporated Kittitas County, and in the surrounding forested areas.*

**14. Transportation** [Find help with answering transportation questions](#)

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

- f. **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.**

*It is expected that the proposed amendments will result in uniform standards for emergency vehicle access.*

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

*There are residential subdivisions within unincorporated Kittitas County that are served by only one access road, and as a result, if that road is blocked for any reason, emergency vehicles would not be able to access the subdivision and residents would not have an escape route. As a result, new developments, will need to provide a second means of all-season and all-weather access in order to protect the public health and safety.*

**15. Public Services** [Find help answering public service questions](#)

- 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.** *No. Just the opposite will occur, the proposed amendments were prepared by the City's Firewise Advisory Committee and are intended to result in the adoption and implementation of uniform standards to reduce the risk of wildfires.*

**Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.** *It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards including a requirement that residential subdivisions have at least two effective means for access by emergency service providers and for residents to use as escape routes.*

**16. Utilities** [Find help answering utilities questions](#)

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

**C. Signature** [Find help about who should sign](#)

**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.**

X 

Virgil Amick  
Permit Technician

**Type name of signee: Virgil Amick**

**Position and agency/organization: Permit Tech/City of Cle Elum**

**Date submitted:** Click or tap to enter a date.

**D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions** [Find help for the nonproject actions worksheet](#)

**IT IS NOT REQUIRED** to use this section for project actions.

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? It will not.**

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:** *The City Development Regulations includes environmental review procedures and development standards to prevent inappropriate discharge to water, unacceptable emissions to air, unacceptable noise levels, and to regulate the use of hazardous substances. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and the associated damage to the environment.*

2. **How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life? It will not.**

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish, or marine life are:** *The City Development Regulations include environmental review procedures and development standards to protect plants, animals, and fish and their habitats. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and the associated damage to the environment.*

3. **How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources? It will not.**

**Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:** *The City Development Regulations include standards and procedures to protect natural resource lands and to conserve energy resources. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and the associated damage to the environment.*

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? It will have a positive impact.**

**Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:** *The City Development Regulations were specifically designed to protect environmentally sensitive areas, wetlands, floodplains, and shorelines. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and the associated damage to the environment.*

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? It would have a**



*positive impact.*

**Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:** *Upper Kittitas County is increasingly susceptible to the risk of wildfires. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and protect land within the city limits and in the surrounding forested areas.*

6. **How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?** *It will not.*

**Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:** *Currently, Kittitas County does not require two effective means of access by emergency service providers to new residential subdivisions. It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires including at least two all-season, all-weather means of ingress and egress for use by emergency service providers. and the associated damage to the environment.*

**Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.** *It is expected that the proposed amendments will lead to the adoption and implementation of uniform development standards to reduce the risk of wildfires and the associated damage to the environment.*

*In addition, it is not clear how the current standards, as interpreted by Kittitas County, comply with the provisions of the International Fire Code or the County Comprehensive Plan. The adoption and implementation of uniform standards that actively involve local fire marshals should result in a higher level of environmental protection as well as a higher level of protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the community.*