

# Wildlife Discipline Report Checklist

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Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Job Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

(SAT = Satisfactory; INC = Incomplete; MIS = Missing; N/A = Not Applicable)

Answers are required for questions which have no N/A box.

A Wildlife Discipline Report can be highly detailed or extremely concise depending upon whether the level of impact or controversy is substantial or minimal. Project teams should take care to “right-size” the discipline report so it adequately addresses the impacts and controversy without over-analyzing or providing unnecessary information.

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## I. Project Description

SAT INC MIS N/A

- A. Describe the overall purpose of the project, and provide a summary of the project objectives.
- B. Include information on proposed project-related construction activities and types of equipment, as available. Include sources of loud noise greater than ambient levels (e.g., pile driving and blasting). Include all phases or stages of the project and details about any structures altered or built as part of the proposed project.
- C. Describe secondary project features (i.e., wetland mitigation construction, staging areas, detours, waste and stockpile sites, safety clearing, work trestles and temporary work bridges, and demolition).
- D. Provide a chronology of activities, timing of construction, and phasing of construction. Provide hours of operation, specify day or night, time of year (months and year), and duration. If details are unavailable, identify a potential work window using the worst-case scenario.
- E. Describe proposed grading and filling or other earthwork; include potential best management practices (BMPs) for controlling erosion, sedimentation, stormwater, and spills.
- F. Explain any expected changes to the operation of the facility (e.g., increased traffic, revised use patterns, or new maintenance needs).
- G. Provide stormwater treatment information. How much new impervious surface will result from the project (including surfaces such as sidewalks and parking lots for which it has been determined that stormwater treatment should be provided)? How much of the new impervious surface will be treated for stormwater (percentage or total amount)? What BMPs are proposed for treating the quality and quantity of runoff from the new impervious surfaces? What is the receiving

area/water body for stormwater runoff? What is the amount of existing (before project implementation) impervious surface in the project area? How much existing impervious surface is currently being treated for stormwater? How much of the untreated existing impervious surface is proposed for treatment as part of the project? Under existing conditions, is offsite stormwater being treated in Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) stormwater facilities? If yes, will this treatment continue at the same level after implementation of the proposed project? Describe the location of the facilities and outfalls. Indicate whether existing or new outfalls will be used. If new outfalls will be constructed, identify their location and indicate whether they will be installed below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the receiving water body. Include the effects of constructing these facilities in the impact analysis.

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | H. Describe proposed in-water work or work below the OHWM, work over water bodies, and potential for impacts on riparian vegetation (quantity and type). Include conditions and work windows as described in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) hydraulic project approval (HPA). State clearly if the project includes no in-water or over-water work. |
|                          |                          |                          |                          | I. Quantify the area of permanent and temporary impacts on all habitat types.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | J. Follow steps B through I for each build alternative. Describe any differences in proposed activity between each build alternative.  |

## II. Methods, Data Sources, and Graphics

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Provide date(s) of site visit(s).  |
|                          |                          |                          |                          | B. Describe conditions at the time of the site visit(s) (e.g., normal precipitation or dry year). |

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. For any surveys completed, clearly specify the area of the survey (e.g., all areas within 10 feet of toe of fill or all rights-of-way). Indicate the protocols and field methods used for each survey, and clearly state the results.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | D. Include simple plan sheets or an overview of the alignment showing the location of proposed work for each alternative relative to sensitive areas and/or habitat. Include a figure showing locations of water bodies potentially affected by the proposed work. The figure must clearly show the existing conditions and proposed design. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | E. U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle map or National Wetlands Inventory map of project study area.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | F. Include photographs of the study area, clearly labeled.   |

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

- G. Aerial photograph (using an aerial photograph as background for site plan and mapping sensitive resources can be helpful for the reviewer).
- H. Existing local sensitive area maps should be consulted to identify protected areas and/or locations of special aquatic and natural resources sites.
- I. Washington Department of Natural Resources Natural Heritage Program data. Do not include the raw data in the report.
- J. WDFW Priority Habitat and Species data and Wildlife Heritage Program data. Do not include the raw data in the report.
- L. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service species list by county.
- M. National Marine Fisheries Service, species list.
- N. Washington Gap Analysis, final report: Volumes 1 through 5 (Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, University of Washington).
- O. Personal communications as appropriate: WDFW local area habitat biologist, tribal contacts, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, local chapter of National Audubon Society, and/or other local experts.
- P. Additional available data as appropriate: U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, WSDOT, county, local jurisdiction, university research, etc.
- Q. Other relevant discipline reports (wetlands, water resources, vegetation, etc.).

**III. Affected Environment**

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

- A. Describe the project setting. Include the physiographic region, general topography, dominant habitat and vegetation type(s), nearby water resources, mapped soils, and land use types.
- B. Provide the legal description (section, township, and range) of areas affected by the alternatives.
- C. Provide the name and number of the water resource inventory area.
- D. Provide the hydrologic unit code.
- E. Define the project study area (area of potential impacts, both indirect and direct). The study area should include all areas potentially affected by each alternative. The study area is usually larger than the project area (e.g., the river upstream and downstream of a bridge project, water bodies receiving stormwater runoff, detour routes or borrow pits for source material, wetland mitigation sites, or other mitigation sites resulting from project impacts). Include all areas, including mitigation areas and other areas outside the immediate project area that may be affected by the project activities.
- F. Describe the environmental baseline condition (current condition before project implementation) of wildlife and wildlife habitats in the project study area. The

baseline description should include all pertinent habitat parameters for terrestrial and aquatic wildlife, including breeding, foraging, and movement. Do not repeat information already provided in the vegetation discipline report, but ensure that habitats are described with the use of terminology that is consistent with that in the vegetation discipline report.

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | G. Summarize the findings of the wetland discipline report in table format as applicable. Also summarize any information on aquatic-associated wildlife observed during wetland surveys.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | H. Identify all species of wildlife that are known to occur or have the potential to occur within the project study area based on existing data sources and field observations.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | I. Identify any state or federally listed species, proposed species, candidate species, species of concern, and designated or proposed critical habitat that is known to occur or has the potential to occur on the site or in the project study area.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | J. For species potentially occurring in the project study area, briefly describe their habitat requirements and ecology. A lengthy life history is not required and can be incorporated by referencing appropriate documents and appending them to the report. Enough information should be provided to adequately explain the potential impacts. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | K. Describe the potential suitable habitat for the species found on site or in the project study area and how local populations use it. Discuss the local status of the species as appropriate. Determine the likely level and type of use of the area by each species.   |

#### **IV. Impacts**

*Note:* The analysis should be commensurate with the level of impact.

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. Describe how the environmental baseline condition (condition before project implementation) of the wildlife habitat in the study area will be degraded, maintained, or improved (restored) by each alternative.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. Direct effects: Describe and analyze the effects of each alternative that would directly affect the species (or species guild), its suitable breeding habitat, food resources, and migration corridors (if applicable). Include actions that would potentially remove, fragment, or destroy habitat; or displace or otherwise influence the species, either beneficially or adversely. Quantify the temporary and long-term impacts, if possible. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. Describe the potential for impacts due to disturbance (e.g., noise greater than ambient levels, sudden loud noises, or increased human activity) associated with construction and continuing operation.   |

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

- D. Indirect effects: Describe any potential indirect impacts (those that occur later in time) such as impacts on future food resources or habitat, and impacts due to increased long-term human access or project-induced growth.
- E. Cumulative effects: Identify the species or populations within the project study area that are vulnerable to the cumulative effects of past, present, or future actions that are reasonably certain to occur, including the proposed project.
- F. Discuss water quality impacts on water bodies and aquatic-associated wildlife (sedimentation and pollutants).
- G. Quantify the area of habitat removal; include clearing and grubbing quantities, habitat type, and replanting plans, if appropriate. Describe both temporary and permanent clearing for each alternative.
- H. Discuss the quantity and significance of wetland and buffer impacts if applicable.

*Note:* A biological assessment may be required if the proposed project has federal involvement (i.e., funding or permits) and federally listed species are potentially present. The biological assessment should be prepared under separate cover.

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**V. Proposed Mitigation Measures**

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

- A. As appropriate, provide recommendations that could help reduce or eliminate the adverse effects of the proposed activity on wildlife and wildlife habitat. Include avoidance, minimization, and mitigation techniques, as appropriate. These could include such things as clearing limitations, avoidance of specific areas, preconstruction surveys, special construction techniques, and timing windows.
  - B. Ensure that any mitigation measures discussed have been approved by the WSDOT project team.
  - C. Include any monitoring requirements that are recommended for use before or after project implementation.
  - D. Minimization measures and any monitoring requirements should be clearly stated so they can be easily incorporated into the project design or contract.
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**VI. Summary and Conclusions**

**SAT INC MIS N/A**

- A. Summarize the analysis performed and the conclusions reached. The Summary and Conclusions should be written in [Plain Talk](#) language and include enough detail so that it can be included in the environmental impact statement with only minor modification.

The Summary and Conclusions should include the following:

SAT INC MIS NA

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | A. A statement defining the objectives of the project.                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | B. A discussion of the impacts of all alternatives, including the no-build alternative. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | C. A synopsis of recommended mitigation.  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | D. A comparison of alternatives based on impacts.                                       |

General Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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