**Water Resources Division**

**Environmental Checklist Instructions**

**Purpose of This Document:**

All applicants must consider the potential environmental impacts of their projects. Consideration of these impacts on the location, design, or construction actions may help avoid expensive costs. A project will not be eligible for funding if it results in significant environmental degradation.

DNRC requires compliance with the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) per state law and associated DNRC Administrative Rules (ARM 36.2.523). MEPA requires state agencies to prepare a detailed statement on any project, program, or activity directly undertaken by the agency; a project or activity supported through a contract, grant, subsidy, loan, or other form of funding assistance from the agency; and a project or activity involving the issuance of a lease, permit, license, certificate, or other entitlement for use or permission by the agency (MCA Title 75, Chapter 1). Thus, all project applications will be subject to MEPA review.

***What Does This Mean for Applicants?***

* All applicants must complete the Environmental Checklist in its entirety and provide sufficient documentation on public participation.
* Public participation, or scoping, of the project must include stakeholder, landowner, and community engagement. These efforts can be in the form of documented public meetings (e.g., meeting minutes, pdf presentations) or letters of support.
  + The public meeting must be properly noticed (advertised) and the public must be provided with an opportunity at the meeting to comment on the project.
  + Minutes of the meeting should reflect what was discussed about the project, including all comments received from the public.
  + Letters of support must be included from any identified or interested stakeholders.
* Agency Comment Letters (see instructions below)
* Please submit these items with your application.
* Provide Affidavit of Publication or Meeting Minutes for the public comment period notice on the draft EA

***How Will DNRC Use the Information Provided?***

The information provided within the Environmental Checklist will be subject to a MEPA review by DNRC. If this review should result in an Environmental Assessment, please be aware that DNRC will draft the Environmental Assessment. The drafted Environmental Assessment decision will be posted for a public comment period of up to 30 days dependent on the level of environmental impact.

When the draft EA is posted, we require the project proponent to post the notice in either one local newspaper outlet in the legal advertising section or provide the notice during a publicly held meeting. The applicant must then provide the affidavit of publication if posted in the newspaper or meeting minutes if discussed in a public meeting. Please note this public comment period does not suffice for the public participation component mentioned above. The MEPA document will then require a final decision by DNRC before funds are awarded.

It is also important to note for projects with no environmental impacts, or those that do not lead directly to construction or any other sort of environmental degradation, will not be subject to an environmental assessment and the checklist/public participation does not need to be completed. Examples of these sorts of activities include, but are not limited to, development of a PER (professional engineering report), planning, and education/informational outreach. Please let us know if there are additional questions on what other projects may fall under this category.

**Instructions:**

Complete the Environmental Checklist on the following pages after the instructions below. DNRC retains the ultimate decision-making authority on all MEPA decisions. If DNRC determines this section to be incomplete, additional information will be required before consideration for funding.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Example** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Permits/**  **Mitigation Required?** | **Explanation of Impact to Resource** |
| **1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil slump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)** | | | |
| ☐ No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | *Current Conditions:*  Click or tap here to enter text.  *Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:* |

1. **Impact Code:** In the first column, identify the impact that the preferred alternative will have on each resource (e.g. 1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints) in the project area. Select from the following impact codes:
   * + *No Impact*: No impact to the resource is anticipated or this is not applicable to this project.
     + *Beneficial*: Potentially beneficial impact to the resource.
     + *Adverse*: Potentially adverse impact to the resource.

*Please note that a resource may have more than one impact. Identify all possible impacts to the resource in the space provided. For example, the preferred alternative may have a short-term direct negative impact and a long-term direct and indirect positive impact on the resource. Check all boxes that apply and use the space provided in the final column “Explanation of Impact to Resource” to explain.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Example** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Permits/**  **Mitigation Required?** | **Explanation of Impact to Resource** |
| **1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil slump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | *Current Conditions:*  Click or tap here to enter text.  *Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:*  Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **Impact Type:** In the second column, identify the type(s) of impact to the resource from the preferred alternative. (Impacts may be direct, indirect or cumulative).

* *Direct impacts*: Occur at the same time and place as the proposed project.
* *Indirect or secondary impacts*: Occur at a different location or later time than the proposed project.
* *Cumulative impacts*: Collective impacts on the environment when considered in conjunction with other past, present, and future actions related to the proposed project. Cumulative impact analysis includes a review of all state and nonstate activities that have occurred, are occurring, or may occur that have impacted or may impact the same resource as the proposed project.

*Just as above, please note that a resource may have more than one impact. Identify all possible impacts to the resource in the space provided. For example, the preferred alternative may have a short-term direct negative impact and a long-term direct and indirect positive impact on the resource. Check all boxes that apply and use the space provided in the final column “Explanation of Impact to Resource” to explain.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Example** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Permits/**  **Mitigation Required?** | **Explanation of Impact to Resource** |
| **1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil slump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | *Current Conditions:*  Click or tap here to enter text.  *Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:*  Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **Permits/Mitigation Required:** In the third column, please select if a permit and/or mitigation is required for the project (e.g., 310, USACE Section 404 Nationwide).
   * Please make sure to include which permits (if any) are required for the particular resource and what mitigation techniques will be used if impacts are to occur.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Example** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Permits/**  **Mitigation Required?** | **Explanation of Impact to Resource** |
| **1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil slump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |

1. **Explanation of Impact to Resource:** In the final column, use the space provided on the Environmental Checklist to summarize the following information:
   * ***Current Conditions***

* Describe the current environmental resources of the affected area including the impact of no action. Your description of the current natural resources will provide a baseline to compare all alternatives and their associated environmental impacts.
  + ***Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:***
* Describe the impact of the preferred alternative or ***indicate why there is no impact*** from the project.
* Identify any reasonable cumulative impacts that may result from implementing the preferred alternative. Cumulative impacts are the collective impacts on the environment when considered in conjunction with other past, present, and future actions related to the proposed project.
* If a potentially adverse impact is identified for the preferred alternative, the applicant must provide the following:
  + An analysis of the severity, duration, extent, and frequency of the impact. Please specify and describe the following:
    - Severity: negligible, minor, or major.
    - Duration: short-term or long-term.
    - Extent: local, regional, or statewide.
    - Frequency: non-recurring or recurring.
  + An explanation of short- and/or long-term measures to mitigate the impact with a discussion on the effects of those mitigative measures on the proposed project.
* Identify any required permits.

1. **Additional Information:** Underneath the table the following information must be provided:
   * Cultural Survey Acknowledgement
   * Sources of Information: Identify all sources consulted for the completion of the Environmental Checklist. Sources may include studies, plans, documents, or the persons, organizations, or agencies contacted for assistance.

Certain sections of this Environmental Checklist require specialized knowledge. Please contact the following agencies and attach comments provided by those agencies to your application. Below are contacts for certain sections that require additional review by other agencies:

* *Physical Environment,* ***Section #5* – Surface Water Quality** – Montana Department of Environmental Quality, (406) 444 - 3080.
* *Physical Environment,* ***Section #6* – Floodplains and Floodplain Management** – Contact the Local Floodplain Administrator for your County and/or Community (<http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/operations/floodplain-management/contacts/20210924FPAs2021.1.pdf>) or visit the Department of Natural Resources Water Resources Division, (406) 444 – 0860, <http://dnrc.mt.gov/divisions/water/operations/floodplain-management>.
* *Physical Environment,* ***Section #7* – Wetlands** – U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers, (406) 441 - 1375 or [montana.reg@usace.army.mil](mailto:montana.reg@usace.army.mil).
* *Physical Environment,* ***Section #9* – Vegetation and Wildlife Species and Habitats** – Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Wildlife Office (406) 444 - 2612 or find your Regional Office at <https://fwp.mt.gov/aboutfwp/contact-us>.
* *Physical Environment,* ***Section #10* – Unique, Endangered, Fragile or Limited Environmental Resources** – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for consultation on potential impacts to endangered or limited plants, fish, or other wildlife, (406) 449 - 5225.
* *Human Environment,* ***Section #4* – Historic Properties, Cultural or Archaeological Resources –** Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), (406) 444 - 7767 or dmurdo@mt.gov.

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| For assistance in preparing the Environmental Checklist, contact DNRC grant manager listed on grant application. |

**Environmental Checklist**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Environmental Checklist Prepared by:** |  | On: Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Name of Person 1 |  | Organization |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Phone Number |  | Email |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Name of Person 2 |  | Organization |
| Click or tap here to enter text. |  | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Phone Number |  | Email |
| Click or tap here to enter text. | | |
| List additional people above. Include organization, phone number and email for all. | | |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Physical Environment** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Permits/**  **Mitigation Required?** | **Explanation of Impact to Resource** |
| **1. Soil Suitability, Topographic and/or Geologic Constraints (example: soil slump, steep slopes, subsidence, seismic activity)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **2. Hazardous Facilities (example: power lines, hazardous waste sites, acceptable distance from explosive and flammable hazards including chemical/petrochemical storage tanks, underground fuel storage tanks, and related facilities such as natural gas storage facilities and propane storage tanks)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **3. Surrounding Air Quality (example: dust, odors, emissions)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  May be dust during digging of soil.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **4. Groundwater Resources and Aquifers (example: quantity, quality, distribution, depth to groundwater, sole source aquifers)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **5. Surface Water/Water Quality, Quantity and Distribution (example: streams, lakes, storm runoff, irrigation systems, canals)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **6. Floodplains and Floodplain Management (Identify any floodplains within one mile of the boundary of the project.)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **7. Wetlands (Identify any wetlands within one mile of the boundary of the project and state potential impacts.)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **8. Agricultural Lands, Production, and Farmland Protection (example: grazing, forestry, cropland, prime or unique agricultural lands) Identify any prime or important farm ground or forest lands within one mile of the boundary of the project.** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **9. Vegetation and Wildlife Species and Habitats, Including Fish (example: terrestrial, avian and aquatic life and habitats)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **10. Unique, Endangered, Fragile, or Limited Environmental Resources, Including Endangered Species (example: plants, fish or wildlife)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **11. Unique Natural Features (example: geologic features)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **12. Access to, and Quality of, Recreational and Wilderness Activities, Public Lands and Waterways (including Federally Designated Wild & Scenic Rivers), and Public Open Space** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Human Environment** | | | |
| **Impact Code** | **Impact Type** | **Resource** | |
| **1. Visual Quality – Coherence, Diversity, Compatibility of Use and Scale, Aesthetics** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **2. Nuisances (example: glare, fumes)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **3. Noise – Suitable Separation Between Housing and Other Noise Sensitive Activities and Major Noise Sources (example: aircraft, highways and railroads.)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **4. Historic Properties, Cultural, and Archaeological Resources***\*\*(Please see end of Environmental Checklist for details if Cultural Survey has not been performed per SHPO Section 106)* | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **5. Changes in Demographic (Population) Characteristics (example: quantity, distribution, density)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **6. General Housing Conditions – Quality, Quantity, Affordability** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **7. Businesses or Residents (example: loss of, displacement, or relocation)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **8. Public Health and Safety** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **9. Local Employment – Quantity or Distribution of Employment, Economic Impact** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **10. Income Patterns – Economic Impact** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **11. Local and State Tax Base and Revenues** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **12. Community and Government Services and Facilities (example: educational facilities; health and medical services and facilities; police; emergency medical services; and parks, playgrounds and open space)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **13. Commercial and Industrial Facilities – Production and Activity, Growth or Decline** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **14. Social Structures and Mores (example: standards of social conduct/social conventions)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **15. Land Use Compatibility (example: growth, land use change, development activity, adjacent land uses and potential conflicts)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **16. Energy Resources – Consumption and Conservation** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **17. Solid Waste Management** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **18. Wastewater Treatment – Sewage System** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **19. Storm Water – Surface Drainage** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **20. Community Water Supply** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **21. Fire Protection – Hazards** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **22. Cultural Facilities, Cultural Uniqueness and Diversity** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **23. Transportation Networks and Traffic Flow Conflicts (example: rail; auto including local traffic; airport runway clear zones – avoidance of incompatible land use in airport runway clear zones)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **24. Consistency with Local Ordinances, Resolutions, or Plans (example: conformance with local comprehensive plans, zoning, or capital improvement plans.)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **25. Private Property Rights (example: a regulatory action or project activity that reduces, minimizes, or eliminates the use of private property.)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **26. Environmental Justice (example: does the project avoid placing lower income households in areas where environmental degradation has occurred, such as adjacent to brownfield sites?)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **27. Lead Based Paint and/or Asbestos (example: does the project replace asbestos-lined pipes? Do any structures qualify as containing lead-based paint?)** | | | |
| No Impact  Beneficial  Adverse | Direct  Indirect  Cumulative | Permit  Mitigation  NA | Current Conditions:  Click or tap here to enter text.  Preferred Alternative Environmental Narrative:  Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Additional Information**

**\*\*If no cultural survey has been performed, or is not expected to be needed, applicant must agree to the following statement:**

I hereby agree that, to my knowledge, there are no cultural or paleontological materials in the proposed project site. If previously unknown cultural or paleontological materials are identified during project related activities, the DNRC grant manager will be notified, and all work will cease until a professional assessment of such resources can be made.

**List all sources of information used to complete the Environmental Checklist. Sources may include studies, plans, documents, or the individuals, organizations, or agencies contacted for assistance. For individuals, groups, or agencies, please include a contact person and phone number. List any scoping documents or meetings and/or public meetings during project development.**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Below is a list of electronic resources available for data gathering to aid in the development of the Environmental Checklist:**

Abandoned Mines (DEQ): <https://deq.mt.gov/cleanupandrec/Programs/aml>

Agricultural Statistics (USDA): [USDA - National Agricultural Statistics Service - Data and Statistics](https://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/index.php)

Air Quality

* Nonattainment Areas: [Plan and Rule Development | Montana DEQ (mt.gov)](https://deq.mt.gov/air/Programs/planandrule)
* Opening Burning Guidelines: [Open Burning | Montana DEQ (mt.gov)](https://deq.mt.gov/air/Programs/burning)

Army Corps of Engineers: <http://www.usace.army.mil/Home.aspx>

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, UM: <http://www.bber.umt.edu/>

Cadastral (for property ownership info): <http://svc.mt.gov/msl/mtcadastral>

Census Information, MT Dept. of Commerce: [http://ceic.mt.gov](http://ceic.mt.gov/)

Conservation Districts, MT: <http://macdnet.org/>

Cultural Records

* Montana Historical Society: <https://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo/CulturalRecords>

DEQ data search tools: [Montana DEQ's GIS Portal (mt.gov)](https://gis.deq.mt.gov/portal/home/)

* Including Clean Water Act Info Center, Hazardous Waste Handlers, Petroleum Release Fund Claims, Unpermitted Releases, Underground Storage Tanks, Source Water Protection

EPA Enforcement and Compliance History Online <http://echo.epa.gov/>

Farmland Classification: <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/WebSoilSurvey.aspx>

Fish (Also See Wildlife)

* Montana Fisheries Information System: [Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks GIS Data (arcgis.com)](https://gis-mtfwp.opendata.arcgis.com/)
* Aquatic Invasive Species: [Montana FWP AIS Surveys Dashboard 2021 (arcgis.com)](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/4c3ce4d6273e4afd845c165aa111884f)

Floodplain Maps, FEMA: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>

Geographic Information, Natural Resources Information System: <http://nris.mt.gov/gis>

Geologic Information - [MBMG - Publications - Download Geologic Maps (mtech.edu)](http://www.mbmg.mtech.edu/Information/StoryMaps/GeologicMaps.asp)

Maps of Montana for species observations, land cover, wetland and riparian areas, land management: [Montana Natural Heritage Program (mtnhp.org)](http://mtnhp.org/default.asp); <http://mtnhp.org/mapviewer/?t=6>

Montana Department of Transportation: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/>

* Environmental Manual: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/manuals/env/preface.pdf>
* Environmental Manual - Chapter 29, Permits Required: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/docs/manuals/env/Chapter%2029%20PERMITS%20REQUIRED.pdf>

Montana Board of Oil and Gas Conservation Information System:

* <https://dnrc.mt.gov/BOGC/>

Plants

* Plant database, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service: <http://plants.usda.gov/java>
* Plant Species, MT Field Guide: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/default.aspx>
* Plant Species of Concern: <http://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/Default.aspx?AorP=p>
* Threatened, Endangered and Rare Plants, USDA: <https://plants.usda.gov/home/raritySearch>

Soils

* USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service database: <https://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
* Montana soil and water conservation districts: <http://swcdmi.org/>

State Historic Preservation Office: <http://mhs.mt.gov/Shpo>

Tourism, UM – Institute of Tourism & Recreation Research: [http://www.itrr.umt.edu](http://www.itrr.umt.edu/)

Tribal Resources:

* Blackfeet Tribal Environmental Permits: [http://www.blackfeetenvironmental.com](http://www.blackfeetenvironmental.com/)
* CSKT Natural Resources Department: <http://nrd.csktribes.org/>
* Montana Office of Indian Affairs: <http://tribalnations.mt.gov/>
* Tribal Historic Preservation Officer List: [Search - NATHPO](https://www.nathpo.org/thpo-search/)
* Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT): <https://egis.hud.gov/tdat/>

Vehicle Traffic Count (MDT):<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/publications/datastats/traffic.shtml>

Water

* Stream Record Extension Facilitator, USGS: [USGS | National Water Dashboard](https://dashboard.waterdata.usgs.gov/app/nwd/?region=lower48&aoi=default)
* Streamstats basin characteristics, USGS: <http://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats/>
* Water Resources Division, DNRC: <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/>; [ArcGIS Web Application (mt.gov)](https://gis.dnrc.mt.gov/apps/StAGE/)
* Water Rights Bureau, DNRC: <https://dnrc.mt.gov/Water-Resources/Water-Rights/>
* Water Right Query System, DNRC: [DNRC Water Right Query System (mt.gov)](http://wrqs.dnrc.mt.gov/default.aspx)
* Wetlands database, USFWS:<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/Data/mapper.html>

Wild and Scenic Rivers: <http://www.rivers.gov/montana.php>

Wildlife

* Animal Species, MT Field Guide: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov/default.aspx>
* Animal Species of Concern: <http://mtnhp.org/SpeciesOfConcern/Default.aspx?AorP=a>
* Aquatic Invasive Species: [Montana FWP AIS Surveys Dashboard 2021 (arcgis.com)](https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/4c3ce4d6273e4afd845c165aa111884f)
* Critical Habitat Mapper, USFWS: <http://ecos.fws.gov/crithab/>
* Crucial Areas Planning System/Habitat Assessment Tool: [Habitat MT (HB 526) Funded Lands (arcgis.com)](https://mtfwp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dbaf39d31d4543fbb937d270c68376b0)
* FWP Contact Map: <http://fwp.mt.gov/gis/maps/contactUs/>(includes biologist responsibility areas)
* Maps and GIS Data, FWP: [Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks GIS Data (arcgis.com)](https://gis-mtfwp.opendata.arcgis.com/)
* Sage grouse management, FWP: [Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks GIS Data : Sage-grouse Habitat/Current Distribution (Montana) : Sage-grouse Habitat/Current Distribution (Montana) (arcgis.com)](https://gis-mtfwp.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/1e158bdbfb2c4ab2a109952d620a248d_0/explore?location=46.669192%2C-108.791878%2C6.97)
* Sage grouse habitat conservation program, DNRC: <http://sagegrouse.mt.gov/>
* Sage grouse habitat map: <https://sagegrouse.mt.gov/ProgramMap>