

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

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

Name of proposed project, if applicable:

City of Black Diamond General Sewer Plan

Name of applicant:

City of Black Diamond

Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Contact Person –	Scott Hanis, Public Works Director
	Phone - (360) 851-4521
City Of Black Diamond -	PO Box 599
	Black Diamond WA 98010
Street Address -	24301 Roberts Drive
	Black Diamond WA 98010

Date checklist prepared:

June 2023

Agency requesting checklist:

City of Black Diamond – Planning Department

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

Planning Commission Briefing – June 2023
Ecology Review – August 2023
Agency Review – September 2023
Planning Commission Review – September 2023
Council Review/Public Hearing – October 2023

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

The City of Black Diamond's sewer collection plans may periodically change. Each revision will be incorporated in future updates of the Plan. Each project implementation will consider alternatives and will be reviewed through the SEPA process as applicable.

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

No other environmental reports have been prepared directly related to this proposal.

The environmental impact statements for the Villages Master Planned Development and the Lawson Hill Master Planned Development (December 2009) have information related to sewer service in Black Diamond.

Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

The Ten Trails and Lawson Hills Master Planned Development Projects are approved and are under construction.

A King County sewer capacity project is in the design phase.

No other specific applications for governmental approvals of other proposals are known at this time.

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

No other government approval is needed for approval of the City of Black Diamond General Sewer Plan other than the City of Black Diamond City Council approval.

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 the project description.)

The City of Black Diamond General Sewer Plan defines the concept for collecting sewage within the City of Black Diamond, projects the amount of expected sewage growth, identifies the major implementing projects, assesses the financing of the major projects, and suggests policies to the City Council for consideration.

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 City of Black Diamond General Sewer Plan covers the entire City limits excluding the sewer service area in the northwest portion of the City (which is in the Soos Creek sewer service area)

B. Environmental Elements

1. Earth

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

NA

- b. **What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

NA

- c. **What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)?**

NA

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

NA

- e. **Describe the purpose, type, total area, approximate quantities, and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate the source of the fill.**

NA

- f. **Could erosion occur because of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

NA

- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

NA

- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any.**

Sections 1(a) through 1(h) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

2. Air

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.

NA

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

NA

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

Sections 2(a) through 2(c) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

3. Water

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.

NA

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.

NA

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.

Sections 3(a) through 3(d) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

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

No

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

No, there are no projects proposed within the 100-year floodplain.

6. **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

2.

No.

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

No

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.**

The Plan does not include any discharges of waste material into the ground.

c. Water Runoff (including stormwater):

- a) **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.**

None

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

Sewage overflow could occur during an emergency. The Plan includes an emergency action plan to remediate any overflows.

- c) **Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

No.

- d) **Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any.**

NA

4. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☐ deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☐ evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☐ shrubs
- ☐ grass
- ☐ pasture
- ☐ crop or grain
- ☐ 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?

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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

Sections 4(a) through 4(e) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

5. Animals

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.

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

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

Sections 5(a) through 5(e) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

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

NA

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

NA

- 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.**

Sections 6(a) through 6(e) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

7. Environmental Health

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

NA

- b. Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

NA

- c. 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.**

NA

- d. 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.**

NA

- e. Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

NA

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

Sections 7(a) through 7(e) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

b. Noise

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

NA

- 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)?**

NA

- 3. Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any.**

Sections b(1) through b(3) do not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- 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.

NA

- 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?

NA

- c. 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?

NA

- d. Describe any structures on the site.

NA

- e. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

NA

- f. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

NA

- g. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

NA

- h. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

NA

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

NA

- j. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

NA

- k. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

NA

I. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any.

NA

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

NA

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

Section 8 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

9. Housing

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

NA

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

NA

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any.**

Section 9 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

10. Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

NA

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

NA

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any.

Section 10 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

11. Light and Glare

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

NA

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

NA

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

NA

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any.

Section 11 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

12. Recreation

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

NA

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

NA

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

Section 12 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- 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.**

NA

- 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.**

NA

- 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.**

NA

- 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.**

Section 13 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

14. Transportation

- 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.**

NA

- 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?**

NA

- 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).**

NA

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

NA

- 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?**

NA

- 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.**

NA

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

Section 14 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

15. Public Services

- 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.**

NA

- b. **Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

Section 15 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

16. Utilities

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

NA

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.

Section 16 does not apply to the proposed adoption of Black Diamond's General Sewer Plan. Please refer to Section D, Supplemental Sheet for Non-Project Actions, which provides programmatic-level environmental impact information.

C. Signature

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Ervin', with a stylized, flowing script.

Type name of signee: Daniel R. Ervin, P.E.

Position and agency/organization: Varius Inc, Executive Vice President

Date submitted: 6/14/2023

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

IT IS NOT REQUIRED to use this section 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 General Sewer plan does not create, increase the amount or strength of sewage in Black Diamond but rather proposes the most efficient and environmentally sensitive way to collect sewage from the Black Diamond Urban Growth Area. The City collects the local sewage generated within the Black Diamond sewer service area and discharges the sewage to Regional King County Facilities for conveyance to and treatment at the Renton Treatment Sewage Treatment Plant.

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

The Black Diamond General Sewer Plan seeks to reduce the impact to sensitive areas by locating key features and collection points in gravel outwash areas and avoids as much as possible and practical the impacts to wetlands. As the City provides for a well-planned, maintained and efficient sewer collection system the plants, animals and fish will be in and around the urban area will be protected to a greater degree.

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

Although the City of Black Diamond is expected to grow, the General Sewer Plan proposes an efficient sewage pumping plan which avoids pumping sewage twice.

- 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 risk of sewer overflows into wetlands will be reduced by planning the major sewage collection point for the future growth of the city away from major wetlands and planning crossings where wetland or creeks are narrow. The General Sewer Plan also minimizes the discharge of sewage back to the Jones Lake core wetland area to avoid wetland impacts. Central Collection in the gravel outwash area of the City is a lower risk area to the

environment from potential sewer overflows. For the most part, new sewage collection lines will be within road rights of way. The City is encouraging King County to relocate the regional storage project to the western gravel outwash area.

- 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 General Sewer Plan supports the City's Comprehensive Plan which concentrates development in areas most compatible for development and preserves the most sensitive areas of the City.

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

As the City grows the General Sewer Plan will guide the City in developing an efficient high quality sewer collection system.

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

The Black Diamond General Sewer Plan does not conflict with any known local, state or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.