

# 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 [Find help answering background questions](#)

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

2023 General Sewer Plan Update

### 2. Name of applicant:

City of Newport

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

City of Newport  
200 S. Washington Avenue  
Newport, WA 99156

Contact: Abby Gribi, City Administrator: (509) 447-6496

### 4. Date checklist prepared:

January 30, 2024

### 5. Agency requesting checklist:

Department of Ecology

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

The 2023 General Sewer Plan Update evaluates the existing sewer system infrastructure and future improvements to be completed through 2041.

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

The Newport Wastewater Facility Plan is being prepared concurrent to this General Sewer Plan and includes capital improvement projects related to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) to be completed during the 20-year planning period (2041). The General Sewer Plan includes capital improvement projects related to the sewer collection system to be completed within the foreseeable future to address current and future deficiencies of the sewer system. The proposed improvement projects for the foreseeable future for the sewer system include the following:

Table 1. Proposed Improvements to the City of Newport Sewer System

Proposed Improvement	Year Anticipated
Lift Station on 8th (South Bench)	2025
Shared Side Sewer Elimination (Fir and Larch Blocks)	2025

<b>Proposed Improvement</b>	<b>Year Anticipated</b>
Union Avenue Railroad Crossing Upsizing	2025
Storm Pump Station (Spruce/Calispel)	2025
Replace manhole lids	2024
Address Stormwater at Low Areas (Fea, Cass, Alley)	2025
Replace Brick Manholes (15 EA)	2024
CIPP Sewer Main, MH 3100 to 2200	2027
Sewer Main Replacement, Various Locations	2033
Spot Repairs, Various Locations	2033
Install Grease Interceptor at Businesses	2025
Riverbend Pump Station Backup Generator	2026
Lift Station SCADA System (Riverbend & Calispel)	2027
Full System Cleaning, Additional Flow Monitoring and Pipe Camera Inspections to Identify Remaining Areas	2025
Other I&I Areas as Identified and Prioritized by Field Investigations	2027
Willow Ave Storm Drain Conveyance	2025

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

The current SEPA process is evaluating the general impacts associated with this plan and its projected changes to the City’s sewer system. Subsequent specific construction projects discussed in the plan will remain subject to environmental review as required under the State Environmental Policy Act.

**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.**

There are no known pending applications for government approval for proposals that would directly affect the City of Newport’s property covered under this proposal.

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

- General Sewer Plan Update approval – Washington State Department of Ecology
- City of Newport City Council Approval
- Approvals specific to the proposed improvements are not included and will be addressed in project specific SEPA Checklists, including coordination with U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and permitting with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) for work under the Pend Oreille Valley Railroad

**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.)**

The General Sewer Plan Update analyzed the existing Newport sewer system and proposed improvement projects based on future system demands, population growth, and land use. The proposed future capital improvements consist of a combination of system expansion projects, development driven capacity projects,

inflow and infiltration mitigation projects, effluent loading projects, and lift station operational improvement projects. Table 1 above identifies the proposed improvements to the Newport sewer system.

**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 General Sewer Plan Update would involve proposed improvements to the wastewater collection system in Newport, Pend Oreille County, Washington. The location of the proposed improvements is within the existing sewer service area boundary. The improvements are contained to Sections 13 and 24, Township 31 and Range 45 East and Sections 18 and 19, Township 31 and Range 46 East. The limits of the service boundary are illustrated in Figure 1-1 which is included as Attachment 1. Minor rehabilitation work includes spot repairs of existing damaged pipes and manholes. This minor rehabilitation work would occur in the public right-of-way (ROW) throughout the service area boundary. Larger projects that upsize or expand an existing facility, or provide a new facility are shown in Attachment 2.

## **B. Environmental Elements**

### **1. Earth [Find help answering earth questions](#)**

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

The proposed improvements would generally occur within the existing roadway ROW and City-owned property; however, inflow and infiltration improvements would occur adjacent to USFS land. The affected geographic area encompasses on both developed and undeveloped land with a variety of land uses. The terrain in the affected geographic area is generally flat with forested areas, as well as upland species, and ornamental vegetation.

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

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

The more developed portion of Newport has slopes ranging from 1 to 6%. The surrounding hills have slopes greater than 10%; however, work would not occur in these areas.

#### **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.**

Five soil types occur within the affected geographic area: Bonner gravelly silt loam; Mobate-Rock outcrop complex; Orwig sandy loam; Scotia fine sandy loam; and Uncas muck. Soils within the affected geographic area are classified as prime farmland if irrigated and farmland of statewide importance. Soils maps are contained in Attachment 3.

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

There are no indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity.

**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.**

The proposed improvement projects would likely require fill material and grading. Final designs have not been prepared for the proposed improvements; however, the final grades associated with the proposed improvements would likely match the existing grades.

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

Erosion is not anticipated to occur as a result of construction, due to the flat topography and pre-disturbed pipe trenches.

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

Minimal to no impervious surfaces would be added as a result of the proposed improvements because a majority of the proposed improvements are situated in areas that are either already paved or already developed with existing sewer system infrastructure.

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

Best Management Practices (BMPs) such as silt fencing, straw wattles, or catch basin inlet protection would likely be utilized for applicable projects to minimize erosion.

**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.**

Temporary, minor air emissions associated with fugitive dust and emission from internal combustion engines would be generated during the construction phase of the capital improvements.

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

There are no known off-site sources of emissions or odors that would affect the proposed improvements.

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

During construction of the proposed improvements, dust would be controlled by water within the disturbed areas. Properly functioning construction equipment would be used to control air emissions.

### 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 Pend Oreille River is approximately 1,320 feet west of the affected geographic area. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) identified lacustrine habitat associated with the Pend Oreille River approximately 1,320 feet to the west of the affected geographic area (Attachment 4).

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.**

Although final designs for the proposed improvement projects are not complete, the proposed improvements would not occur within or adjacent to the Pend Oreille River.

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.**

No fill or dredge material is anticipated to be placed in or removed from surface waters or wetlands.

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

The proposed improvements are not anticipated to require surface water withdrawal or diversions.

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

The proposed improvements would occur in areas of minimal flood hazard (Zone X) (see FEMA FIRM in Attachment 5).

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.**

The proposed improvements are not anticipated to involve any discharges to surface waters.

#### 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.**

Groundwater would not be withdrawn under the proposal. Water would not be discharged into groundwater.

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.**

No waste material would be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources.

**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.**

Stormwater runoff created within the affected geographic area by the proposed improvements is expected to use the same methods that currently exist in the service area. Several roadways would be regraded to remove existing low points centered over sewer manhole lids. Adjacent existing drywells would be restored to receive flow redirected from the regraded roadways. Water collected by a basement sump drain and disposed of in the City's sewer collection system would be redirected to dispose of drainage in a drywell.

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

Fuel or oil from construction equipment could enter ground or surface waters if there was a spill during construction. BMPs would be used to control and clean up any spills.

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

The proposed improvements are not anticipated to alter or affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site.

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

During construction, the contractor would be required to have and follow a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plan identifying all fueling and equipment storage locations, as applicable. These designated locations would be situated in such a way that any spill or contamination could be readily identified and cleaned up.

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

**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?**

The proposed improvements would generally occur within the existing roadway ROW; however, the proposed improvement may require some vegetation disturbance. Specific information will be presented as each recommended project is undertaken.

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

According to the USFWS Information Planning and Consultation (IPaC) System, no threatened or endangered plant species have the potential occur within the affected geographic area (Attachment 6). The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Priority Habitat and Species (PHS) database did not identify any records of occurrence of threatened or endangered plant species in the affected geographic area (Attachment 7).

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

Post-construction, disturbed areas would be hydroseeded. The proposed improvements would not include any landscaping measures to preserve or enhance vegetation in the affected geographic area.

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

The Pend Oreille County Noxious Weed Control Board identified 36 noxious weeds that exist in Pend Oreille County and are designated for mandatory control: bighead knapweed (*Centaurea macrocephala*), clary sage (*Salvia sclarea*), flowering rush (*Butomus umbellatus*), vochin knapweed (*Centaurea nigrescens*), annual bugloss (*Lycopsis arvensis*), black knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), butterfly bush (*Buddleja davidii*), common bugloss (*Anchusa officianalis*), common reed (*Phragmites australis*), eurasian watermilfoil (*Myriophyllum spicatum*), herb Robert (*Geranium robertianum*), knotweeds (*Fallopia* spp.), kochia (*Bassia scoparia*), leafy spurge (*Euphorbia virgata*), garden loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*), loosestrife (*Lythrum* spp.), meadow knapweed (*Centaurea gerslaueri*), musk thistle (*Carduus nutans*), myrtle spurge (*Euphorbia myrsinites*), perennial pepperweed (*Lepodium latifolium*), plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*), policeman's helmet (*Impatiens glandulifera*), rush skeletonweed (*Chondrilla juncea*), saltcedar (*Tamrix ramossissima*), scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), scotch thistle (*Onopordum anacantium*), spruce laurel (*Daphne laureola*), tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), viper's bugloss (*Echium vulgare*), yellow starthistle (*Centaurea solstitialis*), babysbreath (*Gypsophila paniculata*), buffalobur (*Solanum rostratum*), common catsear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), English ivy (*Hedera* spp.), wild carrot (*Caucus carota*), and yellow flag iris (*Iris pseudacorus*).

**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.**

- Birds: Songbirds
- Mammals: Deer

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

According to the USFWS IPaC System, yellow-billed cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*), bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), and monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) have potential to exist within the affected geographic area (Attachment 6). The WDFW PHS database did not identify records of occurrence for any federally-listed



threatened or endangered species; however, a record of occurrence for Townsend’s big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*), a Washington State candidate species, or its habitat was identified at the township level (Attachment 7).

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

The WDFW PHS database identified the Pend Oreille River as part of waterfowl concentration priority area, which includes a migratory waterfowl resting area and a waterfowl nesting area along the shorelines (Attachment 7).

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

No measures are proposed to preserve or enhance wildlife.

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

No invasive species are known to be on or near the affected geographic area.

**6. 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.**

Electrical energy would be used to meet the completed proposal’s energy needs, including providing power for the lift station and pump stations for the sewer system. Diesel generators are used for portions of the system during emergency situations of power outages.

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

No, the proposed improvements would not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

**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.**

No energy conservation features are included in the proposed improvements.

**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.**

No environmental health hazards could occur as a result of the proposed improvements.

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

The Department of Ecology (DOE) “What’s In My Neighborhood?” application identified one cleanup site (Country Farm Supply) within the affected geographic area. The identified cleanup site has been cleaned up and requires no further action.

**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.**

The DOE Facility/Site database identified one site within the affected geographic area. The Country Farm Supply was identified as a leaking underground storage tank, but the site was cleaned up and requires no further action as of 2011. No existing hazardous chemicals or conditions would affect the project development or design.

**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.**

The proposed improvements would handle sewage. Fuel and oil for construction equipment would be used during construction.

**4. Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

No special emergency services would be required for the proposed improvements.

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

Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards include the implementation of BMPs, the use of construction observation, and the implementation of a SPCC Plan during construction, as appropriate.

**b. Noise**

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

Current noise in the area is related to traffic noise; the current noise in the area would not affect the proposed improvements.

**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)?**

Construction would produce short-term noise from diesel-powered equipment (i.e., excavator). The proposed improvements include submersible pumps housed in a below grade wet well, eliminating noise impacts from mechanical equipment under normal operation. Onsite backup gensets would create noise pollution; however, they are reserved for emergency usage during a power outage.

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

Construction activities would be limited to daytime working hours, likely 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Noise would also be minimized by maintaining properly functioning mufflers on equipment.

**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.**

Within the footprint of the proposed improvements, land use consists of existing sewer system infrastructure and/or roadway ROW. There are also portions of the affected geographic area that occur within undeveloped forested areas and intersect with a public park (i.e., Mullen Park). The forested areas are owned by the USFS.

**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?**

Lands adjacent to the proposed improvements are currently in use for pasture; however, the pasture lands would not be disturbed and the proposal is not anticipated to convert working farmlands. The affected geographic area is adjacent to USFS land; however, no improvements would occur on the USFS land. A portion of the public ROW where stormwater runoff is conveyed through a ditch, eventually flows to a pond on USFS land. The proposed improvements would potentially redirect some additional stormwater to this public ditch and subsequently to the pond. But no ground disturbance or construction activities would occur on USFS land; therefore, the proposal is not anticipated to convert working forest lands.

**1. Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?**

No, the proposed project would not be affected by surrounding working farmlands or forest lands.

**c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Several structures are located throughout the affected geographic area. Existing sewer system structures include gravity sewer pipes, manhole and cleanout structures, and lift stations with associated forcemains.

**d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

No structures would be demolished as part of the proposed improvements.

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

The zoning classification varies throughout the sewer service area, including residential, commercial, industrial, and public facilities. The affected geographic area would primarily occur in roadway ROW; however, portions of the affected geographic area are also open area (not zoned), residential, and public facilities.

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

Under the City of Newport Comprehensive Plan, the service area contains a wide variety of land use designations.

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

The affected geographic area is not designated under a shoreline master program.

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

The affected geographic area has not been classified as a critical area by the city or county.

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

The proposed improvements are not anticipated to change the number of individuals working on the Public Works facilities.

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

The proposed improvements would not displace any individuals.

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

No measures are proposed to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, as no impacts are anticipated.

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

Implementing any of the recommended projects in the General Sewer Plan Update would be subject to local review regarding land use planning. The proposed capital improvement projects are expected to be compatible with existing and projected land use plans.

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

Lands adjacent to the proposed improvements are currently in use for pasture; however, the pasture lands would not be disturbed by the proposal. The affected geographic area is adjacent to USFS land; however, no improvements would occur on the USFS land. A portion of the public ROW where stormwater runoff is conveyed through a ditch, eventually flows to a pond on USFS land. The proposed improvements would potentially redirect some additional stormwater to this public ditch and subsequently to the pond. But no ground disturbance or construction activities would occur on USFS land; therefore, the proposal is not anticipated to impact forest lands of long-term commercial significance. Given, the proposed improvements would not impact agricultural or forest lands of long-term commercial significance; no measures to reduce or control agricultural and forest land impacts are proposed.

**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.**

The proposed improvements would not provide housing units.

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

The proposed improvements would not eliminate housing units.

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

The proposed improvements would not result in any housing impacts; therefore, no measures to reduce or control housing impacts are proposed.

## **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?**

Proposed structures for the lift station and pump station include a small structure to protect electrical equipment. The designs have not been completed for the proposed structure, but this structure would likely be a metal roof spanning across two steel columns, a small concrete masonry unit (CMU) building, or a small timber framed structure.

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

No views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed by the proposed improvements.

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

The proposed improvements would not result in aesthetic impacts; therefore, no measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts are proposed.

## **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?**

Proposed pump stations would include site lighting adequate to illuminate the site should operators need to respond to an emergency in the dark.

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

Light or glare from the finished improvements is not anticipated to be a safety hazard or interfere with views.

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

No off-site sources of light or glare would affect the proposed improvements.

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

The proposed improvements are anticipated to result in minor light and glare impacts onsite. New sources of light would be consistent with existing lighting in the affected geographic area.

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

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

Several parks and recreational opportunities are present throughout the City of Newport.

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

No, the proposed improvements would not displace any existing recreational uses.

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

The proposed improvements are not expected to impact recreation; therefore, no measures to reduce or control recreation impacts are proposed.

**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.**

The Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's WISAARD database was consulted to identify any listed or eligible buildings, structures, or sites located within the future service area. The WISAARD database identified four sites that are eligible for listing on the National Historic Register of Places (NRHP) in the future service area, however none of the proposed improvements would occur in the vicinity of the eligible sites (i.e., affected geographic area). Based on the predictive model in WISAARD, the majority of the City of Newport contains areas that are Very High Risk and High Risk of discovering cultural resources, and a survey is highly advised. Cultural and historic resources will be evaluated for each proposed capital improvement project.

- 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.**

The Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's WISAARD database was consulted to identify any listed or eligible buildings, structures, or sites located within the future service area. The WISAARD database identified four sites that are eligible for listing on the NRHP in the future service area, however none of the proposed improvements would occur in the vicinity of the eligible sites (i.e., affected geographic area). Based on the predictive model in WISAARD, the majority of the City of Newport contains areas that are Very High Risk and High Risk of discovering cultural resources, and a survey is highly advised. Cultural and historic resources will be evaluated for each proposed capital improvement project.

- 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.**

The Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's WISAARD database was consulted to identify any architectural or archaeological resources within the affected geographic area. Historical and cultural areas will be avoided, if at all possible. An archaeological survey will be conducted on project sites for cultural resources, as required. All required consultation will be followed. An inadvertent discovery plan will be implemented during construction.

- 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.**

Historical and cultural areas will be avoided, if at all possible. An archaeological survey will be conducted on project sites for cultural resources, as required. All required consultation will be followed. An inadvertent

discovery plan will be implemented during construction. Specific mitigation measures will be evaluated for each proposed capital improvement project, as needed.

#### **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.**

The affected geographic area for the sewer system is serviced by a number of public streets owned by the City of Newport.

- 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?**

The affected geographic area is not served by public transit. The nearest public transport service is the Kalispel Tribal Transit, which is managed by the Kalispel Tribe and provides public transportation from Kalispel Park, located in Cusick, Washington (approximately 16 miles northwest of Newport) to the Pend Oreille Skill Center, located at Newport High School, approximately 1.05 miles from the closest portion of the proposed improvements. The Kalispel Tribal Transit service is available to all residents of Newport.

- 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).**

Sewer pipe replacement would require pavement replacement on public streets.

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

The proposed improvements would not use or occur in the immediate vicinity of water or air transportation. However, the proposed improvements would abandon or remove the existing Pend Oreille Valley Railroad crossing and install a new railroad crossing for the South Union Avenue railroad crossing. The proposed improvements would also rehabilitate the trunk along the Union Avenue and Pend Oreille Valley Railroad. The proposal would not impact the railroad itself, but a pipe would be bored, or utilize another method, beneath the existing railroad and in same place as the current crossing.

- 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?**

The number of vehicular trips per day generated by the proposed improvements would be infrequent and negligible. Vehicular trips would be associated with routine inspection and maintenance activities required by public works personnel.

- 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.**

Traffic control would be used for any road closures required by the proposed improvements. There would be no inference on public roads or streets following the construction of the proposed improvements.

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

Traffic control plans approved by State and local agencies would be prepared for each project. Any required coordination with the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad company would be complete prior to construction, and appropriate measures would be followed as stipulated by the railroad.

**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, the proposed improvements would not result in an increased need for public services.

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

There would be no impacts to public services; therefore, no measures to reduce or control impacts are proposed.

**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: internet**

**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.**

No new utilities are proposed under the improvements. The proposed project would only upgrade and expand the existing utilities.

**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.

 Recoverable Signature

 Abby Gribi

Signed by: 36a5b2fd-0fad-40c1-b1c4-6d714cb8e1da

**Type name of signee: Abby Gribi**

**Position and agency/organization: Newport City Administrator**

**Date submitted: 2/2/2024**



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

**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 improvement projects proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update would temporarily increase the potential for discharge to water, air emissions, the release of hazardous substances, and the production of noise during construction.

- **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:**

BMPs would be implemented during construction of the proposed improvements to minimize and avoid impacts to water, air, hazardous materials, and noise. BMPs include, but are not limited to, the following: erosion control measures; implementation of a SPCC Plan; construction observation; properly functioning construction equipment; and, established daytime working hours.

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

The improvement projects proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update would temporarily impact plants and animals in the affected geographic area during construction. Temporary impacts would be associated with noise and ground disturbance during construction. The majority of construction would occur in the roadway ROW and areas previously disturbed by sewer system infrastructure; therefore, permanent impacts to vegetation to habitat are expected to be minimal.

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

BMPs would be implemented during construction of the proposed improvements to minimize and avoid impacts to plants, animals, fish and marine life. BMPs include, but are not limited to, the following: erosion control measures; implementation of a SPCC Plan; construction observation; properly functioning construction equipment; and, established daytime working hours.

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

Electrical energy would be used to meet the completed project's energy needs, including providing power for the lift station and pump station. The proposed improvements would use a minor amount of energy and are not expected to deplete energy or natural resources.

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

No measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update.

**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 improvement projects proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update are unlikely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated for governmental protection. The proposed improvements would primarily occur in the existing roadway ROW or areas previously disturbed by sewer system infrastructure.

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

The proposed improvements would avoid sensitive areas or designated for governmental protection, whenever feasible. An inadvertent discovery plan for cultural resources would be implemented during construction. Any necessary mitigation would be implemented, whenever necessary.

**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 improvement projects proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update would not allow or encourage land or shoreline uses that are incompatible with existing plans. The proposed projects would improve the existing sewer system infrastructure and would primarily occur within the existing roadway ROW.

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

Given that the proposed improvements are not anticipated to allow or encourage incompatible land or shoreline use, no measures are proposed to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts.

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

The improvement projects proposed under the Newport General Sewer Plan Update would not increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities.

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

No measures are proposed to reduce or respond to demand increases.

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

The preparation of the Newport General Sewer Plan Update is required by state requirements. The Newport General Sewer Plan Update was prepared to ensure compliance with all local, state, or federal laws or requirements.