SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Background [HELP]

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Kittitas Reclamation District Tributary Supplementation Program – North Branch Canal Above I-90, Johnson to Stevens Road

2. Name of applicant:

Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD)

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

Kittitas Reclamation District
Contact: Urban Eberhart
315 N Water St.
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 925-6158

4. Date checklist prepared:

September 8, 2022

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Kittitas Reclamation District

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

Work will occur from October 2022 – March 2024 while irrigation water is off and the canals are dry. If work is needed over multiple years, the timing will be the same seasonal months (October to March) sequentially by year.

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

Improvements to the North Branch Canal are in support of the on-going KRD Conservation Program and Tributary Supplementation Project. There is the potential for other segments of similar North Branch Canal improvements. If funded, these projects will undergo separate SEPA review and approvals.

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

The North Branch Canal Above I-90 Project (Project) is directly related to the conservation objectives of the Yakima Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (YBIP) as outlined in the US Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) and Department of Ecology (Ecology) 2012 Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. The Project meets the YBIP objective - *Enhanced Water Conservation*.

Documentation that has been prepared directly related to this proposal includes:

- **Section 106 Cultural Resources Assessment (Jacobs 2022)**

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.

NEPA Categorical Exemption checklist (to be completed by Reclamation).

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

Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Letter of Concurrence with Section 106

11. Give 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 Project includes lining approximately 1.1 miles of earthen canal with concrete, re-lining approximately 0.2 miles of existing lining near Johnson Siphon, installing fencing on either side of the canal within the existing right-of-way (ROW) and construction of an overflow pipe near the Johnson Siphon at the south end of the Project. This Project is a continuation of the first lining project on the North Branch Canal started in 2016 and would line the North Branch Canal from Stevens Road at the north end of the Project to the Johnson Siphon at the south end. The new overflow pipeline will convey excess flows of up to 50 cubic feet per second to the existing siphon spillway and will be constructed entirely within KRD ROW.

There are three potential staging areas that may be used during construction—one along the North Branch Canal near Boylston Road to the south of Interstate 90 (Staging Area 1), one southwest of the Johnson Creek Siphon Inlet (Staging Area 2) which will be used primarily as a turn-around for Project vehicles and equipment, and a third area (Staging Area 3) west of the canal near milepost 30.6. Staging Areas 1 and 2 are already in use for similar activities.

The purpose of this Project is to implement the goals and objectives of the KRD Tributary Supplementation Project, which provides benefits for fish, wildlife, and the environment through a water conservation program that restores instream flows in over-appropriated or flow-impaired tributaries to the Upper Yakima River. Implementing measures designed to reduce canal seepage allows the previously lost water to be delivered to the Yakima River, providing immediate instream benefits to the Yakima River basin and downstream water users.

The Project will allow more instream flows to reach the Yakima River during the irrigation season (spring through fall) when flows are most beneficial to Endangered Species Act-listed species. The Project implements conservation measures that are in line with the goals of the YBIP and KRD tributary supplementation program which was spearheaded by the KRD in partnership with the Yakama Nation, Washington State, and federal agencies to use KRD infrastructure to aid threatened and endangered fishes during periods of drought. Increasing efficiency within the canal will allow for a greater amount of tributary supplementation, if necessary, during future drought years, and immediate instream benefits in the Yakima River basin.

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 Project is located along the eastern side of the Kittitas Valley, approximately 5 miles east of the city of Kittitas, Washington. The Project is located in Sections 14, 15, and 22 of Township 17 North, Range 20 East, Willamette Meridian. The Project lining will follow the existing canal alignment for a distance of approximately 1.4 miles from Stevens Road at milepost 30.0 at 47.0454470°N, 120.3640927°W at the north end of the Project to milepost 31.5 near the Johnson Siphon at 46.9575046°N, 120.3032713°W at the south end of the Project. Fencing will follow the canal starting at the Stevens Road crossing and extending south to the Johnson Siphon.

Three staging areas will be utilized for the Project. Staging Area 1 is located along the North Branch Canal near Boylston Road to the south of Interstate 90 at 46.9550699°N, 120.3095032°W. Staging Area 2 is located southwest of the Johnson Siphon Inlet at 46.9567316°N, 120.3054684°W. Staging Area 3 is located west of the canal at 46.9645439°N, 120.3020340°W. The width of the Project limits will encompass the entire North Branch Canal ROW, which is on an easement, and the three potential staging areas.

See the Vicinity and Project Extent maps (Attachment 1).

B. Environmental Elements [HELP]

1. Earth [help]

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): **Flat**, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____

The Project footprint is relatively flat within the canal, but the Project corridor crosses through hilly terrain, and rolling slopes.

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

25 percent.

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.

None of the soils in the Project area are considered prime or unique farmland. The Project will not alter or remove nearby soils classified as farmland of statewide importance. As mapped by the Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey, soils in the Project area include:

Soil Unit	Farmland of Statewide Importance	Percent of Study Area
Manastash-Durtash complex, 5 to 10 percent slopes	Yes	38.3%
Argixerolls, 15 to 30 percent slopes	Yes	31.2%
Selah loam, 5 to 10 percent slopes	Yes	18.3%
Terlan-Durtash-Selah complex, 5 to 15 percent slopes	No	11.3%
Grinrod-Horseflat-Rubble land complex, 30 to 75 percent slopes	No	0.8%

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

No.

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.

Prior to applying the liner, the interior of the canal will be reshaped to its original design as the interior has subsided/smoothed out in the past 90 years. This involves skinning the existing canal surface with 4 inches on the sides and up to 10 inches on the bottom. A 108-foot-long partial section of shotcrete from the 1980s will be removed near Johnson Siphon. Gravel will be placed under the concrete lining and used for bedding, which will be obtained from nearby commercially-available and permitted gravel pits or screened on site. Excavated material that cannot be incorporated into the Project will be hauled offsite to an approved location. A geomembrane lining will be placed and keyed into the canal, which will then be covered in approximately 3 to 6 inches of concrete to prevent punctures to the geomembrane. Underdrains will be installed up to 2 feet below the existing canal, where a 2- by 2-foot trench will be excavated prior to installation.

An overflow pipe will be installed at the south end of the Project and will carry flow from the North Branch Canal to the Johnson Spillway. The overflow pipe will be constructed within KRD ROW beneath the existing ditchrider road.

Additionally, three locations may be used as staging areas to support construction. There is potential for limited filling and grading to adequately prepare Staging Area 2.

The Project will require approximately 100 cubic yards (cy) of excavation and 6,800 cy of fill in the dry canal. Material quantities are approximate and subject to change based on conditions encountered during construction.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Minimal erosion is possible for the Project after clearing and grubbing work commences. Best management practices (BMPs) for erosion/sediment control will be in place to mitigate any possible erosion during construction. There will be no increase in erosion from the long-term use of the system. Additionally, most of the Project area within 75 feet of the canal has been significantly disturbed by construction and canal maintenance, cutting and grading access roads, associated infrastructure, and road crossings.

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

The existing earthen North Branch Canal will be lined with concrete and approximately 12,670 square yards of impervious membrane. Three to 6 inches of concrete will cover the geomembrane.

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

A Project-specific Water Quality and Erosion and Sediment Control Plan is required for the Project. Disturbed areas will be replanted with native vegetation or approved species. Project-specific BMPs will be implemented to avoid and prevent any erosion associated with construction.

2. Air [help]

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.

Typical construction activities are expected to cause minor and temporary increases in fugitive dust and exhaust. The completed Project will not result in increased traffic volumes or air emissions.

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

No.

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

Dust control measures during construction, such as watering exposed soil or road surfaces, placing clean rock on road surfaces, or other commercial dust abatement applications to road surfaces will be implemented as needed. Machinery, equipment, and support vehicles used for the Project will be maintained in proper working order and shut off when not in use to keep emissions within applicable air quality guidelines.

3. Water [help]

a. Surface Water: [help]

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 North Branch Canal is the main surface waterbody within the Project area and was constructed in uplands for the purpose of irrigation water conveyance. Lateral 30.4 and several ditches branch off the east side of the NB Canal at the northern end of the Project. The National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) also shows a perennial swamp/marsh paralleling the canal north of Staging Area 3, opposite the turnouts for lateral 30.4. Johnson Creek flows along the southern perimeter of Staging Area 2 but is outside the Project area.

The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) maps three wetlands within 1,000 feet of the Project area. These wetlands are down-gradient of the canal and were artificially created due to seepage loss from the existing unlined North Branch Canal and are not hydrologically connected to a jurisdictional waterbody, therefore the wetlands are not jurisdictional. Additionally, NWI maps riverine wetlands associated with the canal and nearby irrigation channels.

This Project will improve the efficiency of the North Branch Canal and may result in loss of hydrology to adjacent wetlands. Artificially irrigated areas that would revert to dryland should application of water to that area cease are not considered Waters of the United States. These wetlands may experience reduced groundwater due to reduced infiltration loss from the canal system; however, no mitigation is required per the Army Corps of Engineers and Ecology's guidance pertaining to loss of wetlands due to improved water conservation.

This canal lining Project will allow more instream flows within the Yakima River during the irrigation season (spring through fall) when flows are most beneficial to ESA-listed species and other water users by decreasing water lost from canals due to seepage. These conservation measures are in line with the goals of the YBIP and KRD Tributary Supplementation Program which was spearheaded by the KRD in partnership with the Yakama Nation, Washington State, and

federal agencies to improve KRD infrastructure to aid threatened anadromous fish during periods of drought. Increasing efficiency within the canals will allow for a greater amount of tributary supplementation if necessary, during future drought years, and immediate instream benefits in the Yakima River basin.

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.

The Project will occur within the non-jurisdictional, existing North Branch Canal when irrigation is turned off (October – March) and there is no water within the canal. There will be no impacts to drainages and wetlands within 200 feet of the project; however, appropriate BMPs will be implemented to avoid unanticipated impacts to nearby aquatic resources.

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 filling or dredging will occur within any wetlands or adjacent aquatic resources. All excavation and placement of material will occur within the existing alignments of the North Branch Canal.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give 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.

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.

No.

b. Ground Water: [help]

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 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 (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

N/A.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Runoff during construction will be managed by using approved BMPs to contain all sedimentation and prevent discharge to adjacent drainages and wetlands. After construction, all disturbed areas and roadsides will be reseeded to prevent any long-term impacts.

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

No.

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

Lining this section of the North Branch Canal will reduce infiltration loss from the existing KRD canal system. Under existing conditions, the earthen canal in this reach has an estimated infiltration loss of 1,110.2 acre-feet of water per year. Based on the location of the canal on elevated slopes above the Kittitas Valley floor, it is likely this infiltration loss has historically provided surface water to down-gradient wetlands where at least some of the hydrology was lost through evapotranspiration. The remaining water associated with infiltration loss would have infiltrated and may have provided recharge benefit to shallow groundwater. There is the potential that some of this groundwater recharge would eventually reach the Yakima River; however, this return of hydrology to the system would be less than what was lost through infiltration. Water retained in the canal that would have otherwise infiltrated would be "retimed" such that the return of flows to the river would be months after it was lost from the canal system.

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

The Project will not impact drainage patterns. Improvements to undershots and underdrains on the North Branch Canal will occur when the canal is dry to limit impacts to nearby surface water. Approved BMPs will be in place in the event a precipitation event results in short duration runoff of surface water during construction. BMPs will contain all sediment and prevent discharge to adjacent drainages and wetlands. After construction, all disturbed areas and roadsides will be reseeded to prevent any long-term impacts.

4. Plants [help]

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

____deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
____evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
__X__shrubs
__X__grass
__X__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
__X_other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

Grasses, weedy species, and potentially upland shrubs surrounding the canal and roadside may be removed during the Project. Because replanting or seeding of native species will occur in disturbed areas after construction is complete, impacts to vegetation will be minimal.

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

A population of pauper milkvetch (*Astragalus misellus* var. *pauper*) has been documented on the shrub-steppe slope west of the Project. This species occurs in relatively undisturbed shrub steppe habitat. The Project will occur within the existing KRD ROW and most of the Project area within 75 feet of the canal has been significantly disturbed by construction and canal maintenance, cutting and grading access roads, associated infrastructure, and road crossings. A field visit occurred in 2022 to verify suitable habitat for pauper milkvetch does not occur within the disturbance limits. The Project will not impact any threatened or endangered plant species.

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

Disturbed areas will be replanted or reseeded with approved native species.

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

Cheatgrass and tumble mustard.

5. Animals [help]

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

Examples include:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other:
fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other:

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

None.

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

No.

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

This water conservation project meets objectives of the Yakima River Basin Integrated Plan by enhancing the instream flow of the Yakima River and improving the quality of the water that is discharged from the irrigation system into the Yakima River. This will lead to improved aquatic habitat. In addition, KRD will provide enhanced protection through adding additional livestock fencing around the perimeter of the canal where necessary.

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

None.

6. Energy and Natural Resources [help]

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.

None.

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

No.

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:

As a component of the greater water conservation project, this Project will ultimately contribute to significant energy savings by increasing irrigation water deliverance efficiency and reducing inadvertent loss of water throughout the system.

7. Environmental Health [help]

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

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

One Department of Ecology facility/site (ID 3339) occurs on the parcel west of the canal south of Stevens Road at Staging Area 3. The site was a hazardous waste generator (EPA Site ID WAH000059085) associated with a wrecking yard. There is no known contamination in the Project vicinity. Ground disturbance is not anticipated at this site.

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.

None.

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.

Toxic or hazardous chemicals that may be on-site during construction include but are not limited to vehicle and equipment fuel, oil, and hydraulic fluid. Equipment staging and fueling will occur more than 50 feet from wetlands and adjacent drainages.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

It is not anticipated that special emergency services will be required.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

These actions are not anticipated to create an environmental health hazard. Appropriate BMPs for spill prevention will be in place, and clean up measures will be taken if necessary.

b. Noise

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

None.

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.

Equipment associated with construction such as backhoes, bulldozers, and excavators will raise noise levels during construction. Construction will take place from approximately 8 am to 5 pm on weekdays. Noise levels will return to previous levels upon completion of the Project.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Equipment will be operational during normal working days and during daylight hours and shut off when not in use.

8. Land and Shoreline Use [help]

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.

Currently the site is the KRD North Branch Canal and access roads. Adjacent properties are used for agriculture and rural residences.

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 as a result 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?

No, the site has not been used as farmland or forest lands and no agricultural or farmland will be converted to another use as a result of the Project.

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 Project will not affect or be affected by normal farm or business operations in the area.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

Structures on the site are associated with the North Branch Canal and include turnouts for laterals, Johnson Siphon which carries the canal under I-90 and Johnson Siphon Spillway at the southern end of the Project, KRD access roads, security gates, a Reclamation gage station, footbridge, cattle guards on the KRD access roads and several road crossings over the canal.

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

No.

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

The North Branch Canal and staging areas are zoned as Agriculture 20.

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

The project area is within the Rural Working land use designation.

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

There are no designated shorelines within the project area.

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

Per the County critical areas ordinance (Title 17A of the Kittitas County Code), wetlands are critical areas. The North Branch Canal was constructed in uplands for the purpose of irrigation water conveyance. The National Wetland Inventory shows several wetlands down-gradient of the Project. These wetlands are artificially created due to infiltration loss from the canal. Field surveys conducted in April 2022 confirmed no wetlands are present within the Project area, including staging areas. No dredge or fill activities are proposed in wetlands or jurisdictional Waters of the State.

No other critical areas are known to occur within the Project area.

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

None.

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

None.

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

N/A.

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

This area is primarily used for agriculture and the project will enhance the continuation of this land use.

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

N/A

9. Housing *[help]*

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

None.

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

None.

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

None.

10. Aesthetics *[help]*

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

Standard fencing will be installed along either side of the canal within the ROW.

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

Addition of the fence around the canal and construction of the overflow pipe near the Johnson Siphon Spillway are the only alterations to views associated with the project. The fence will be visible from Stevens Road to the east of the Project. Johnson siphon is visible from I-90, Boylston Road and the Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail which passes near the Project.

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

Work will occur primarily within the existing North Branch canal and along existing access roads. Once construction is complete, disturbed areas will be seeded.

11. Light and Glare [help]

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

No light or glare producing activity is proposed.

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

No.

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

None.

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

None.

12. Recreation [help]

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

The Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail crosses I-90 southwest of the Project. The Project will not inhibit access to or use of the trail.

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

No.

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

N/A

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation [help]

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.

There are a total of five cultural resources within or near the Project area. Of the five resources, three cultural resources (the Milwaukee Road Bridge EE-320 (48659) and archaeological sites 45KT1081 and 45KT2126) occur within or near (200 feet) the Project area that have not previously been evaluated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). There are an additional 16 cultural resources within 1 mile of the Project. The 36-mile-long North Branch Canal (4217) was previously inventoried and evaluated by Reclamation and determined eligible for listing on the NRHP in 2016. Johnson Creek Wasteway and Siphon Spillway (727048) was inventoried and evaluated as determined eligible for listing on the NRHP). 45KT1081 was originally

recorded as a lithic quarry site and was inventoried and evaluated and determined not eligible for listing on the NRHP.

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.

In 2021 and 2022 Jacobs archaeologists conducted pedestrian surveys and an assessment of canal features in the Project area. One archaeological site occurs within the Project area. This site was assessed in 2021 by Jacobs archaeologists and recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP. Jacobs archaeologists and historians conducted background research and field survey, recorded and evaluated cultural resources older than 50 years of age for listing on the NRHP, and authored the Cultural Resources Assessment.

The Johnson Creek Wasteway and Siphon Spillway is the only built environment resource within the Project area and is recommended eligible for listing on the NRHP.

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.

Methods are described in the Section 106 Cultural Resources Assessment.

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.

None are anticipated. The Project site is in the existing KRD ROW and has been previously disturbed.

14. Transportation [help]

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.

Access to the Project site and Staging Area 2 will be from the existing KRD access road that parallels the canal. Access to Staging Area 1 will be from Boylston Road. Both Stevens Road and Boylston Road are maintained by Kittitas County. Access to Staging Area 3 will be from an existing gravel road on the western side of the canal.

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?

No. The nearest transit stop is in the City of Ellensburg, approximately 10 miles to the west.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

None.

d. 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).

The project will require slight modifications to the KRD access road to allow large equipment access. This is a private road that will not affect public use. No modifications to public roads are proposed.

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

No.

f. 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 non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

There will be no increase in vehicular trips per day associated with the completed Project.

g. 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.

No.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

The Project will have no transportation impacts.

15. Public Services [help]

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.

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

The Project will not impact public services.

16. Utilities [help]

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

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.

Electrical power will be necessary for construction of the Project, as well as for contractor and construction manager trailers, and potentially pumps. No new utilities are proposed for this Project.

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.

Signature: 

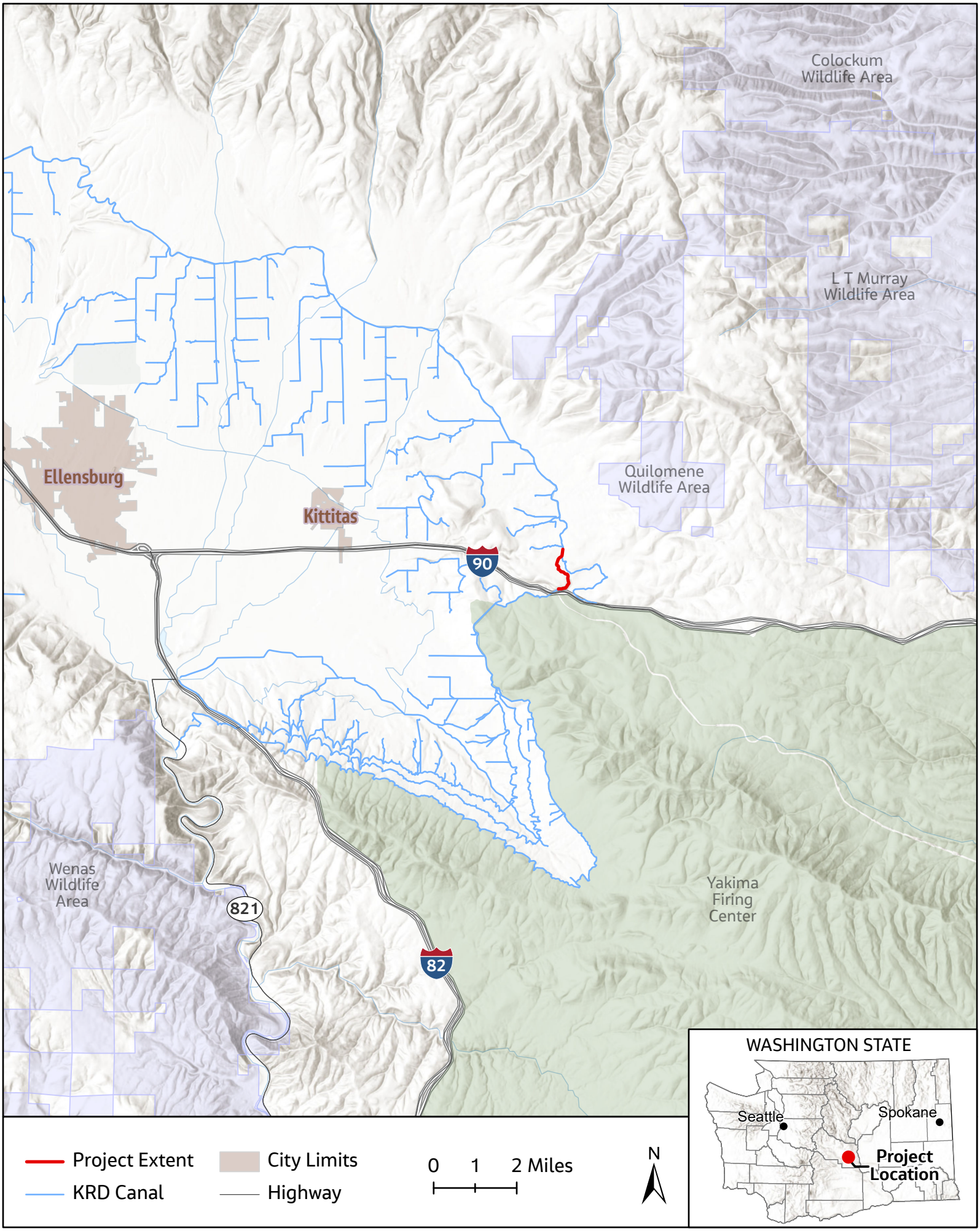
Name of signee: **Urban Eberhart**

Position and Agency/Organization: **Secretary Manager; Kittitas Reclamation District**

Date Submitted: October 20, 2022

Attachment 1

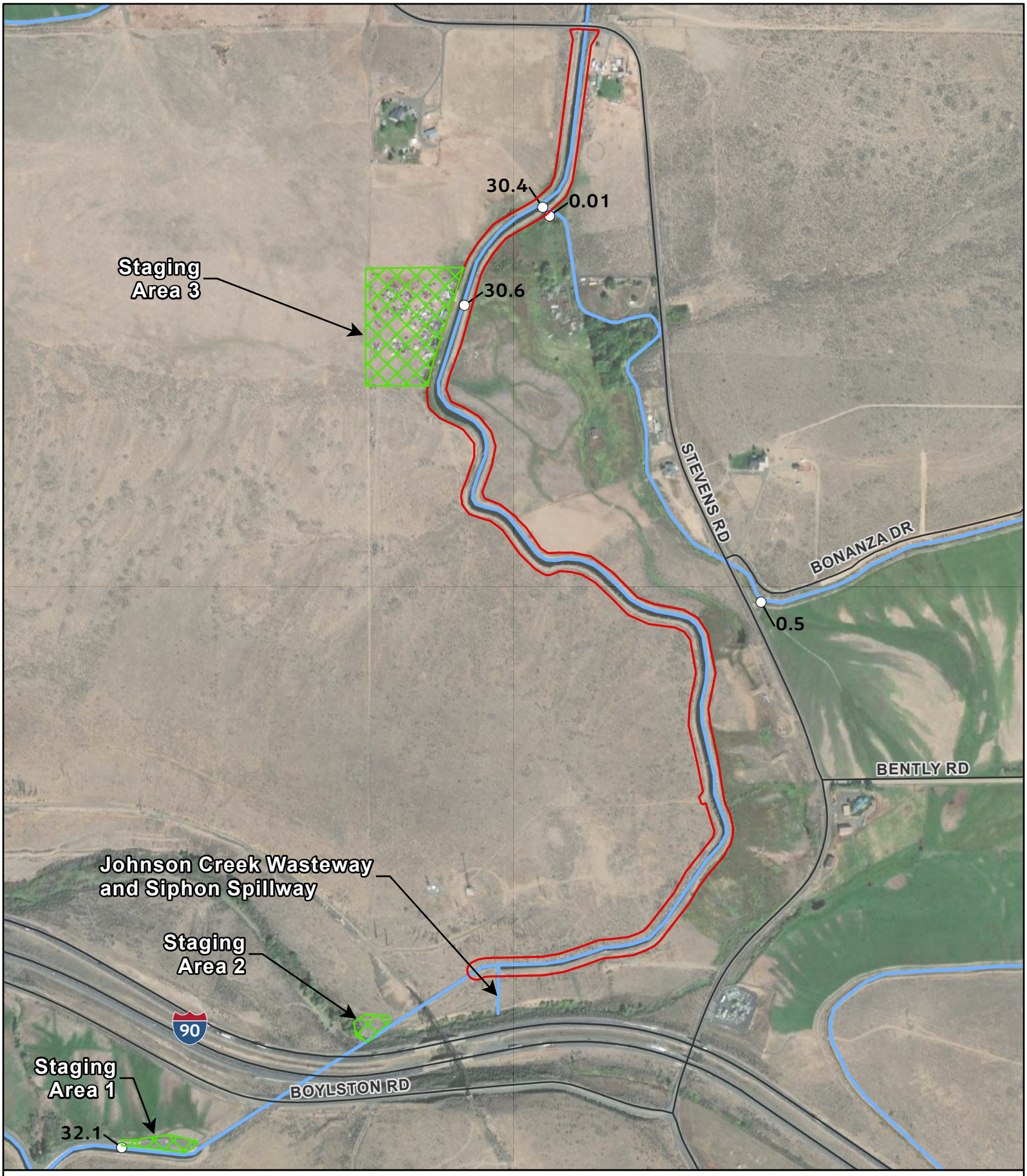
VICINITY



Data Sources: DNR, Kittitas County, KRD, WSDOT Basemap Sources: Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, City of Yakima, Kittitas County, WA State Parks, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, METI/NASA, BLM, EPA, NPS, USDA

Attachment 1

PROJECT EXTENT



Data Sources: DNR, Kittitas County, KRD, WSDOT Basemap Source: Maxar