SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Tacoma Water’s 2018 Water System Plan

2. Name of applicant:

City of Tacoma – Tacoma Public Utilities, Water Division (dba Tacoma Water)

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

Heather Lyn Pennington, P.E.
Deputy Superintendent
3628 South 35th Street
Tacoma, WA  98409-3192

4. Date checklist prepared:

May 23, 2018

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Tacoma

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

Tacoma Water is required to update its water system plan every 10 years under Washington State Department of Health (DOH) regulations. Tacoma Water’s 2018 Water System Plan evaluates future water supply and infrastructure projects and operations and maintenance (O&M) needs for the system for the period 2018 – 2037 as based on the plan’s forecast of future water demands. Implementation of the proposed plan will be phased.

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

The 2018 Water System Plan provides a foundation for future infrastructure improvements. Tacoma Water updates our 10-year capital improvement plan (CIP) every two years. The schedule of capital improvements found in this plan will be evaluated and may be prioritized based on current needs, Business Case Evaluations, and available funding. Environmental review, as applicable, will occur at the time capital projects are specifically proposed and begin the design and permitting process.
DOH requires an update of Tacoma Water’s water system plan every ten years. Any future updates of the proposed plan will undergo environmental review under SEPA.

The water system plan includes ongoing operation and maintenance activities along with water system programs which will undergo environmental review as applicable at the time projects are specifically proposed.

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

Additional environmental investigations may be required for capital improvements as proposed by the 2018 Water System Plan on a project-by-project basis.

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 other applications pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting this proposal. In the future, individual projects related to the 2018 Water System Plan may require governmental approvals. Such required approvals will be sought, as applicable, for the individual projects prior to construction. Because this proposal is a non-project action – water system plan covering service to a large geographical area – other unrelated public or private proposals and government approvals may be pending that could affect Tacoma Water’s service area and Tacoma Water’s ability to provide water service.

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

DOH approves 10-year updates of water system plans, as required under Washington Administrative Code 246-290-100. The 2018 Water System Plan will be submitted to DOH for review and approval.

The 2018 Water System Plan will undergo review by the Tacoma Public Utility Board and Tacoma City Council.

The King County Utilities Technical Review Committee (UTRC) reviews water utility comprehensive plans for compliance with King County Chapter 13.24. The UTRC recommends approval or denial to the King County Council, which takes action by ordinance.

The Pierce County Coordinated Water System Plan (CWSP) requires Pierce County to review water system plans for consistency with the CWSP. Pierce County does not have water system plan approval authority, however.

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 proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the City of Tacoma and King County councils. Tacoma Water’s planning activities center on the need to meet demands in an expanding
service area; address local, state, and federal government planning policies and regulations; satisfy Washington State DOH planning guidelines; and satisfactorily meet customer expectations. The Water System Plan serves as a tool to assist the utility in making the best use of available resources to provide quality water service and protect the health of its customers. The 2018 Water System Plan update complies with DOH regulations under Washington Administrative Code 246-290-100, which requires water purveyors to update water system plans every ten years. It replaces the September 2006 Comprehensive Water System Plan. The Green River Watershed Management Plan has also been updated and is included.

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.

Tacoma Water’s service area includes retail water service within the City of Tacoma and nearby jurisdictions, wholesale water service to other municipalities in the region, and is a partner in the Second Supply Project (SSP), and has been approved as a satellite system management agency. The 2018 Water System Plan demonstrates how Tacoma Water will address present and future needs for water supply services within the geographical area described below.

Tacoma Water supplies approximately 50 million gallons per day of drinking water to communities totaling over 300,000 people in its retail service area in Pierce and South King counties, and provides water to its SSP partners in South King County. The primary source of water supply is the Green River in east King County. The Green River Watershed lands, located above the intake facilities and extending approximately 25 miles upstream of the Howard Hanson Dam, comprise approximately 147,446 acres.

Tacoma Water currently owns approximately 11 percent of the watershed area, primarily land immediately adjacent to the Green River and its main tributaries. Public agencies and private companies own the remainder. These agencies and companies own lands that are dispersed throughout the Green River Watershed and generally are undeveloped forestland managed for timber production and wildlife habitat.

Tacoma Water provides retail water service within the City of Tacoma, unincorporated areas of Pierce and King Counties, and other jurisdictions including Federal Way, Fircrest, University Place, Lakewood, Puyallup, Bonney Lake, and the Town of Ruston.

Since the 2006 Water System Plan, Tacoma Water has acquired the Andrain Water System and the Curran Road system. Tacoma Water anticipates possibly acquiring other systems over the life of the 2018 Water System Plan update depending on circumstances. Typically this occurs when an adjacent system is facing operational, capital or regulatory difficulties and they request outside assistance. The Department of Health is normally involved in these discussions and service conversions.

Tacoma Water provides wholesale water service to 13 water purveyors operating in Pierce and King Counties. In addition, Tacoma has a contract to supply water to the Cascade Water Alliance, and organization comprised of King County water purveyors.
Tacoma Water is a Satellite System Management Agency (SSMA) with a contract area in Pierce County east of Puget Sound, west of Range 7 East, and north of Township 16 North.

Tacoma Water is operator of, and a participant in, the regional water sharing partnership with the Lakehaven Utility District, Covington Water District, and the City of Kent. The regional water system is operated under the terms of the Second Supply Project Partnership Agreement.

1. **Earth**
   a. General description of the site:

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

   The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information regarding the earth will be provided during project level environmental review.

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

   The proposal is a non-project action. Specific information regarding steep slopes will be determined during project level environmental review.

   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.

   The proposal is a non-project action. Specific information regarding soil types will be determined during project level environmental review.

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

   The proposal is a non-project action. Specific information regarding unstable soils will be determined during project level environmental review.

   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 proposal is a non-project action. Filling and/or grading activity could occur in association with future capital improvement and/or O&M projects. This issue will be addressed for each water system project, as applicable.

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

   The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information on the potential of erosion occurring will be determined during environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

   g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?
The proposal is a non-project action. The amount of impervious surfaces resulting from the construction of capital projects will be identified during design and environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. Measures to reduce or control erosion will be identified during design, permitting and environmental review of individual projects. All future projects will comply with applicable stormwater and other regulatory requirements.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action. This issue will be addressed for each water system project, as applicable.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. This issue will be addressed for each water system project, as applicable.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. This issue will be addressed for each water system project, as applicable.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the Tacoma and King County councils. Tacoma’s primary source of water supply is the Green River in eastern King County. The 2018 Water System Plan anticipates a project involving a portion of Pipeline 1 in the Puyallup River valley. Specific information on surface water bodies located near individual water system projects will be determined during project level environmental review.

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 proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the Tacoma and King County councils. Tacoma’s primary source of water supply is the Green River in eastern King County. The 2018 Water System Plan anticipates a project involving a portion of Pipeline 1 in the Puyallup River valley. Specific information on surface water bodies located near individual water system projects will be determined during project level environmental review.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the Tacoma and King County councils. Specific information on the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface waters or wetlands during construction of a water system project, if applicable, will occur during project level environmental review.

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

The proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the Tacoma and King County councils. The 2018 Water System Plan demonstrates how Tacoma Water will address present and future needs for water supply services. In the case of Tacoma Water, providing water supply services requires the use of surface waters as described below.

The Green River is Tacoma Water’s primary source of drinking water. Water is diverted at the Green River Diversion Dam, which is approximately 30 miles east of Tacoma. The watershed, located above the diversion, consists of approximately 230 square miles of timbered and mountainous terrain.

Tacoma Water’s First Diversion Water Right (FDWR) claim can supply up to 113 cfs (73 MGD) subject to minimum stream flows. The Second Diversion Water Right (SDWR) permit on the Green River is an interruptible additional supply that allows for diversion of up to another 100 cfs (64.6 MGD), and is the source for the Second Supply System. The SDWR is conditional based on Green River flow and is, therefore, only available as run-of-river (absent stored) approximately 60% of the time on an annual basis.

Tacoma Water currently diverts water from the Green River in accordance with existing regulations, permits, agreements and water rights. The 2018 Water System Plan does not anticipate the diversion of additional surface waters, beyond existing water rights.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.
The proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board and the Tacoma and King County councils. Individual capital projects contained in the 2018 Water System Plan may lie within a 100-year flood plain. For example, the 2018 Water System Plan anticipates a project involving a portion of Pipeline 1 in the Puyallup River valley. Information regarding project location within a floodplain will occur during project level environmental review. All projects will comply with any floodplain regulations, where applicable.

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 proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board, and the City of Tacoma and King County councils. Information regarding the discharge of waste materials will occur during project level environmental review. All projects will comply with jurisdictions' waste discharge regulations, where applicable.

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 general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

The proposal is a non-project action involving the approval of the 2018 Water System Plan update by DOH, the Tacoma Public Utility Board, and the City of Tacoma and King County councils. The 2018 update demonstrates how Tacoma Water will address present and future needs for water supply services. In order to provide water service, Tacoma Water diverts surface waters (see answer to 3.a.4 above) and withdraws groundwater, as described below.

In addition to the supply from the Green River and North Fork wellfield, Tacoma Water owns and operates multiple supply wells located in and around the city. These wells are used primarily to augment Green River supply during summer months when peak demands occur. Tacoma Water’s current goal is to maintain a short-term combined pumping capacity for the in-town wells of approximately 55 MGD. In a normal weather year, these groundwater wells supply approximately 5 percent of total annual water requirements.

Tacoma Water currently withdraws groundwater in accordance with existing regulations, permits, agreements and water rights. Additional wells may be added to the system depending on the results of Tacoma Water’s Integrated Resource Plan (IRP).
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.

Programs, projects, and activities contemplated in the Plan are not expected to discharge waste materials to ground waters. Specific information on potential waste material discharges into the ground would be determined during the design, environmental review, and permitting of individual projects.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information on the potential for runoff and the identification of receiving waters, if present, will be determined during environmental review and permitting of individual projects. All projects will comply with stormwater runoff regulations, where applicable.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. The construction of capital improvements as recommended in the 2018 Water System Plan could temporarily discharge waste materials, which will be controlled with project and site-specific best management practices and other project-specific mitigation measures.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information on the potential for drainage pattern impact will be determined during environmental review and permitting of individual projects. All projects will comply with stormwater runoff regulations, where applicable.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. The construction of capital improvements as recommended in the Plan could temporarily discharge materials during the construction period. Project and site-specific best management practices and other project-specific mitigation measures will be implemented during the construction period.
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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review. The majority of the construction and maintenance activities conducted by Tacoma Water will occur in improved rights-of-way or newly constructed rights-of-way and will, therefore, result in minimal removal of vegetation.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information in regards to the presence of threatened or endangered vegetation will be determined during project level environmental review.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. More specific information will be determined during individual project design, permitting and environmental review.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information in regards to the presence of noxious weeds and invasive species will be determined during project level environmental review.

5. **Animals**

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  

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

The Green River Watershed, the location of the Tacoma Water’s primary source of supply, is known to, or may be, frequented by the following species: Gray Wolf; Bald Eagle, Marble Murrelet, Northern Spotted Owl, Grizzly Bear, Canada Lynx, Chinook Salmon and Bull Trout; Dolly Varden Trout; and Oregon Spotted Frog.

Tacoma Water has an approved Habitat Conservation Plan, and, therefore, a 50-year incidental take permit, for its water supply operations on the Green River. The permit ensures that Tacoma Water operates in full compliance with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and allows Tacoma Water to continue to withdraw water from the Green River. The Habitat Conservation Plan covers 32 species of fish and wildlife that are known to either use or have the potential to use the Green River Watershed. The covered species include those previously listed.

In addition to preparing the HCP, Tacoma Public Utilities, in 2001, obtained ESA coverage for a wide variety of utility maintenance activities by adopting and implementing the federally approved “Regional Road Maintenance Endangered Species Act Program Guidelines.” Tacoma Water has modified its operations to obtain coverage under this program for many of its day to day operations.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.
Tacoma Water’s Habitat Conservation Plan identifies 64 habitat conservation measures that Tacoma Water is committing to implement over the 50-year duration of the plan.

Because many of the areas surrounding recommended capital improvement projects and/or O&M projects are in urban areas that have been previously developed and native vegetation removed, the potential for impacts on threatened or endangered species is low at such urban locations. Potential impacts to, and mitigation for, threatened and endangered species will be examined during future project specific environmental review and permitting.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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.

Current Tacoma Water facilities use electricity, natural gas and/or petroleum. The programs and future projects contained in the 2018 Water System Plan are not anticipated to require any major increases in regional long-term energy use.

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

Solar energy use by adjacent properties isn’t impacted by this Plan.

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:

Included in the Plan is the Tacoma Water Conservation Plan. In addition to water savings, implementing water conservation program measures also results in energy savings due, for example, to the more efficient use of hot water.

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 as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.
The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review. Tacoma Water’s treatment facilities utilize a variety of chemicals, and are equipped with appropriate measures to reduce the risk of exposure including but not limited to spill containment, ventilation, and chemical resistant materials as appropriate. Facilities were designed to meet applicable fire, health, safety and building codes.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review.

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 proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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 proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review. Many safeguards have been included in the design of existing treatment facilities to minimize risk and extent of an emergency.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. Noise impacts associated with construction activity could occur as projects are constructed. Any applicable noise ordinances will be adhered to. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects. In general, the Tacoma Water retail service area is characterized by urban uses in the Tacoma area and suburbs and more rural uses in unincorporated Pierce and King counties. The Green River Watershed is mostly undeveloped.

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?

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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:
The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. The Plan demonstrates how Tacoma Water will provide water service within its service area into the future based on the comprehensive plan land use designations established by individual land use authorities. More specific information will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. Comprehensive plan designations within the planning area are diverse. Specific information regarding individual sites will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. The planning area contains both freshwater and marine shorelines. Specific information regarding individual sites will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.
Some future projects could affect environmentally critical areas and be subject to local critical areas regulations. Critical areas can include geologic and seismic hazards, flood prone areas, riparian corridors, wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas, and abandoned landfills and mines. More specific information on environmentally critical areas would be determined during the design, environmental review, and permitting of individual projects.

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

The plan doesn’t include and residential development, therefore people wouldn’t reside in the future projects.

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

It isn’t anticipated that implementation of the plan would displace any people.

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

Displacement impacts are not anticipated, and therefore measures to avoid or reduce displacement are not proposed.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing water service to a large geographical area. The Plan demonstrates how Tacoma Water will provide water service within its service area into the future based upon the comprehensive plan land use designations established by individual land use authorities. Growth and development patterns established by individual jurisdictions have been considered. Prior to construction of any Plan recommended projects, Tacoma Water will apply for and obtain applicable land use permits and approvals.

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

It isn’t anticipated that implementation of the plan would impact agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance. Specific information regarding individual sites will be determined during project level environmental review and permitting of individual projects.

9. Housing

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

The proposal is a non-project action. Plan implementation does not include residential development and will not result in the addition of housing units.
b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

The proposal is a non-project action. Plan implementation will not result in housing unit elimination.

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

The proposal is a non-project action and doesn’t include housing impacts.

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?

The proposal is a non-project action. The height, size and building materials of new or modified water facilities will be evaluated during design and environmental review of individual projects. All projects will be subject to the height restrictions of the local zoning code and development regulations of the applicable jurisdictions.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. The height, size and building materials of new or modified water facilities will be evaluated during design and environmental review of individual projects. All projects will be subject to the height restrictions of the local zoning code and development regulations of the applicable jurisdictions.

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

The height, design, and size of water system projects will meet the applicable development regulations of the applicable local jurisdiction and will be determined during project-specific design, permitting and environmental review.

11. Light and Glare

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

The Plan would not introduce major new sources of light or glare. Minimal new lighting might be required on a project-specific basis, and its potential effects would be localized. Construction activities could be short-term sources of light and glare. However, most construction would occur during daytime hours in compliance with local noise ordinances. Specific information on light and glare would be determined during design, environmental review, and permitting of individual projects.
b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

Future projects would not be major sources of long-term light or glare. Any new light or glare created under the Plan would be minimal and would not increase safety hazards or interfere with views.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. The existence of off-site sources of light or glare impacting specific water system projects will be determined at the time of project-specific environmental review.

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

Lighting requirements will be determined during design and will comply with current lighting standards associated with the applicable jurisdiction’s development regulations.

12. Recreation

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

The proposal is a non-project action. The existence of recreational opportunities will be identified during project specific environmental review and permitting.

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

The proposal is a non-project action. Any impact to existing recreational uses will be identified during project specific environmental review and permitting.

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

Specific measures for reducing or controlling impacts to recreation would be identified during the design, environmental review, and permitting of individual projects, as applicable. Impacts on active and passive recreational opportunities would be avoided wherever possible, and would be addressed when individual projects are proposed.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action. The existence of sites of historical significance will be identified during project specific environmental review, design, and permitting.
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 proposal is a non-project action. The existence of landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation will be identified during project specific environmental review, design, and permitting.

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.

Specific measures for assessing potential impacts to cultural and historic resources would be identified during the design, environmental review, and permitting of individual projects, as applicable.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action so no specific measures are proposed.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action. Streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area will be identified during project specific environmental review, design, and permitting.

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 proposal is a non-project action. Public transit service and impact will be identified during project specific environmental review, design, and permitting.

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

The proposal is a non-project action addressing the provision of water service to a large geographic area. Information regarding parking spaces associated with water system projects will be identified as applicable during project-specific design, permitting and environmental review.
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 proposal is a non-project action addressing the provision of water service to a large geographic area. Information regarding need for new or improved roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities associated with water system projects will be identified during project-specific design, permitting and environmental review.

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

Projects recommended in the Plan may occur in the vicinity of existing railroad lines. Additional information will be developed during environmental review of specific water system improvement projects.

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 nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

Future projects anticipated under the proposed plan will generate minimal traffic during operation, if any.

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.

The proposal is a non-project action addressing the provision of water service to a large geographical area. Specific information regarding movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets will be determined during project-level environmental review, design and permitting.

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

Construction of projects will include mitigation measures to reduce short-term impacts on affected roadways and other transportation facilities.

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.

Implementation of the Plan would not result in a long-term increase in the need for public services. Future water system projects would result in minimal impacts on public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.
Because public services would not be directly affected, no such measures are proposed.

16. Utilities

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

The proposal is a non-project action. Specific information on utilities available at individual sites will be determined during project level design, permitting and environmental review.

c. 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.

The proposal is a non-project action involving the provision of water service by Tacoma Water throughout a large geographical area. Construction activities carried out by Tacoma Water could impact other utilities on a short-term basis. Any needed utilities and any potentially impacted utilities will be identified during project specific design, permitting and environmental review.

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: Heather Lyn Pennington, P.E.
Position and Agency/Organization: Deputy Superintendent/Tacoma Water
Date Submitted: 6/01/2018

D. Supplemental sheet for nonproject actions

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?

Capital improvement projects and/or maintenance projects proposed in the Plan may result in temporary construction equipment exhaust, dust and noise.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:
This issue will be addressed for each capital improvement project and/or maintenance project during individual project permitting and environmental review.

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

Capital improvement projects and/or maintenance projects proposed in the Plan will generally occur in already developed areas, such as rights-of-way, therefore minimal effects on species are expected.

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

This issue will be addressed for each capital improvement project and/or maintenance project during individual project permitting and environmental review.

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

Tacoma Water currently diverts surface water and withdraws groundwater in accordance with existing regulations, permits, agreements and water rights.

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

Under the 2018 Water System Plan Tacoma Water will implement an updated water conservation plan and goal. Tacoma Water will continue to divert surface water and withdraw groundwater consistent with existing regulations, permits, agreements and water rights.

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?

This issue will be addressed for each capital improvement project and/or maintenance project during individual project permitting and environmental review.

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

Tacoma Water will implement its Habitat Conservation Plan. Additionally, utility maintenance activities will be carried out consistent with the federally approved “Regional Road Maintenance Endangered Species Act Program Guidelines.”

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 2018 Water System Plan is consistent with and supports implementation of applicable individual jurisdictions’ adopted comprehensive land use plans.

Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:
The plan would not result in direct or indirect adverse impacts on shoreline and land uses.

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

The 2018 Water System Plan is consistent with and supports implementation of applicable individual jurisdictions’ adopted comprehensive land use plans.

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

The 2018 Water System Plan would not result in long-term, adverse impacts on transportation, public services and utilities.

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

The plan is consistent with and supports all local, state, and federal laws and requirements for the protection of the environment.