



EXPEDITED RULE MAKING

CR-105 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.353)
EXPEDITED RULE MAKING ONLY

Agency: Forest Practices Board

Title of rule and other identifying information: (Describe Subject)

Forest Practices Administrative Appeals

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO

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AND RECEIVED BY November 1, 2010

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules:

This rule making will amend rules in Title 222 WAC, Forest Practices to:

- Incorporate provisions of 2010 Natural Resources Reform (SHB 2935) pertaining to appeals of forest practices decisions;
- Incorporate provisions of 2007 legislation (2SSB 5883) pertaining to the Notice of Conversion to a Nonforestry Use; and
- Correct a typographical error in WAC 222-30-023.

Reasons supporting proposal:

The intent is to make forest practices rules consistent with Washington State statute and correct a typographical error.

Statutory authority for adoption: RCW 76.09.040

Statute being implemented:

Statutes amended in SHB 2935 (2010 legislation); and RCW 76.09.060 as amended in 2SSB 5883 (2007 legislation).

Is rule necessary because of a:

Federal Law?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Federal Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
State Court Decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

If yes, CITATION:

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: August 31, 2010

TIME: 2:28 PM

WSR 10-18-077

DATE

August 25, 2010

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)

Peter Goldmark

SIGNATURE

TITLE

Chair

Name of proponent: (person or organization)
Forest Practices Board

- Private
- Public
- Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

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Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-12-042, filed 5/30/01, effective 7/1/01)

WAC 222-12-070 Enforcement policy. Procedures for enforcement of these rules by the department are provided in chapter 222-46 WAC. Where the department of ecology determines that a person has failed to comply with the forest practices rules relating to water quality protection, and that the department of natural resources has not issued a stop work order or notice to comply, the department of ecology shall inform the department thereof in writing. If the department of natural resources fails to take authorized enforcement action within 24 hours, under RCW 76.09.080, 76.09.090, 76.09.120 or 76.09.130, the department of ecology may petition ~~((to))~~ the ~~((chairman of the))~~ appeals board, ~~((who))~~ which shall, within 48 hours, either deny the petition or direct the department of natural resources to immediately issue a stop work order or a notice to comply or impose a penalty. No civil or criminal penalties shall be imposed for past actions or omissions if such actions or omissions were conducted pursuant to an approval or directive of the department of natural resources.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 05-12-119, filed 5/31/05, effective 7/1/05)

WAC 222-12-080 Administrative and judicial appeals. (1) Certain decisions of the department may be appealed to the ~~((forest practices))~~ appeals board under chapter 76.09 RCW except that notices to comply may not be appealed to the ~~((forest practices))~~ appeals board unless first appealed to the department under RCW 76.09.090. Proceedings at the ~~((forest practices))~~ appeals board are governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW, and ~~((Title 223))~~ chapter 371-08 WAC.

~~(2) ((Forest practices applications and notifications related to qualifying projects under chapter 43.21L RCW may be appealed to the environmental and land use hearings board. Proceedings at the environmental and land use hearings board are governed by chapter 43.21L RCW and chapter 199-08 WAC.~~

~~(3)) A petition for judicial review of a decision of the appeals boards may be filed in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, chapter 34.05 RCW. ((In addition, RCW 43.21L.140 governs judicial review of a final decision of the environmental and land use hearings board.))~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 10-11-081, filed 5/17/10, effective 6/17/10)

WAC 222-16-010 *General definitions. Unless otherwise required by context, as used in these rules:

"**Act**" means the Forest Practices Act, chapter 76.09 RCW.

"**Affected Indian tribe**" means any federally recognized Indian tribe that requests in writing from the department information on forest practices applications and notification filed on specified areas.

"**Alluvial fan**" see "sensitive sites" definition.

"**Appeals board**" means the (~~forest practices appeals~~) pollution control hearings board established in (~~the act~~) RCW 43.21B.010.

"**Aquatic resources**" means water quality, fish, the Columbia torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton kezeri*), the Cascade torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton cascadae*), the Olympic torrent salamander (*Rhyacotriton olympian*), the Dunn's salamander (*Plethodon dunni*), the Van Dyke's salamander (*Plethodon vandyke*), the tailed frog (*Ascaphus truei*) and their respective habitats.

"**Area of resource sensitivity**" means areas identified in accordance with WAC 222-22-050 (2)(d) or 222-22-060(2).

"**Bankfull depth**" means the average vertical distance between the channel bed and the estimated water surface elevation required to completely fill the channel to a point above which water would enter the flood plain or intersect a terrace or hillslope. In cases where multiple channels exist, the bankfull depth is the average depth of all channels along the cross-section. (See board manual section 2.)

"**Bankfull width**" means:

(a) For streams - the measurement of the lateral extent of the water surface elevation perpendicular to the channel at bankfull depth. In cases where multiple channels exist, bankfull width is the sum of the individual channel widths along the cross-section (see board manual section 2).

(b) For lakes, ponds, and impoundments - line of mean high water.

(c) For tidal water - line of mean high tide.

(d) For periodically inundated areas of associated wetlands - line of periodic inundation, which will be found by examining the edge of inundation to ascertain where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland.

"**Basal area**" means the area in square feet of the cross section of a tree bole measured at 4 1/2 feet above the ground.

"**Bedrock hollows**" (colluvium-filled bedrock hollows, or

hollows; also referred to as zero-order basins, swales, or bedrock depressions) means landforms that are commonly spoon-shaped areas of convergent topography within unchannelled valleys on hillslopes. (See board manual section 16 for identification criteria.)

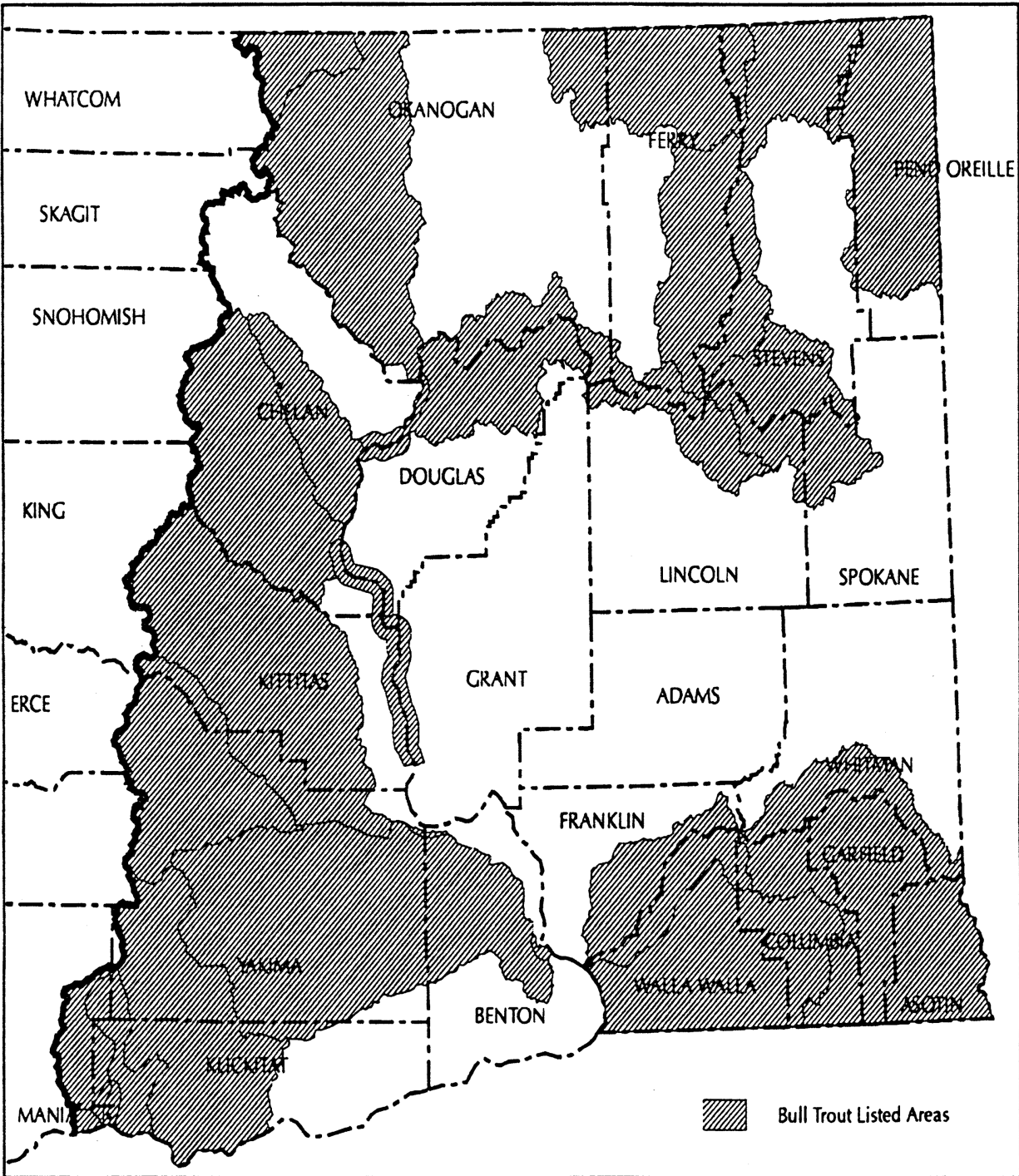
"Board" means the forest practices board established by the act.

"Bog" means wetlands which have the following characteristics: Hydric organic soils (peat and/or muck) typically 16 inches or more in depth (except over bedrock or hardpan); and vegetation such as sphagnum moss, Labrador tea, bog laurel, bog rosemary, sundews, and sedges; bogs may have an overstory of spruce, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, western red cedar, western white pine, Oregon crabapple, or quaking aspen, and may be associated with open water. This includes nutrient-poor fens. (See board manual section 8.)

"Borrow pit" means an excavation site outside the limits of construction to provide material necessary to that construction, such as fill material for the embankments.

"Bull trout habitat overlay" means those portions of Eastern Washington streams containing bull trout habitat as identified on the department of fish and wildlife's bull trout map. Prior to the development of a bull trout field protocol and the habitat-based predictive model, the "bull trout habitat overlay" map may be modified to allow for locally based corrections using current data, field knowledge, and best professional judgment. A landowner may meet with the departments of natural resources, fish and wildlife and, in consultation with affected tribes and federal biologists, determine whether certain stream reaches have habitat conditions that are unsuitable for supporting bull trout. If such a determination is mutually agreed upon, documentation submitted to the department will result in the applicable stream reaches no longer being included within the definition of bull trout habitat overlay. Conversely, if suitable bull trout habitat is discovered outside the current mapped range, those waters will be included within the definition of "bull trout habitat overlay" by a similar process.

Bull Trout Overlay Map



"**Channel migration zone (CMZ)**" means the area where the active channel of a stream is prone to move and this results in a potential near-term loss of riparian function and associated habitat adjacent to the stream, except as modified by a permanent levee or dike. For this purpose, near-term means the time scale required to grow a mature forest. (See board manual section 2 for descriptions and illustrations of CMZs and delineation guidelines.)

"**Chemicals**" means substances applied to forest lands or timber including pesticides, fertilizers, and other forest chemicals.

"Clearcut" means a harvest method in which the entire stand of trees is removed in one timber harvesting operation. Except as provided in WAC 222-30-110, an area remains clearcut until:

It meets the minimum stocking requirements under WAC 222-34-010(2) or 222-34-020(2); and

The largest trees qualifying for the minimum stocking levels have survived on the area for five growing seasons or, if not, they have reached an average height of four feet.

"Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area or CRGNSA" means the area established pursuant to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, 16 U.S.C. § 544b(a).

"CRGNSA special management area" means the areas designated in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act, 16 U.S.C. § 544b(b) or revised pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 544b(c). For purposes of this rule, the special management area shall not include any parcels excluded by 16 U.S.C. § 544f(o).

"CRGNSA special management area guidelines" means the guidelines and land use designations for forest practices developed pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 544f contained in the CRGNSA management plan developed pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 544d.

"Commercial tree species" means any species which is capable of producing a merchantable stand of timber on the particular site, or which is being grown as part of a Christmas tree or ornamental tree-growing operation.

"Completion of harvest" means the latest of:

Completion of removal of timber from the portions of forest lands harvested in the smallest logical unit that will not be disturbed by continued logging or an approved slash disposal plan for adjacent areas; or

Scheduled completion of any slash disposal operations where the department and the applicant agree within 6 months of completion of yarding that slash disposal is necessary or desirable to facilitate reforestation and agree to a time schedule for such slash disposal; or

Scheduled completion of any site preparation or rehabilitation of adjoining lands approved at the time of approval of the application or receipt of a notification: Provided, That delay of reforestation under this paragraph is permitted only to the extent reforestation would prevent or unreasonably hinder such site preparation or rehabilitation of adjoining lands.

"Constructed wetlands" means those wetlands voluntarily developed by the landowner. Constructed wetlands do not include wetlands created, restored, or enhanced as part of a mitigation procedure or wetlands inadvertently created as a result of current or past practices including, but not limited to: Road construction, landing construction, railroad construction, or surface mining.

"Contamination" means introducing into the atmosphere, soil, or water, sufficient quantities of substances as may be injurious to public health, safety or welfare, or to domestic, commercial, industrial, agriculture or recreational uses, or to livestock, wildlife, fish or other aquatic life.

"Convergent headwalls" (or headwalls) means teardrop-shaped landforms, broad at the ridgetop and terminating where headwaters converge into a single channel; they are broadly concave both longitudinally and across the slope, but may contain sharp ridges separating the headwater channels. (See board manual section 16 for identification criteria.)

"Conversion activities" means activities associated with conversions of forest land to land uses other than commercial timber operation. These activities may be occurring during or after timber harvest on forest land. They may include but are not limited to the following:

- Preparation for, or installation of, utilities on the forest practices activity site. The development or maintenance of existing rights of way providing utilities exclusively for other ownerships shall not be considered conversions of forest land (see WAC 222-20-010(5)).

- Any of, or any combination of, the following activities in preparation for nonforestry use of the land: Grading, filling, or stump removal.

- Preparation for, or construction of, any structure requiring local government approval.

- Construction of, or improvement of, roads to a standard greater than needed to conduct forest practices activities.

- Clearing for, or expansion of, rock pits for nonforest practices uses or developing surface mines.

"Conversion option harvest plan" means a voluntary plan developed by the landowner and approved by the local governmental entity indicating the limits of harvest areas, road locations, and open space.

"Conversion to a use other than commercial timber operation" means a bona fide conversion to an active use which is incompatible with timber growing.

"Cooperative habitat enhancement agreement (CHEA)" see WAC 222-16-105.

"Critical habitat (federal)" means the habitat of any threatened or endangered species designated as critical habitat by the United States Secretary of the Interior or Commerce under Sections 3 (5)(A) and 4 (a)(3) of the Federal Endangered Species Act.

"Critical habitat (state)" means those habitats designated by the board in accordance with WAC 222-16-080.

"Critical nesting season" means for marbled murrelets - April 1 to August 31.

"Cultural resources" means archaeological and historic sites and artifacts, and traditional religious, ceremonial and social uses and activities of affected Indian tribes.

"Cumulative effects" means the changes to the environment caused by the interaction of natural ecosystem processes with the effects of two or more forest practices.

"Daily peak activity" means for marbled murrelets - one hour before official sunrise to two hours after official sunrise and one hour before official sunset to one hour after official sunset.

"Date of receipt," as that term is defined in RCW 43.21B.001, means:

(a) Five business days after the date of mailing; or
(b) The date of actual receipt, when the actual receipt date can be proven by a preponderance of the evidence. The recipient's sworn affidavit or declaration indicating the date of receipt, which is unchallenged by the department, shall constitute sufficient evidence of actual receipt. The date of actual receipt, however, may not exceed forty-five days from the date of mailing.

"Debris" means woody vegetative residue less than 3 cubic feet in size resulting from forest practices activities which would reasonably be expected to cause significant damage to a public resource.

"Deep-seated landslides" means landslides in which most of the area of the slide plane or zone lies below the maximum rooting depth of forest trees, to depths of tens to hundreds of feet. (See board manual section 16 for identification criteria.)

"Demographic support" means providing sufficient suitable spotted owl habitat within the SOSEA to maintain the viability of northern spotted owl sites identified as necessary to meet the SOSEA goals.

"Department" means the department of natural resources.

"Desired future condition (DFC)" is a reference point on a pathway and not an endpoint for stands. DFC means the stand conditions of a mature riparian forest at 140 years of age, the midpoint between 80 and 200 years. Where basal area is the only stand attribute used to describe 140-year old stands, these are referred to as the "Target Basal Area."

"Diameter at breast height (dbh)" means the diameter of a tree at 4 1/2 feet above the ground measured from the uphill side.

"Dispersal habitat" see WAC 222-16-085(2).

"Dispersal support" means providing sufficient dispersal habitat for the interchange of northern spotted owls within or across the SOSEA, as necessary to meet SOSEA goals. Dispersal support is provided by a landscape consisting of stands of dispersal habitat interspersed with areas of higher quality habitat, such as suitable spotted owl habitat found within RMZs, WMZs or other required and voluntary leave areas.

"Drainage structure" means a construction technique or feature that is built to relieve surface runoff and/or intercepted ground water from roadside ditches to prevent excessive buildup in water volume and velocity. A drainage structure is not intended to carry any typed water. Drainage structures include structures such as: Cross drains, relief culverts, ditch diversions, water bars, or other such structures demonstrated to be equally effective.

"Eastern Washington" means the geographic area in Washington east of the crest of the Cascade Mountains from the international border to the top of Mt. Adams, then east of the ridge line dividing the White Salmon River drainage from the Lewis River drainage and east of the ridge line dividing the Little White Salmon River drainage from the Wind River drainage to the Washington-Oregon state line.

Eastern Washington Definition Map



"Eastern Washington timber habitat types" means elevation ranges associated with tree species assigned for the purpose of riparian management according to the following:

Timber Habitat Types	Elevation Ranges
ponderosa pine	0 - 2500 feet
mixed conifer	2501 - 5000 feet
high elevation	above 5000 feet

"Edge" of any water means the outer edge of the water's bankfull width or, where applicable, the outer edge of the associated channel migration zone.

"End hauling" means the removal and transportation of excavated material, pit or quarry overburden, or landing or road cut material from the excavation site to a deposit site not adjacent to the point of removal.

"Equipment limitation zone" means a 30-foot wide zone measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width of a Type Np or Ns Water. It applies to all perennial and seasonal nonfish bearing streams.

"Erodible soils" means those soils that, when exposed or displaced by a forest practices operation, would be readily moved by water.

"Even-aged harvest methods" means the following harvest methods:

Clearcuts;

Seed tree harvests in which twenty or fewer trees per acre remain after harvest;

Shelterwood regeneration harvests in which twenty or fewer trees per acre remain after harvest;

Group or strip shelterwood harvests creating openings wider than two tree heights, based on dominant trees;

Shelterwood removal harvests which leave fewer than one hundred fifty trees per acre which are at least five years old or four feet in average height;

Partial cutting in which fewer than fifty trees per acre remain after harvest;

Overstory removal when more than five thousand board feet per acre is removed and fewer than fifty trees per acre at least ten feet in height remain after harvest; and

Other harvesting methods designed to manage for multiple age classes in which six or fewer trees per acre remain after harvest.

Except as provided above for shelterwood removal harvests and overstory removal, trees counted as remaining after harvest shall be at least ten inches in diameter at breast height and have at least the top one-third of the stem supporting green, live crowns. Except as provided in WAC 222-30-110, an area remains harvested by even-aged methods until it meets the minimum stocking requirements under WAC 222-34-010(2) or 222-34-020(2) and the largest trees qualifying for the minimum stocking levels have survived on the area for five growing seasons or, if not, they have reached an average height of four feet.

"Fen" means wetlands which have the following characteristics: Peat soils 16 inches or more in depth (except over bedrock); and vegetation such as certain sedges, hardstem bulrush and cattails; fens may have an overstory of spruce and may be associated with open water.

"Fertilizers" means any substance or any combination or mixture of substances used principally as a source of plant food or soil amendment.

"Fill" means the placement of earth material or aggregate for road or landing construction or other similar activities.

"Fish" means for purposes of these rules, species of the vertebrate taxonomic groups of *Cephalospidomorphi* and *Osteichthyes*.

"Fish habitat" means habitat, which is used by fish at any life stage at any time of the year including potential habitat likely to be used by fish, which could be recovered by restoration or management and includes off-channel habitat.

"Fish passage barrier" means any artificial in-stream structure that impedes the free passage of fish.

"Flood level - 100 year" means a calculated flood event flow based on an engineering computation of flood magnitude that has a 1 percent chance of occurring in any given year. For purposes of field interpretation, landowners may use the following methods:

Flow information from gauging stations;

Field estimate of water level based on guidance for "Determining the 100-Year Flood Level" in the forest practices board manual section 2.

The 100-year flood level shall not include those lands that can reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by

flood control devices maintained by or under license from the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

"Forest land" means all land which is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of timber and is not being actively used for a use which is incompatible with timber growing. Forest land does not include agricultural land that is or was enrolled in the conservation reserve enhancement program by contract if such agricultural land was historically used for agricultural purposes and the landowner intends to continue to use the land for agricultural purposes in the future. For small forest landowner road maintenance and abandonment planning only, the term "forest land" excludes the following:

(a) Residential home sites. A residential home site may be up to five acres in size, and must have an existing structure in use as a residence;

(b) Cropfields, orchards, vineyards, pastures, feedlots, fish pens, and the land on which appurtenances necessary to the production, preparation, or sale of crops, fruit, dairy products, fish, and livestock exist.

"Forest landowner" means any person in actual control of forest land, whether such control is based either on legal or equitable title, or on any other interest entitling the holder to sell or otherwise dispose of any or all of the timber on such land in any manner. However, any lessee or other person in possession of forest land without legal or equitable title to such land shall be excluded from the definition of "forest landowner" unless such lessee or other person has the right to sell or otherwise dispose of any or all of the timber located on such forest land. The following definitions apply only to road maintenance and abandonment planning:

(1) **"Large forest landowner"** is a forest landowner who is not a small forest landowner.

(2) **"Small forest landowner"** is a forest landowner who at the time of submitting a forest practices application or notification meets all of the following conditions:

- Has an average annual timber harvest level of two million board feet or less from their own forest lands in Washington state;

- Did not exceed this annual average harvest level in the three year period before submitting a forest practices application or notification;

- Certifies to the department that they will not exceed this annual harvest level in the ten years after submitting the forest practices application or notification.

However, the department will agree that an applicant is a small forest landowner if the landowner can demonstrate that the harvest levels were exceeded in order to raise funds to pay estate taxes or to meet equally compelling and unexpected obligations such as court-ordered judgments and extraordinary medical expenses.

"Forest practice" means any activity conducted on or directly pertaining to forest land and relating to growing, harvesting, or processing timber, including but not limited to:

Road and trail construction;
Harvesting, final and intermediate;
Precommercial thinning;
Reforestation;
Fertilization;
Prevention and suppression of diseases and insects;
Salvage of trees; and
Brush control.

"Forest practice" shall not include: Forest species seed orchard operations and intensive forest nursery operations; or preparatory work such as tree marking, surveying and road flagging; or removal or harvest of incidental vegetation from forest lands such as berries, ferns, greenery, mistletoe, herbs, mushrooms, and other products which cannot normally be expected to result in damage to forest soils, timber or public resources.

"Forest road" means ways, lanes, roads, or driveways on forest land used since 1974 for forest practices. "Forest road" does not include skid trails, highways, or local government roads except where the local governmental entity is a forest landowner. For road maintenance and abandonment planning purposes only, "forest road" does not include forest roads used exclusively for residential access located on a small forest landowner's forest land.

"Forest trees" does not include hardwood trees cultivated by agricultural methods in growing cycles shorter than 15 years if the trees were planted on land that was not in forest use immediately before the trees were planted and before the land was prepared for planting the trees. "Forest trees" includes Christmas trees but does not include Christmas trees that are cultivated by agricultural methods, as that term is defined in RCW 84.33.035.

"Full bench road" means a road constructed on a side hill without using any of the material removed from the hillside as a part of the road. This construction technique is usually used on steep or unstable slopes.

"Green recruitment trees" means those trees left after harvest for the purpose of becoming future wildlife reserve trees under WAC 222-30-020(11).

"Ground water recharge areas for glacial deep-seated slides" means the area upgradient that can contribute water to the landslide, assuming that there is an impermeable perching layer in or under a deep-seated landslide in glacial deposits. (See board manual section 16 for identification criteria.)

"Headwater spring" means a permanent spring at the head of a perennial channel. Where a headwater spring can be found, it will coincide with the uppermost extent of Type Np Water.

"Herbicide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any tree, bush, weed or algae and other aquatic weeds.

"Horizontal distance" means the distance between two points measured at a zero percent slope.

"Hyporheic" means an area adjacent to and below channels where interstitial water is exchanged with channel water and water

movement is mainly in the downstream direction.

"Identified watershed processes" means the following components of natural ecological processes that may in some instances be altered by forest practices in a watershed:

- Mass wasting;
- Surface and road erosion;
- Seasonal flows including hydrologic peak and low flows and annual yields (volume and timing);
- Large organic debris;
- Shading; and
- Stream bank and bed stability.

"Inner gorges" means canyons created by a combination of the downcutting action of a stream and mass movement on the slope walls; they commonly show evidence of recent movement, such as obvious landslides, vertical tracks of disturbance vegetation, or areas that are concave in contour and/or profile. (See board manual section 16 for identification criteria.)

"Insecticide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate any insect, other arthropods or mollusk pests.

"Interdisciplinary team" (ID Team) means a group of varying size comprised of individuals having specialized expertise, assembled by the department to respond to technical questions associated with a proposed forest practices activity.

"Islands" means any island surrounded by salt water in Kitsap, Mason, Jefferson, Pierce, King, Snohomish, Skagit, Whatcom, Island, or San Juan counties.

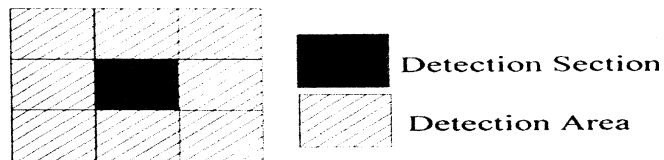
"Limits of construction" means the area occupied by the completed roadway or landing, including the cut bank, fill slope, and the area cleared for the purpose of constructing the roadway or landing.

"Load bearing portion" means that part of the road, landing, etc., which is supportive soil, earth, rock or other material directly below the working surface and only the associated earth structure necessary for support.

"Local governmental entity" means the governments of counties and the governments of cities and towns as defined in chapter 35.01 RCW.

"Low impact harvest" means use of any logging equipment, methods, or systems that minimize compaction or disturbance of soils and vegetation during the yarding process. The department shall determine such equipment, methods or systems in consultation with the department of ecology.

"Marbled murrelet detection area" means an area of land associated with a visual or audible detection of a marbled murrelet, made by a qualified surveyor which is documented and recorded in the department of fish and wildlife data base. The marbled murrelet detection area shall be comprised of the section of land in which the marbled murrelet detection was made and the eight sections of land immediately adjacent to that section.



"Marbled murrelet nesting platform" means any horizontal tree structure such as a limb, an area where a limb branches, a surface created by multiple leaders, a deformity, or a debris/moss platform or stick nest equal to or greater than 7 inches in diameter including associated moss if present, that is 50 feet or more above the ground in trees 32 inches dbh and greater (generally over 90 years of age) and is capable of supporting nesting by marbled murrelets.

"Median home range circle" means a circle, with a specified radius, centered on a spotted owl site center. The radius for the median home range circle in the Hoh-Clearwater/Coastal Link SOSEA is 2.7 miles; for all other SOSEAs the radius is 1.8 miles.

"Merchantable stand of timber" means a stand of trees that will yield logs and/or fiber:

Suitable in size and quality for the production of lumber, plywood, pulp or other forest products;

Of sufficient value at least to cover all the costs of harvest and transportation to available markets.

"Multiyear permit" means a permit to conduct forest practices which is effective for longer than two years but no longer than five years.

"Northern spotted owl site center" means the location of status 1, 2 or 3 northern spotted owls based on the following definitions:

Status 1: Pair or reproductive - a male and female heard and/or observed in close proximity to each other on the same visit, a female detected on a nest, or one or both adults observed with young.

Status 2: Two birds, pair status unknown - the presence or response of two birds of opposite sex where pair status cannot be determined and where at least one member meets the resident territorial single requirements.

Status 3: Resident territorial single - the presence or response of a single owl within the same general area on three or more occasions within a breeding season with no response by an owl of the opposite sex after a complete survey; or three or more responses over several years (i.e., two responses in year one and one response in year two, for the same general area).

In determining the existence, location, and status of northern spotted owl site centers, the department shall consult with the department of fish and wildlife and use only those sites documented in substantial compliance with guidelines or protocols and quality

control methods established by and available from the department of fish and wildlife.

"Notice of a conversion to a nonforestry use" means a notice issued by the department pursuant to RCW 76.09.060 (3)(b). A landowner who receives such notice is subject to the actions and requirements described in RCW 76.09.460 and 76.09.470.

"Notice to comply" means a notice issued by the department pursuant to RCW 76.09.090 of the act and may require initiation and/or completion of action necessary to prevent, correct and/or compensate for material damage to public resources which resulted from forest practices.

"Occupied marbled murrelet site" means:

(1) A contiguous area of suitable marbled murrelet habitat where at least one of the following marbled murrelet behaviors or conditions occur:

- (a) A nest is located; or
- (b) Downy chicks or eggs or egg shells are found; or
- (c) Marbled murrelets are detected flying below, through, into or out of the forest canopy; or
- (d) Birds calling from a stationary location within the area; or
- (e) Birds circling above a timber stand within one tree height of the top of the canopy; or

(2) A contiguous forested area, which does not meet the definition of suitable marbled murrelet habitat, in which any of the behaviors or conditions listed above has been documented by the department of fish and wildlife and which is distinguishable from the adjacent forest based on vegetative characteristics important to nesting marbled murrelets.

(3) For sites defined in (1) and (2) above, the sites will be presumed to be occupied based upon observation of circling described in (1)(e), unless a two-year survey following the 2003 Pacific Seabird Group (PSG) protocol has been completed and an additional third-year of survey following a method listed below is completed and none of the behaviors or conditions listed in (1)(a) through (d) of this definition are observed. The landowner may choose one of the following methods for the third-year survey:

(a) Conduct a third-year survey with a minimum of nine visits conducted in compliance with 2003 PSG protocol. If one or more marbled murrelets are detected during any of these nine visits, three additional visits conducted in compliance with the protocol of the first nine visits shall be added to the third-year survey. Department of fish and wildlife shall be consulted prior to initiating third-year surveys; or

(b) Conduct a third-year survey designed in consultation with the department of fish and wildlife to meet site specific conditions.

(4) For sites defined in (1) above, the outer perimeter of the occupied site shall be presumed to be the closer, measured from the point where the observed behaviors or conditions listed in (1) above occurred, of the following:

- (a) 1.5 miles from the point where the observed behaviors or

conditions listed in (1) above occurred; or

(b) The beginning of any gap greater than 300 feet wide lacking one or more of the vegetative characteristics listed under "suitable marbled murrelet habitat"; or

(c) The beginning of any narrow area of "suitable marbled murrelet habitat" less than 300 feet in width and more than 300 feet in length.

(5) For sites defined under (2) above, the outer perimeter of the occupied site shall be presumed to be the closer, measured from the point where the observed behaviors or conditions listed in (1) above occurred, of the following:

(a) 1.5 miles from the point where the observed behaviors or conditions listed in (1) above occurred; or

(b) The beginning of any gap greater than 300 feet wide lacking one or more of the distinguishing vegetative characteristics important to murrelets; or

(c) The beginning of any narrow area of suitable marbled murrelet habitat, comparable to the area where the observed behaviors or conditions listed in (1) above occurred, less than 300 feet in width and more than 300 feet in length.

(6) In determining the existence, location and status of occupied marbled murrelet sites, the department shall consult with the department of fish and wildlife and use only those sites documented in substantial compliance with guidelines or protocols and quality control methods established by and available from the department of fish and wildlife.

"Old forest habitat" see WAC 222-16-085 (1)(a).

"Operator" means any person engaging in forest practices except an employee with wages as his/her sole compensation.

"Ordinary high-water mark" means the mark on the shores of all waters, which will be found by examining the beds and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation: Provided, That in any area where the ordinary high-water mark cannot be found, the ordinary high-water mark adjoining saltwater shall be the line of mean high tide and the ordinary high-water mark adjoining freshwater shall be the line of mean high-water.

"Other forest chemicals" means fire retardants when used to control burning (other than water), nontoxic repellents, oil, dust-control agents (other than water), salt, and other chemicals used in forest management, except pesticides and fertilizers, that may present hazards to the environment.

"Park" means any park included on the parks register maintained by the department pursuant to WAC 222-20-100(2). Developed park recreation area means any park area developed for high density outdoor recreation use.

"Partial cutting" means the removal of a portion of the merchantable volume in a stand of timber so as to leave an uneven-aged stand of well-distributed residual, healthy trees that will reasonably utilize the productivity of the soil. Partial cutting

does not include seedtree or shelterwood or other types of regeneration cutting.

"Pesticide" means any insecticide, herbicide, fungicide, or rodenticide, but does not include nontoxic repellents or other forest chemicals.

"Plantable area" is an area capable of supporting a commercial stand of timber excluding lands devoted to permanent roads, utility rights of way, that portion of riparian management zones where scarification is not permitted, and any other area devoted to a use incompatible with commercial timber growing.

"Power equipment" means all machinery operated with fuel burning or electrical motors, including heavy machinery, chain saws, portable generators, pumps, and powered backpack devices.

"Preferred tree species" means the following species listed in descending order of priority for each timber habitat type:

Ponderosa pine habitat type	Mixed conifer habitat type
all hardwoods	all hardwoods
ponderosa pine	western larch
western larch	ponderosa pine
Douglas-fir	western red cedar
western red cedar	western white pine
	Douglas-fir
	lodgepole pine

"Public resources" means water, fish, and wildlife and in addition means capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions.

"Qualified surveyor" means an individual who has successfully completed the marbled murrelet field training course offered by the department of fish and wildlife or its equivalent.

"Rehabilitation" means the act of renewing, or making usable and reforesting forest land which was poorly stocked or previously nonstocked with commercial species.

"Resource characteristics" means the following specific measurable characteristics of fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions:

For fish and water:

Physical fish habitat, including temperature and turbidity;

Turbidity in hatchery water supplies; and

Turbidity and volume for areas of water supply.

For capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions:

Physical or structural integrity.

If the methodology is developed and added to the manual to analyze the cumulative effects of forest practices on other characteristics of fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its subdivisions, the board shall amend this list to include these characteristics.

"Riparian function" includes bank stability, the recruitment of woody debris, leaf litter fall, nutrients, sediment filtering,

shade, and other riparian features that are important to both riparian forest and aquatic system conditions.

"Riparian management zone (RMZ)" means:

(1) **For Western Washington**

(a) The area protected on each side of a Type S or F Water measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width or the outer edge of the CMZ, whichever is greater (see table below); and

Site Class	Western Washington Total RMZ Width
I	200'
II	170'
III	140'
IV	110'
V	90'

(b) The area protected on each side of Type Np Waters, measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width. (See WAC 222-30-021(2).)

(2) **For Eastern Washington**

(a) The area protected on each side of a Type S or F Water measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width or the outer edge of the CMZ, whichever is greater (see table below); and

Site Class	Eastern Washington Total RMZ Width
I	130'
II	110'
III	90' or 100'*
IV	75' or 100'*
V	75' or 100'*

* Dependent upon stream size. (See WAC 222-30-022.)

(b) The area protected on each side of Type Np Waters, measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width. (See WAC 222-30-022(2).)

(3) **For exempt 20 acre parcels**, a specified area alongside Type S and F Waters where specific measures are taken to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

"RMZ core zone" means:

(1) **For Western Washington**, the 50 foot buffer of a Type S or F Water, measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width or the outer edge of the channel migration zone, whichever is greater. (See WAC 222-30-021.)

(2) **For Eastern Washington**, the thirty foot buffer of a Type S or F Water, measured horizontally from the outer edge of the bankfull width or the outer edge of the channel migration zone, whichever is greater. (See WAC 222-30-022.)

"RMZ inner zone" means:

(1) **For Western Washington**, the area measured horizontally from the outer boundary of the core zone of a Type S or F Water to the outer limit of the inner zone. The outer limit of the inner zone is determined based on the width of the affected water, site class and the management option chosen for timber harvest within the inner zone. (See WAC 222-30-021.)

(2) **For Eastern Washington**, the area measured horizontally from the outer boundary of the core zone 45 feet (for streams less than 15 feet wide) or 70 feet (for streams more than 15 feet wide) from the outer boundary of the core zone. (See WAC 222-30-022.)

"RMZ outer zone" means the area measured horizontally between the outer boundary of the inner zone and the RMZ width as specified in the riparian management zone definition above. RMZ width is measured from the outer edge of the bankfull width or the outer edge of the channel migration zone, whichever is greater. (See WAC 222-30-021 and 222-30-022.)

"Road construction" means either of the following:

- (a) Establishing any new forest road;
- (b) Road work located outside an existing forest road prism, except for road maintenance.

"Road maintenance" means either of the following:

- (a) All road work located within an existing forest road prism;
- (b) Road work located outside an existing forest road prism specifically related to maintaining water control, road safety, or visibility, such as:
 - Maintaining, replacing, and installing drainage structures;
 - Controlling road-side vegetation;
 - Abandoning forest roads according to the process outlined in WAC 222-24-052(3).

"Rodenticide" means any substance or mixture of substances intended to prevent, destroy, repel, or mitigate rodents or any other vertebrate animal which the director of the state department of agriculture may declare by regulation to be a pest.

"Salvage" means the removal of snags, down logs, windthrow, or dead and dying material.

"Scarification" means loosening the topsoil and/or disrupting the forest floor in preparation for regeneration.

"Sensitive sites" are areas near or adjacent to Type Np Water and have one or more of the following:

(1) **Headwall seep** is a seep located at the toe of a cliff or other steep topographical feature and at the head of a Type Np Water which connects to the stream channel network via overland flow, and is characterized by loose substrate and/or fractured bedrock with perennial water at or near the surface throughout the year.

(2) **Side-slope seep** is a seep within 100 feet of a Type Np Water located on side-slopes which are greater than 20 percent, connected to the stream channel network via overland flow, and characterized by loose substrate and fractured bedrock, excluding muck with perennial water at or near the surface throughout the year. Water delivery to the Type Np channel is visible by someone

standing in or near the stream.

(3) **Type Np intersection** is the intersection of two or more Type Np Waters.

(4) **Headwater spring** means a permanent spring at the head of a perennial channel. Where a headwater spring can be found, it will coincide with the uppermost extent of Type Np Water.

(5) **Alluvial fan** means a depositional land form consisting of cone-shaped deposit of water-borne, often coarse-sized sediments.

(a) The upstream end of the fan (cone apex) is typically characterized by a distinct increase in channel width where a stream emerges from a narrow valley;

(b) The downstream edge of the fan is defined as the sediment confluence with a higher order channel; and

(c) The lateral margins of a fan are characterized by distinct local changes in sediment elevation and often show disturbed vegetation.

Alluvial fan does not include features that were formed under climatic or geologic conditions which are not currently present or that are no longer dynamic.

"Shorelines of the state" shall have the same meaning as in RCW 90.58.030 (Shoreline Management Act).

"Side casting" means the act of moving excavated material to the side and depositing such material within the limits of construction or dumping over the side and outside the limits of construction.

"Site class" means a grouping of site indices that are used to determine the 50-year or 100-year site class. In order to determine site class, the landowner will obtain the site class index from the state soil survey, place it in the correct index range shown in the two tables provided in this definition, and select the corresponding site class. The site class will then drive the RMZ width. (See WAC 222-30-021 and 222-30-022.)

(1) **For Western Washington**

Site class	50-year site index range (state soil survey)
I	137+
II	119-136
III	97-118
IV	76-96
V	<75

(2) **For Eastern Washington**

Site class	100-year site index range (state soil survey)	50-year site index range (state soil survey)
I	120+	86+
II	101-120	72-85
III	81-100	58-71
IV	61-80	44-57
V	≤60	<44

(3) For purposes of this definition, the site index at any location will be the site index reported by the *Washington State Department of Natural Resources State Soil Survey*, (soil survey) and detailed in the associated forest soil summary sheets. If the soil survey does not report a site index for the location or indicates noncommercial or marginal forest land, or the major species table indicates red alder, the following apply:

(a) If the site index in the soil survey is for red alder, and the whole RMZ width is within that site index, then use site class V. If the red alder site index is only for a portion of the RMZ width, or there is on-site evidence that the site has historically supported conifer, then use the site class for conifer in the most physiographically similar adjacent soil polygon.

(b) In Western Washington, if no site index is reported in the soil survey, use the site class for conifer in the most physiographically similar adjacent soil polygon.

(c) In Eastern Washington, if no site index is reported in the soil survey, assume site class III, unless site specific information indicates otherwise.

(d) If the site index is noncommercial or marginally commercial, then use site class V.

See also section 7 of the board manual.

"Site preparation" means those activities associated with the removal of slash in preparing a site for planting and shall include scarification and/or slash burning.

"Skid trail" means a route used by tracked or wheeled skidders to move logs to a landing or road.

"Slash" means pieces of woody material containing more than 3 cubic feet resulting from forest practices activities.

"Small forest landowner long-term application" means a proposal from a small forest landowner to conduct forest practices activities for terms of three to fifteen years. Small forest landowners as defined in WAC 222-21-010(13) are eligible to submit long-term applications.

"SOSEA goals" means the goals specified for a spotted owl special emphasis area as identified on the SOSEA maps (see WAC 222-16-086). SOSEA goals provide for demographic and/or dispersal support as necessary to complement the northern spotted owl protection strategies on federal land within or adjacent to the SOSEA.

"Spoil" means excess material removed as overburden or generated during road or landing construction which is not used within limits of construction.

"Spotted owl conservation advisory group" means a three-person advisory group designated by the board as follows: One person shall be a representative of Washington's forest products industry, one person shall be a representative of a Washington-based conservation organization actively involved with spotted owl conservation, and one person shall be a representative of the department's forest practices program. Members of the group shall have a detailed working knowledge of spotted owl habitat relationships and factors affecting northern spotted owl

conservation. On an annual basis, beginning November 2010, the board will determine whether this group's function continues to be needed for spotted owl conservation.

"Spotted owl dispersal habitat" see WAC 222-16-085(2).

"Spotted owl special emphasis areas (SOSEA)" means the geographic areas as mapped in WAC 222-16-086. Detailed maps of the SOSEAs indicating the boundaries and goals are available from the department at its regional offices.

"Stop work order" means the "stop work order" defined in RCW 76.09.080 of the act and may be issued by the department to stop violations of the forest practices chapter or to prevent damage and/or to correct and/or compensate for damages to public resources resulting from forest practices.

"Stream-adjacent parallel roads" means roads (including associated right of way clearing) in a riparian management zone on a property that have an alignment that is parallel to the general alignment of the stream, including roads used by others under easements or cooperative road agreements. Also included are stream crossings where the alignment of the road continues to parallel the stream for more than 250 feet on either side of the stream. Not included are federal, state, county or municipal roads that are not subject to forest practices rules, or roads of another adjacent landowner.

"Sub-mature habitat" see WAC 222-16-085 (1)(b).

"Suitable marbled murrelet habitat" means a contiguous forested area containing trees capable of providing nesting opportunities:

(1) With all of the following indicators unless the department, in consultation with the department of fish and wildlife, has determined that the habitat is not likely to be occupied by marbled murrelets:

(a) Within 50 miles of marine waters;

(b) At least forty percent of the dominant and codominant trees are Douglas-fir, western hemlock, western red cedar or sitka spruce;

(c) Two or more nesting platforms per acre;

(d) At least 7 acres in size, including the contiguous forested area within 300 feet of nesting platforms, with similar forest stand characteristics (age, species composition, forest structure) to the forested area in which the nesting platforms occur.

"Suitable spotted owl habitat" see WAC 222-16-085(1).

"Temporary road" means a forest road that is constructed and intended for use during the life of an approved forest practices application/notification. All temporary roads must be abandoned in accordance to WAC 222-24-052(3).

"Threaten public safety" means to increase the risk to the public at large from snow avalanches, identified in consultation with the department of transportation or a local government, or landslides or debris torrents caused or triggered by forest practices.

"Threatened or endangered species" means all species of

wildlife listed as "threatened" or "endangered" by the United States Secretary of the Interior or Commerce, and all species of wildlife designated as "threatened" or "endangered" by the Washington fish and wildlife commission.

"Timber" means forest trees, standing or down, of a commercial species, including Christmas trees. However, timber does not include Christmas trees that are cultivated by agricultural methods, as that term is defined in RCW 84.33.035.

"Unconfined avulsing stream" means generally fifth order or larger waters that experience abrupt shifts in channel location, creating a complex flood plain characterized by extensive gravel bars, disturbance species of vegetation of variable age, numerous side channels, wall-based channels, oxbow lakes, and wetland complexes. Many of these streams have dikes and levees that may temporarily or permanently restrict channel movement.

"Validation," as used in WAC 222-20-016, means the department's agreement that a small forest landowner has correctly identified and classified resources, and satisfactorily completed a roads assessment for the geographic area described in Step 1 of a long-term application.

"Water bar" means a diversion ditch and/or hump in a trail or road for the purpose of carrying surface water runoff into the vegetation duff, ditch, or other dispersion area so that it does not gain the volume and velocity which causes soil movement and erosion.

"Watershed administrative unit (WAU)" means an area shown on the map specified in WAC 222-22-020(1).

"Watershed analysis" means, for a given WAU, the assessment completed under WAC 222-22-050 or 222-22-060 together with the prescriptions selected under WAC 222-22-070 and shall include assessments completed under WAC 222-22-050 where there are no areas of resource sensitivity.

"Weed" is any plant which tends to overgrow or choke out more desirable vegetation.

"Western Washington" means the geographic area of Washington west of the Cascade crest and the drainages defined in Eastern Washington.

"Wetland" means those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions, such as swamps, bogs, fens, and similar areas. This includes wetlands created, restored, or enhanced as part of a mitigation procedure. This does not include constructed wetlands or the following surface waters of the state intentionally constructed from wetland sites: Irrigation and drainage ditches, grass lined swales, canals, agricultural detention facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities.

"Wetland functions" include the protection of water quality and quantity, providing fish and wildlife habitat, and the production of timber.

"Wetland management zone" means a specified area adjacent to

Type A and B Wetlands where specific measures are taken to protect the wetland functions.

"Wildlife" means all species of the animal kingdom whose members exist in Washington in a wild state. The term "wildlife" includes, but is not limited to, any mammal, bird, reptile, amphibian, fish, or invertebrate, at any stage of development. The term "wildlife" does not include feral domestic mammals or the family Muridae of the order Rodentia (old world rats and mice).

"Wildlife reserve trees" means those defective, dead, damaged, or dying trees which provide or have the potential to provide habitat for those wildlife species dependent on standing trees. Wildlife reserve trees are categorized as follows:

Type 1 wildlife reserve trees are defective or deformed live trees that have observably sound tops, limbs, trunks, and roots. They may have part of the top broken out or have evidence of other severe defects that include: "Cat face," animal chewing, old logging wounds, weather injury, insect attack, or lightning strike. Unless approved by the landowner, only green trees with visible cavities, nests, or obvious severe defects capable of supporting cavity dependent species shall be considered as Type 1 wildlife reserve trees. These trees must be stable and pose the least hazard for workers.

Type 2 wildlife reserve trees are dead Type 1 trees with sound tops, limbs, trunks, and roots.

Type 3 wildlife reserve trees are live or dead trees with unstable tops or upper portions. Unless approved by the landowner, only green trees with visible cavities, nests, or obvious severe defects capable of supporting cavity dependent species shall be considered as Type 3 wildlife reserve trees. Although the roots and main portion of the trunk are sound, these reserve trees pose high hazard because of the defect in live or dead wood higher up in the tree.

Type 4 wildlife reserve trees are live or dead trees with unstable trunks or roots, with or without bark. This includes "soft snags" as well as live trees with unstable roots caused by root rot or fire. These trees are unstable and pose a high hazard to workers.

"Windthrow" means a natural process by which trees are uprooted or sustain severe trunk damage by the wind.

"Yarding corridor" means a narrow, linear path through a riparian management zone to allow suspended cables necessary to support cable logging methods or suspended or partially suspended logs to be transported through these areas by cable logging methods.

"Young forest marginal habitat" see WAC 222-16-085 (1)(b).

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 07-20-044, filed 9/26/07, effective 10/27/07)

WAC 222-20-050 Conversion to nonforest use. (1) If an application to harvest signed by the landowner indicates that within three years after completion, the forest land will be converted to a specified active use which is incompatible with timber growing, the reforestation requirements of these rules shall not apply and the information relating to reforestation on the application form need not be supplied. However, if such specified active use is not initiated within three years after such harvest is completed, the reforestation requirements (see chapter 222-34 WAC) shall apply and such reforestation shall be completed within one additional year.

(2) For Class II, III, and IV special forest practices, if a landowner wishes to maintain the option for conversion to a use other than commercial timber growing, the landowner may request the appropriate local governmental entity to approve a conversion option harvest plan. This plan, if approved by the local governmental entity and followed by the landowner, shall release the landowner from the six-year moratorium on future development, but does not create any other rights. The conversion option harvest plan shall be attached to the application or notification as a condition. Violation of the conversion option harvest plan will result in the reinstatement of the local governmental entity's right to the six-year moratorium. Reforestation requirements will not be waived in the conversion option harvest plan. Reforestation rules shall apply at the completion of the harvest operation as required in chapter 222-34 WAC. Nothing herein shall preclude the local governmental entity from charging a fee to approve such a plan. (See RCW 76.09.060 (3)(b)(i).)

(3) If the application or notification does not state that any land covered by the application or notification will be or is intended to be converted to a specified active use incompatible with commercial timber growing, or if the forest practice takes place without a required application or notification, then the provisions of RCW 76.09.060 (3)(b)(i) regarding the six-year moratorium apply.

(4) A notice of a conversion to a nonforestry use issued by the department under the provisions of RCW 76.09.060 (3)(b) may be appealed to the appeals board in accordance with RCW 43.21B.110 and 43.21B.230.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-24-011, filed 11/21/08, effective 12/22/08)

WAC 222-30-023 Riparian management zones for exempt 20-acre parcels.

Note: Compliance with this section does not ensure compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act or the Clean Water Act.

On parcels of 20 contiguous acres or less, landowners with total parcel ownership of less than 80 forested acres shall not be required to leave the riparian buffers described in WAC 222-30-021 and 222-30-022. These landowners are required to follow applicable watershed analysis riparian prescriptions in effect as of January 1, 1999, or if there are no watershed analysis riparian prescriptions in effect these landowners are required to follow the riparian management zone rules below.

*** (1) Western Washington RMZs for exempt 20-acre parcels.**

Riparian management zones are measured horizontally from the outer edge of bankfull width of a Type S or F Water and extend to the line where vegetation changes from wetland to upland plant community, or the line required to leave sufficient shade as required by WAC 222-30-040, whichever is greater, but must not be less than 29 feet in width nor more than the maximum widths described in (f) of this subsection, provided that the riparian management zone width shall be expanded as necessary to include wetlands or ponds adjacent to the stream. When the riparian management zone overlaps a Type A or B Wetland or a wetland management zone, the requirement which best protects public resources shall apply.

(a) Harvest units shall be designed so that felling, bucking, yarding or skidding, and reforestation can be accomplished in accordance with these rules, including those rules relating to stream bank integrity and shade requirements to maintain stream temperature. Where the need for additional actions or restrictions adjacent to waters not covered by the following become evident, WAC 222-12-050 and 222-12-060 may apply.

(b) When requested in writing by the applicant, the department shall assist in preparation of an alternate plan for the riparian management zone.

(c) Landowners must meet the following shade requirements in effect January 1, 1999, to maintain stream temperature.

* (i) Determination of adequate shade. The temperature prediction method in (c) (ii) and (iii) of this subsection shall be used to determine appropriate shade levels for flowing Type S and F Waters to prevent excessive water temperatures which may have detrimental impact on aquatic resources.

* (ii) Temperature prediction method. In addition to the riparian management zone requirements described in (f) of this subsection, leave trees shall be retained within the maximum

riparian management zones on flowing Type S and F Waters as provided by the method described in the board manual which includes the following considerations:

- (A) Minimum shade retention requirements; and
- (B) Regional water temperature characteristics; and
- (C) Elevation; and
- (D) Temperature criteria defined for stream classes in chapter 173-201A WAC.

*(iii) Leave tree requirements for shade. The method described in (c)(ii) of this subsection shall be used to establish the minimum shade cover based on site-specific characteristics. When site-specific data indicate that preharvest conditions do not meet the minimums established by the method, no additional shade removal from riparian management zones will be allowed.

(iv) Waivers. The department may waive or modify the shade requirements where:

(A) The applicant agrees to a staggered setting program producing equal or greater shade requirements to maintain stream temperature; or

(B) The applicant provides alternative means of stream temperature control satisfactory to the department; or

(C) The temperature method indicates that additional shade will not affect stream temperature.

(d) For wildlife habitat within the riparian management zone, leave an average of 5 undisturbed and uncut wildlife trees per acre at the ratio of 1 deciduous tree to 1 conifer tree equal in size to the largest existing trees of those species within the zone. Where the 1 to 1 ratio is not possible, then substitute either species present. Forty percent or more of the leave trees shall be live and undamaged on completion of harvest. Wildlife trees shall be left in clumps whenever possible.

(e) When 10 percent or more of the harvest unit lies within any combination of a riparian management zone of Type S or F Waters or a wetland management zone and the harvest unit is a clearcutting of 20 acres or less, leave not less than 50 percent of the trees required in ~~((c))~~ (f) of this subsection.

(f) Within the riparian management zone, trees shall be left for wildlife and fisheries habitat as provided for in the chart below. Fifty percent or more of the trees shall be live and undamaged on completion of the harvest. The leave trees shall be randomly distributed where feasible; some clumping is allowed to accommodate operational considerations. The number, size, species and ratio of leave trees, deciduous to conifer, is specified by the bed material and average width of the water type within the harvest unit. Trees left according to (c) of this subsection may be included in the number of required leave trees in this subsection.

**Western Washington Riparian Leave Tree Requirements
For exempt 20-acre parcels**

Water Type/Average Bankfull Width	RMZ Maximum Width	Ratio of Conifer to Deciduous/ Minimum Size Leave Trees	# Trees/1000 ft. each side	
			Gravel/Cobble <10" Diameter	Boulder/Bedrock
S or F Water greater than or equal to 75'	115'	representative of stand	58 trees	29 trees
S Water less than 75' and F Water less than 75' and greater than or equal to 10'	86'	representative of stand	115 trees	60 trees
F Water less than 10' and greater than or equal to 5'	58'	2 to 1 12" or next largest available ¹	86 trees	29 trees
F Water less than 5'	29'	1 to 1 6" or next largest available ¹	29 trees	29 trees

¹ "Or next largest available" requires that the next largest trees to those specified in the rule be left standing when those available are smaller than the size specified.

Ponds or lakes which are Type S or F Waters shall have the same leave tree requirements as boulder/bedrock streams.

*** (2) Eastern Washington riparian management zones for exempt 20-acre parcels.** These zones shall be measured horizontally from the outer edge of bankfull width of Type S or F Waters and extend to the line where vegetation changes from wetland to upland plant community, or to the line required to leave sufficient shade as required by WAC 222-30-040, whichever is greater, but shall not be less than the minimum width nor more than the maximum widths described in (c) of this subsection, provided that the riparian management zone width shall be expanded as necessary to include wetlands or ponds adjacent to the stream. When the riparian management zone overlaps a Type A or B Wetland or a wetland management zone, the requirement which best protects public resources shall apply.

(a) Harvest units shall be designed so that felling, bucking, yarding or skidding, and reforestation can be accomplished in accordance with these rules, including those rules relating to stream bank integrity and shade requirements to maintain stream temperature. Where the need for additional actions or restrictions adjacent to waters not covered by the following become evident, WAC 222-12-050 and 222-12-060 may apply.

(b) When requested in writing by the applicant, the department shall assist in preparation of an alternate plan for the riparian management zone.

(c) Within the riparian management zone, trees shall be left for wildlife and fisheries habitat as provided for below. Fifty percent or more of the trees shall be live and undamaged on completion of the harvest. The leave trees shall be randomly distributed where feasible; some clumping is allowed to accommodate

operational considerations.

(i) The width of the riparian management zone shall be based on the adjacent harvest type as defined in WAC 222-16-010 "Partial cutting." When the adjacent unit harvest type is:

Partial cutting - The riparian management zone width shall be a minimum of 35 feet to a maximum of 58 feet on each side of the stream.

Other harvest types - The riparian management zone shall average 58 feet in width on each side of the stream with a minimum width of 35 feet and a maximum of 345 feet on each side of the stream.

(ii) Leave tree requirements within the riparian management zones of Type S or F Waters:

(A) Leave all trees 12 inches or less in diameter breast height (dbh); and

(B) Leave all wildlife reserve trees within the riparian management zone where operations in the vicinity do not violate the state safety regulations (chapter 296-54 WAC and chapter 49.17 RCW administered by department of labor and industries, safety division); and

(C) Leave 18 live conifer trees per acre between 12 inches dbh and 20 inches dbh distributed by size, as representative of the stand; and

(D) Leave 4 live conifer trees per acre 20 inches dbh or larger and the 2 largest live deciduous trees per acre 16 inches dbh or larger. Where these deciduous trees do not exist, and where 2 wildlife reserve trees per acre 20 inches or larger do not exist, substitute 2 live conifer trees per acre 20 inches dbh or larger. If live conifer trees of 20 inches dbh or larger do not exist within the riparian management zone, then substitute the 5 largest live conifer trees per acre; and

(E) Leave 3 live deciduous trees per acre between 12 inches and 16 inches dbh where they exist.

(iii) Minimum leave tree requirements per acre for Type S or F Waters. Trees left for (c)(ii) of this subsection shall be included in the minimum counts.

(A) On streams with a boulder/bedrock bed, the minimum leave tree requirements shall be 75 trees per acre 4 inches dbh or larger.

(B) On streams with a gravel/cobble (less than 10 inches diameter) bed, the minimum leave tree requirement shall be 155 trees per acre 4 inches dbh or larger.

(C) On lakes or ponds, the minimum leave tree requirement shall be 86 trees per acre 4 inches dbh or larger.

Note: See the board manual for guidelines for calculating trees per acre and average RMZ widths.

(d) When 10 percent or more of the harvest unit lies within any combination of a riparian management zone of Type S or F Waters or a wetland management zone and the harvest unit is 20 acres or less, leave not less than 50 percent of the trees required in (c) of this subsection. (See WAC 222-16-010 "Partial cutting.")

*** (3) Riparian leave tree areas for exempt 20-acre parcels.**
The department will require trees to be left along Type Np Waters

where such practices are necessary to protect public resources. Where such practices are necessary, leave at least 29 conifer or deciduous trees, 6 inches in diameter or larger, on each side of every 1000 feet of stream length within 29 feet of the stream. The leave trees may be arranged to accommodate the operation.

(4) For the purposes of this section RMZ means: A specified area alongside Type S and F Waters where specific measures are taken to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-24-011, filed 11/21/08, effective 12/22/08)

WAC 222-46-030 Notice to comply. If a violation, a deviation, material damage or potential for material damage to a public resource has occurred and the department determines that a stop work order is unnecessary, then the department shall issue and serve upon the operator and/or landowner a notice.

(1) The notice shall clearly set forth:

(a) **The specific** nature, extent, and time of failure to comply with the approved application; or identifying the damage or potential damage; and/or

(b) The relevant provisions of the Forest Practices Act or of the forest practices rules relating thereto;

(c) **The right** of the operator, landowner, or timber owner to a hearing before the department; and

(d) **The specific** course of action ordered by the department to be followed by the operator to correct such failure to comply and to prevent, correct and/or compensate for material damage to public resources which resulted from any violation, unauthorized deviation, or willful or negligent disregard for potential damage to a public resource; and/or those courses of action necessary to prevent continuing damage to public resources where the damage is resulting from the forest practices activities but has not resulted from any violation, unauthorized deviation, or negligence.

(2) **Local governmental entity conditions.** If the notice to comply involves a condition imposed pursuant to WAC 222-20-040(3), then the specific course of action ordered by the department shall include a requirement that the operator obtain approval of the local governmental entity of the action to be taken.

(3) **The department** shall mail a copy of the notice to comply to the forest landowner and the timber owner at the addresses shown on the application, showing the date of service upon the operator. The department shall also mail a copy to the local governmental entity if a condition imposed pursuant to WAC 222-20-040(3) is involved.

(4) **Such notice to comply shall become a final order** of the department: Provided, That no direct appeal to the appeals board will be allowed from such final order. Such operator shall undertake the course of action so ordered by the department unless, within fifteen days after the date of service of such notice to comply, the operator, forest landowner, or timber owner, shall request the department in writing to schedule a hearing. If so requested, the department shall schedule a hearing on a date not more than twenty days after receiving such request. The local governmental entity shall participate in the hearing if a condition imposed pursuant to WAC 222-20-040(3) is involved. Within ten days

after such hearing, the department shall issue a final order either withdrawing its notice to comply or clearly setting forth the specific course of action to be followed by such operator. Such operator shall undertake the course of action so ordered by the department unless within thirty days after the date of receipt of such final order, the operator, forest landowner, or timber owner appeals such final order to the appeals board. No person shall be under any obligation under this section to prevent, correct, or compensate for any damage to public resources which occurs more than one year after the date of completion of the forest practices operations involved exclusive of reforestation, unless such forest practices were not conducted in accordance with forest practices rules: Provided, That this provision shall not relieve the forest landowner from any obligation to comply with forest practices rules pertaining to providing continuing road maintenance. No action to recover damages shall be taken under this section more than two years after the date the damage involved occurs.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-24-011, filed 11/21/08, effective 12/22/08)

WAC 222-46-040 Stop work orders. (1) **The department** shall have the authority to serve upon an operator a stop work order which shall be a final order of the department if:

(a) There is any violation of the provisions of the Forest Practices Act or these rules; or

(b) There is a deviation from the approved application; or

(c) Immediate action is necessary to prevent continuation of or to avoid material damage to a public resource.

(2) **The stop** work order shall set forth:

(a) The specific nature, extent, and time of the violation, deviation, damage, or potential damage;

(b) An order to stop all work connected with the violation, deviation, damage, or potential damage;

(c) The specific course of action needed to correct such violation or deviation or to prevent damage and to correct and/or compensate for damage to public resources which has resulted from any violation, unauthorized deviation, or willful or negligent disregard for potential damage to a public resource. The stop work order shall also set forth those courses of action necessary to prevent continuing damage to public resources where the damage is resulting from the forest practices activities but has not resulted from any violation, unauthorized deviation, or negligence. If the stop work order involves a condition imposed pursuant to WAC 222-20-040(3), then the specific course of action ordered by the department shall include a requirement that the operator obtain approval of the local governmental entity of the action to be taken.

(d) The stop work order shall also set forth the right of the operator to a hearing before the appeals board.

(3) The department shall immediately file a copy of such order with the appeals board and mail a copy thereof to the timber owner and forest landowner at the addresses shown on the application. The department shall also mail a copy to the local governmental entity if a condition imposed pursuant to WAC 222-20-040(3) is involved.

(4) The operator, timber owner, or forest landowner may commence an appeal to the appeals board within (~~(fifteen)~~) thirty days (~~(after service upon)~~) from the date of receipt of the order by the operator. If such appeal is commenced, a hearing shall be held not more than twenty days after copies of the notice of appeal were filed with the appeals board. Such proceeding shall be a contested case within the meaning of chapter 34.05 RCW.

(5) The operator shall comply with the order of the department immediately upon being served, but the appeals board if requested shall have authority to continue or discontinue in whole or in part the order of the department under such conditions as it may impose pending the outcome of the proceeding.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-24-011, filed 11/21/08, effective 12/22/08)

WAC 222-46-060 Civil penalties. (1) Amount of penalty. Every person who violates any provisions of RCW 76.09.010 through 76.09.280 or of the forest practices rules adopted pursuant thereto, or who converts forest land to a use other than commercial timber operation within three years after completion of the forest practice without the consent of the county, city, or town, shall be subject to a penalty in an amount of not more than ten thousand dollars for each such violation. Each and every such violation shall be a separate and distinct violation. In case of a failure to comply with a stop work order, every day's continuance thereafter shall be a separate and distinct violation.

(2) **Penalty assessments** shall consider the following:

- (a) Repairability of the adverse effect from the violation;
- (b) Whether the violation of the act or rules was intentional;
- (c) Cooperation with the department;
- (d) Previous violation history;
- (e) Severity of the impact or the potential for material damage to public resources; and

(f) The extent to which a penalty to be imposed on a forest landowner for a forest practices violation committed by another should be reduced because the owner was unaware of the violation and did not receive substantial economic benefits from the violation.

(3) **Calculation of penalty.** The department shall evaluate any

violation to determine if a civil penalty is warranted. When penalties are to be assessed they shall be calculated using the following process:

(a) Determine the base penalty; see WAC 222-46-065.

(b) The penalty may be adjusted using factors specific to the incident and the site. The following additional factors will be independently considered and added to the base penalty to calculate the civil penalty:

(i) Repairability:

Repairability shall be based on the length of time natural restoration or implementation of a restoration plan will take and whether repair can be achieved. The penalty will be substantially increased when natural restoration will not occur within three years and the damage cannot be effectively corrected. For this factor, up to double the base penalty may be added to the penalty.

(ii) Intention:

In making a determination of intent, the department shall consider, but not be limited to, the following considerations: The foreseeability of the violation; whether precautions were taken to avoid the violation; whether an informal conference or enforcement action was served on the violator prior to the violation. For this factor, up to double the base penalty may be added to the penalty.

(iii) Cooperation:

The department shall consider whether the violator did or did not make any attempt to correct the problem. Timeliness of action(s) and/or ignoring or evading agency contacts or directives shall determine if the penalty shall be increased. For this factor, up to double the base penalty may be added to the penalty.

(iv) Previous violation(s):

The department shall consider whether the violator has previous violations of a forest practices rule or regulation as documented in an enforcement action. The department may consider company organizations and assignment of operational responsibilities when evaluating previous violations. A history of violations with adverse impacts or potential for adverse impacts or that shows a pattern of ignoring the rules or the act, shall result in a substantially larger penalty.

Enforcement actions for the purposes of this section shall include notices to comply, stop work orders, civil penalties, and criminal citations when those enforcement actions are associated with forest practices violations. For this factor, up to quadruple the base penalty may be added to the penalty.

(v) Severity:

The department shall adjust the penalty based on the extent and magnitude of the damage or potential damage to public resources. For this factor, up to quadruple the base penalty may be added to the penalty.

(vi) Landowner involvement:

If in the opinion of the department, the landowner exercised reasonable prudence in the development of timber sale contracts or supervision of the forest practices operations, was unaware of the forest practices violation, and the landowner received no substantial economic benefit from the violation, then the landowner

generally would not be assessed a civil penalty.

(c) In accordance with RCW 76.09.170, the penalty may not exceed ten thousand dollars for each and every violation.

(d) The department shall determine whether all or a portion of the penalty should be assessed against the operator, landowner, and/or timber owner. The department should consider the responsible party, the degree of control, the sophistication of the party and whether different parties conducted different violations.

(4) **Other participants.** Every person who through an act of commission or omission procures, aids or abets in the violation shall be considered to have violated the provisions of this section and shall be subject to the penalty provided for in this section.

(5) **Government employees.** No penalty shall be imposed under this section upon any governmental official, an employee of any governmental department, agency, or entity, or a member of any board created by the act for any act or omission in his/her duties in the administration of the act or of these rules.

(6) **Written notice.** The penalty shall be imposed by a notice in writing, either by certified mail with return receipt requested or by personal service, to the person incurring the same from the department describing the violation with reasonable particularity.

(7) **Remission or mitigation.** Within fifteen days after the notice is received, the person incurring the penalty may apply in writing to the supervisor of the department or his or her designee for the remission or mitigation of such penalty. Upon receipt of the application, the department may remit or mitigate the penalty upon whatever terms the department in its discretion deems proper: Provided, That the department deems such remission or mitigation to be in the best interests of carrying out the purposes of the act. The department shall have authority to ascertain the facts regarding all such applications in such reasonable manner and under such rules as they may deem proper. The reviewer may reduce, dismiss or not change the civil penalty.

(8) **Right of appeal.** Any person incurring any penalty hereunder may appeal the same to the ((forest practices)) appeals board. Such appeals shall be filed within thirty days after the date of receipt of ((notice imposing any)) the penalty unless an application for remission or mitigation is made to the department. When such an application for remission or mitigation is made, such appeals shall be filed within thirty days of receipt of notice from the department setting forth the disposition of the application for remission or mitigation. Concurrently with the filing of any appeal to the ((forest practices)) appeals board as provided in this section, the appellant shall file a copy of the appeal with the department region from which the penalty was issued and a copy with the office of the attorney general.

(9) **Penalties due.** The penalty imposed under this section shall become due and payable thirty days after receipt of a notice imposing the same unless application for remission or mitigation is made or an appeal is filed. When such an application for remission or mitigation is made, any penalty incurred under this section shall become due and payable thirty days after receipt of notice

setting forth the disposition of such application unless an appeal is filed from such disposition. Whenever an appeal of the penalty incurred is filed, the penalty shall become due and payable only upon completion of all administrative and judicial review proceedings and the issuance of a final order or decision confirming the penalty in whole or in part.

(10) **Enforcement.** If the amount of any penalty is not paid to the department within thirty days after it becomes due and payable, the attorney general, upon the request of the department, shall bring an action in the name of the state of Washington in the superior court of Thurston county or of any county in which such violator may do business, to recover such penalty, interest, costs, and attorneys' fees. In all such actions the procedure and rules of evidence shall be the same as an ordinary civil action except as otherwise provided in the Forest Practices Act. In addition to or as an alternative to seeking enforcement of penalties in superior court, the department may bring an action in district court as provided in Title 3 RCW, to collect penalties, interest, costs, and attorneys' fees.

(11) **Liens.** Penalties imposed under this section for violations associated with a conversion to a use other than commercial timber operation shall be a lien upon the real property of the person assessed the penalty. The department may collect such amounts in the same manner provided in chapter 60.04 RCW for mechanics' liens.

(12) Any person incurring a penalty is also responsible for the payment of all costs and attorneys' fees incurred with the penalty as well as interest accruing on the unpaid penalty amount.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 08-24-011, filed 11/21/08, effective 12/22/08)

WAC 222-46-070 Injunctions, civil suits, disapprovals. (1) **The department** may take any necessary action to enforce any final order or final decision.

(2)(a) The department may disapprove any forest practices application or notification submitted by any person who has failed to comply with a final order or decision as set forth in RCW 76.09.080, 76.09.090, or 76.09.110, or has failed to pay any civil penalties as provided in RCW 76.09.170. This disapproval will last for up to one year from the issuance of a notice of intent to disapprove notifications and applications under this section, or until the violator pays all outstanding civil penalties and complies with all validly issued and outstanding notices to comply and stop work orders, whichever is longer.

(b) For purposes of this subsection, "validly issued" means a stop work order or notice to comply for which no appeal or request for hearing has been filed; or if appealed, it has not been

declared invalid by a final order or decision and all appeals are exhausted.

(c) The department shall provide written notice of its intent to disapprove future applications or notifications, and shall forward copies of such notice to any affected landowner, timber owner or operator. The disapproval period shall run from thirty days following the date of actual notice or from the date all appeals, if any, have been exhausted.

(d) Any person provided notice of intent to disapprove an application or notification may seek review from the ((~~forest practices~~)) appeals board within thirty days of the date of notice.

(e) While the notice of intent to disapprove is in effect, the violator(s) may not serve as a person in charge of, be employed by, manage, or otherwise participate to any degree in forest practices.

(3) **A county** may bring injunctive, declaratory, or other actions for enforcement for forest practices activities within its jurisdiction in the superior court as provided by law against the department, the forest landowner, timber owner or operator to enforce the forest practices regulations or any final order of the department or the appeals board. No civil or criminal penalties shall be imposed for past actions or omissions if such actions or omissions were conducted pursuant to an approval or directive of the department. A county may not commence injunctions, declaratory actions, or other actions for enforcement under this subsection unless the department fails to take appropriate actions after ten days' written notice to the department by the county of a violation of the forest practices rules or final orders of the department or the appeals board.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-12-042, filed 5/30/01, effective 7/1/01)

WAC 222-46-090 Financial assurances. (1) The purpose in requiring financial assurances is to ensure that the landowner or operator has sufficient resources to cover any penalties and mitigation measures, which might be assessed.

(2) The department may require financial assurance prior to the conduct of any further forest practices from an operator or landowner who within the preceding three-year period has:

(a) Operated without an approved forest practices application, other than an unintentional operation in connection with an approved application outside the approved boundary of such an application;

(b) Continued to operate in breach of, or failed to comply with, the terms of an effective stop work order or notice to comply; or

(c) Failed to pay any civil or criminal penalty.

(3) The department must deny any application or notification

for failure to submit financial assurances as required.

(4) In deciding whether to require financial assurances, the department shall consider:

(a) The organizational size of the operator or landowner;

(b) Whether the violation was self-reported;

(c) The cooperation exhibited when the violation was discovered; and

(d) Any other factors the department believes indicate that financial assurances are, or are not, warranted.

(5) When the department determines that a financial assurance is required, a notice will be issued to the landowner or operator with violations listed above. The notice cannot be appealed. The financial assurances will be required with all future forest practices activities submitted within the time frame indicated in the notice. The notice shall include the following:

(a) A reference to subsection (6) of this section which identifies the criteria for establishing the amount of the financial assurance;

(b) The types of financial assurance which can be submitted;

(c) The time period during which financial assurances will be required with every future application or notification;

(d) A statement that the department must deny any application or notification from a landowner or operator who submits an application or notification without their required financial assurance;

(e) A statement that an application or notification can be appealed pursuant to (~~RCW 76.09.220 (8)(a)~~) section 24, chapter 210, Laws of 2010, and the requirement to submit financial assurances may be challenged at that time.

(6) The amount shall be set by the department within 10 days of receipt of a Class III or IV application, or within 3 days of receipt of a Class II notification. Applicants who have been notified of a financial assurance requirement are encouraged to use the early review process for applications outlined in WAC 222-20-090. In establishing the amount of the financial assurances to be required, the department shall begin with the following base amounts:

Class II Notifications - \$10,000

Class III Applications - \$30,000

Class IV General Applications - \$20,000

Class IV Special Applications - \$50,000

The base amounts listed above are based on an estimate of the potential for civil penalties, fees and required mitigation that could result from noncompliance with forest practices rules and department directives on forest practices applications or notifications of that classification. The base amounts can be increased or decreased depending on application specific factors including, but not limited to, size of the proposed harvest area, miles of new road construction and road maintenance, proximity to water, proximity to unstable soils, proximity to threatened or endangered species, and types of violations committed by the applicant in the past. In addition, the department should consider the risk to the state of the applicant being unable to pay civil

penalties or perform required mitigation work. In weighing this risk, the department should consider the applicant's past history of payment to the department, and any other financial information the applicant chooses to submit to the department. The base amount of financial assurance to be required may be increased or decreased depending on the department's assessment of this risk.

(7) The financial assurance provided shall protect the department and the state from the risk that the landowner or operator may be financially unable to pay civil penalties, fees and/or perform mitigation work required by the department, including mitigation work performed by the department pursuant to RCW 76.09.120, because of violations of the Forest Practices Act or rules. The department may, for any reason, refuse any financial assurance not deemed adequate. The financial assurance provided may be in the following form:

- (a) Bank letter of credit;
- (b) Cash deposit;
- (c) Savings account assignment; or
- (d) Corporate surety bond executed in favor of the department.

(8) The department may obtain compensation from a financial assurance whenever the landowner or operator has failed to pay a civil penalty that is due and owing or has failed to complete mitigation as required. Payment for a specific civil penalty or mitigation does not relieve the surety, operator or landowner of financial responsibility for any other civil penalty or mitigation.

(9) Liability under the financial assurance shall be maintained until all forest practices under the forest practices notification or application issued by the department are completed or until the notification or application expires, and all of the landowner or operator's obligations under the Forest Practices Act and rules are completed to the satisfaction of the department including payment of civil penalties and completion of required mitigation work. Liability under the financial assurance may be released only upon written notification by the department. Notification shall be given upon completion of compliance or acceptance of a substitute financial assurance.

(10) Financial assurances are estimates only. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the department's authority to assess and collect civil penalties and fees and to require mitigation work in amounts that exceed existing financial assurances.