WAC 222-16-050 *Classes of forest practices.

*There are 4 classes of forest practices created by the act. All forest practices (including those in Classes I and II) must be conducted in accordance with the forest practices rules.

(1) **"Class IV - special."** Except as provided in WAC 222-16-051, application to conduct forest practices involving the following circumstances requires an environmental checklist in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), and SEPA guidelines, as they have been determined to have potential for a substantial impact on the environment. It may be determined that additional information or a detailed environmental statement is required before these forest practices may be conducted.

*(a) Aerial application of pesticides in a manner identified as having the potential for a substantial impact on the environment under WAC 222-16-070 or ground application of a pesticide within a Type A or B wetland.

(b) Specific forest practices listed in WAC 222-16-080 on lands designated as critical habitat (state) of threatened or endangered species.

(c) Harvesting, road construction, aerial application of pesticides and site preparation on all lands within the boundaries of any national park, state park, or any park of a local governmental entity, except harvest of less than five MBF within any developed park recreation area and park managed salvage of merchantable forest products.

*(d) Timber harvest, or construction of roads, landings, gravel pits, rock quarries, or spoil disposal areas, on potentially unstable slopes or landforms described in (i) below that has the potential to deliver sediment or debris to a public resource or that has the potential to threaten public safety, and which has been field verified by the department (see WAC 222-10-030 SEPA policies for potential unstable slopes and landforms).

(i) For the purpose of this rule, potentially unstable slopes or landforms are one of the following: (See board manual section 16 for more descriptive definitions.)

(A) Inner gorges, convergent headwalls, or bedrock hollows with slopes steeper than thirty-five degrees (seventy percent);

(B) Toes of deep-seated landslides, with slopes steeper than thirty-three degrees (sixty-five percent);

(C) Ground water recharge areas for glacial deep-seated landslides;

(D) Outer edges of meander bends along valley walls or high terraces of an unconfined meandering stream; or

(E) Any areas containing features indicating the presence of potential slope instability which cumulatively indicate the presence of unstable slopes.

(ii) The department will base its classification of the application or notification on professional knowledge of the area, information such as soils, geologic or hazard zonation maps and reports or other information provided by the applicant.

(iii) An application would not be classified as Class IV-Special for potentially unstable slopes or landforms under this subsection if:

(A) The proposed forest practice is located within a WAU that is subject to an approved watershed analysis;

(B) The forest practices are to be conducted in accordance with an approved prescription from the watershed analysis (or as modified through the five-year review process); and

(C) The applicable prescription is specific to the site or situation, as opposed to a prescription that calls for additional analysis. The need for an expert to determine whether the site contains specific landforms will not be considered "additional analysis," as long as specific prescriptions are established for such landforms.

*(e) Timber harvest, in a watershed administrative unit not subject to an approved watershed analysis under chapter 222-22 WAC, construction of roads, landings, rock quarries, gravel pits, borrow pits, and spoil disposal areas on snow avalanche slopes within those areas designated by the department, in consultation with department of transportation and local government, as high avalanche hazard where there is the potential to deliver sediment or debris to a public resource, or the potential to threaten public safety.

(f) Timber harvest or construction of roads, landings, rock quarries, gravel pits, borrow pits, and spoil disposal areas on the following except in (f)(iv) of this subsection:

(i) Archaeological sites or historic archaeological resources as defined in RCW 27.53.030; or

(ii) Historic sites eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places or the Washington Heritage Register as determined by the Washington state department of archaeology and historic preservation; or

(iii) Sites containing evidence of Native American cairns, graves, or glyptic records as provided for in chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW. The department of archaeology and historic preservation shall consult with affected Indian tribes in identifying such sites.

(iv) A forest practice would not be classified as Class IV-special under this subsection if:

(A) Cultural resources management strategies from an approved watershed analysis conducted under chapter 222-22 WAC are part of the proposed forest practices, and the landowner states this in the application; or

(B) A management plan agreed to by the landowner, the affected Indian tribe, and the department of archaeology and historic preservation is part of the proposed application, and the

landowner states this in the application.

*(g) Forest practices subject to an approved watershed analysis conducted under chapter 222-22 WAC in an area of resource sensitivity identified in that analysis which deviates from the prescriptions (which may include an alternate plan) in the watershed analysis.

*(h) Filling or draining of more than 0.5 acre of a wetland.

. . .

Chapter 222-22 WAC WATERSHED ANALYSIS

WAC 222-22-010 Policy. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

*(1) Public resources may be adversely affected by the interaction of two or more forest practices. The purpose of this rule is to address these cumulative effects of forest practices on the public resources of fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions.

(2) Cultural resources may also be adversely affected by the interaction of two or more forest practices. The purpose of this rule is also to achieve management and protection of these cultural resources by fostering cooperative relationships and agreements between landowners and tribes.

(3) The long-term objective of this rule is to protect and restore these public and cultural resources and the productive capacity of fish habitat adversely affected by forest practices while maintaining a viable forest products industry. For public resources, the board intends that this be accomplished through prescriptions designed to protect and allow the recovery of fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, through enforcement against noncompliance of the forest practice rules in this Title 222 WAC, and through voluntary mitigation measures. For cultural resources, with the exception of sites registered on the department of archaeology and historic preservation's archaeological and historic sites data base and all resources that require mandatory protection under chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW, the board intends that this be accomplished through voluntary management strategies. This system also allows for monitoring, subsequent watershed analysis, and adaptive management.

*(4) Adaptive management in a watershed analysis process requires advances in technology and cooperation among resource managers. The board finds that it is appropriate to promulgate rules to address certain cumulative effects by means of the watershed analysis system, while recognizing the pioneering nature of this system and the need to monitor its success in predicting and preventing adverse change to fish, water, and capital improvements of the state and its political subdivisions. The board supports the use of voluntary, cooperative approaches to address impacts to cultural resources. If voluntary approaches are shown to be ineffective, the board may find it appropriate to seek additional protection to prevent adverse impacts to cultural resources.

*(5) Many factors other than forest practices can have a significant effect on the condition of fish, water, capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, and cultural resources. Nonforest practice contributions to cumulative effects should be addressed by the appropriate jurisdictional authorities. When a watershed analysis identifies a potential adverse effect on fish, water, capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions,

or cultural resources from activities that are not regulated under chapter 76.09 RCW, the department should notify any governmental agency or Indian tribe having jurisdiction over those activities.

*(6) The rules in this chapter set forth a system for identifying the probability of change and the likelihood of this change adversely affecting specific characteristics of fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, and for using forest management prescriptions to avoid or minimize significant adverse effects from forest practices. In addition, the rules in this chapter set forth a system for identifying the likelihood of adverse change affecting cultural resources and for developing voluntary management strategies to avoid or minimize significant adverse impacts to cultural resources. The rules in this chapter are in addition to, and do not take the place of, the other forest practices rules in this Title 222 WAC or laws for the protection of cultural resources including chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW.

*(7) These rules are intended to be applied and should be construed in such a manner as to minimize the delay associated with the review of individual forest practices applications and notifications by increasing the predictability of the process and the appropriate management response.

WAC 222-22-020 Watershed administrative units. *[Effective 12/22/08]*

*(1) For purposes of this chapter, the state is divided into areas known as watershed administrative units (WAUs). The department shall, in cooperation with the departments of ecology, fish and wildlife, affected Indian tribes, local government entities, forest land owners, and the public, define WAUs throughout the state. The department shall identify WAUs on a map.

*(2) WAUs should generally be between 10,000 to 50,000 acres in size and should be discrete hydrologic units. The board recognizes, however, that identified watershed processes and potential effects on resource characteristics differ, and require different spatial scales of analysis, and the department's determination of the WAUs should recognize these differences. The board further recognizes that mixed land uses will affect the ability of a watershed analysis to predict probabilities and identify causation as required under this chapter, and the department's conduct and approval of a watershed analysis under this chapter shall take this effect into account.

*(3) The department is directed to conduct periodic reviews of the WAUs adopted under this chapter to determine whether revisions are needed to more efficiently assess potential cumulative effects. The department shall consult with the departments of ecology, fish and wildlife, affected Indian tribes, forest land owners, local government entities, and the public. From time to time and as appropriate, the department shall make recommendations to the board regarding revision of watershed administrative units.

WAC 222-22-030 Qualification of watershed resource analysts, specialists, and field managers.

*(1) The department shall set the minimum qualifications for analysts participating in level 1 assessments conducted under WAC 222-22-050, for specialists participating in level 2 assessments conducted under WAC 222-22-060, and for field managers participating in recommendation of prescriptions under WAC 222-22-070. The minimum qualifications shall be specific for the disciplines needed to participate in level 1 and level 2 assessments and in the recommendations of prescriptions, and shall include, at a minimum, formal

education in the relevant discipline and field experience. Minimum qualifications for analysts participating in level 2 assessments should typically include a graduate degree in the relevant discipline.

*(2) The department shall coordinate with relevant state and federal agencies, affected Indian tribes, forest land owners, local government entities, and the public to seek and utilize available qualified expertise to participate in watershed analysis.

*(3) Qualified analysts, specialists, and field managers shall, while and only for the purpose of conducting a watershed analysis or monitoring in a WAU, be duly authorized representatives of the department for the purposes of RCW 76.09.150.

*(4) An individual may qualify in more than one science or management skill. Qualification under subsection (1) of this section shall be effective for 5 years. When a qualification expires, a person requesting requalification shall meet the criteria in effect at the time of requalification.

*(5) The department shall provide and coordinate training for, maintain a register of, and monitor the performance of qualified analysts, specialists, and field managers by region. The department shall disqualify analysts, specialists, and field managers who fail to meet the levels of performance required by the qualification standards.

WAC 222-22-040 Watershed prioritization.

(1) The department shall determine, by region, the order in which it will analyze WAUs. The department shall cooperate with the departments of ecology, fish and wildlife, affected Indian tribes, forest land owners, and the public in setting priorities. In setting priorities or reprioritizing WAUs, the department shall consider the availability of participation and assistance that may be provided by affected Indian tribes and local government entities.

*(2) Except as set forth in subsection (3) of this section, the department shall undertake a watershed analysis on each WAU, in the order established under subsection (1) of this section.

*(3) The owner or owners of ten percent or more of the nonfederal forest land acreage in a WAU may notify the department in writing that the owner or owners intend to conduct a level 1 assessment, level 2 assessment, or both, and the prescription recommendation process on the WAU under this chapter at their own expense. The notice shall identify the teams proposed to conduct the watershed analysis, which shall be comprised of individuals qualified by the department pursuant to WAC 222-22-030. The department shall promptly notify any owner or owners sending notice under this subsection if any member of the designated teams is not so qualified. Within 30 days of delivering a notice to the department under this subsection, the forest land owner or owners shall begin the level 1 assessment under WAC 222-22-050 or, at its option, the level 2 assessment under WAC 222-22-060. An approved forest land owner team shall, while and only for the purposes of conducting a watershed analysis in a WAU, be a duly authorized representative of the department for the purposes of RCW 76.09.150. The board encourages forest land owners conducting assessments under this chapter to include available, qualified expertise from state and federal agencies, affected Indian tribes, forest land owners, local government entities, and the public.

*(4) Before beginning an analysis in a WAU, the department or the forest land owner conducting the analysis shall provide reasonable notice, including notice by regular United States mail where names and addresses have been provided to the department, to all forest land owners in the WAU, and to affected Indian tribes. The department or the forest land owner shall provide reasonable notice to the public and to state, federal, and local government entities,

by, among other things, posting the notice conspicuously in the office of the departmental region containing the WAU. The notice shall be in a form designated by the department and give notice that an analysis is being conducted, by whose team, the time period of the analysis, and the dates and locations in which the draft analysis will be available for review and comment.

WAC 222-22-045 Cultural resources. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

(1) Any watershed analysis initiated after July 1, 2005, is not complete unless the analysis includes a completed cultural resource module. Cultural resources module completeness is detailed in Appendix II of the module and includes affected tribe(s) participation, appropriate team qualification, required maps and forms, assessment of tribal and nontribal cultural resources, peer review of assessment, management strategies based on causal mechanism reports from synthesis, and agreement on the management strategies by affected tribes, landowners and land managers on the field managers team and, where applicable, the department of archaeology and historic preservation.

(2) When conducting watershed analysis revisions pursuant to WAC 222-22-090(4), the cultural resources module is not required if the watershed analysis was approved by the department prior to the date in subsection (1) of this section. However, the board encourages use of the cultural resources module upon such review.

(3) The department does not review or approve cultural resources management strategies because their implementation is voluntary. The department of archaeology and historic preservation must be consulted and agree on all management strategies involving sites registered on the department of archaeology and historic preservation's archaeological and historic sites data base and all resources that require mandatory protection under chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW.

(4) The cultural resources module may be conducted as a stand-alone method separate from a watershed analysis to identify, protect, and manage cultural resources. When used as a stand-alone methodology:

(a) Selected components of the methodology may be used as the participants deem necessary or the module may be used in its entirety.

(b) The methodology may be used at a variety of geographic scales and may be initiated by tribes, land managers or landowners. Landowner or land manager initiation is not limited by the minimum ownership threshold requirements in this chapter. Nothing in this rule grants any person or organization initiating the cultural resources module as a stand-alone method any right of entry onto private property.

(c) Watershed analysis notice requirements to the department do not apply.

(d) Participants are encouraged to engage people that meet the minimum qualifications to conduct the module as set by this chapter.

(e) In order for a stand-alone module to be incorporated into a watershed analysis, the module must have been conducted in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

WAC 222-22-050 Level 1 watershed resource assessment. *[Effective 12/22/08]*

*(1) To begin a watershed resource analysis on a WAU, the department shall assemble a level 1 assessment team consisting of analysts qualified under WAC 222-22-030(1). A forest land owner or owners acting under WAC 222-22-040(3) may assemble a level 1 assessment team

consisting of analysts qualified under WAC 222-22-030(1) or, at its option, may begin the analysis under WAC 222-22-060. Each level 1 team shall include persons qualified in the disciplines indicated as necessary in the methodology, and should generally include a person or persons qualified in the following:

(a) Forestry;
(b) Forest hydrology;
(c) Forest soil science or geology;
(d) Fisheries science;
(e) Geomorphology;
(f) Cultural anthropology; and
(g) Archaeology.

Any owner, and any cooperating group of owners, of ten percent or more of the nonfederal forest land acreage in the WAU and any affected Indian tribe shall be entitled to include one qualified individual to participate on the team at its own expense. The cultural resources module must include the participation of the affected Indian tribe(s). See board manual section 11, J. Cultural Resources Module, Introduction, 1) *Using this methodology in formal watershed analysis*.

*(2) The level 1 team shall perform an inventory of the WAU utilizing the methodology, indices of resource condition, and checklists set forth in the manual in accordance with the following:

(a) The team shall survey the WAU for fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, and conduct an assessment for cultural resources.
(b) The team shall display the location of these resources on a map of the WAU, except mapping of tribal cultural resources sites must be approved by the affected tribe. The location of archaeological sites shall be on a separate map that will be exempt from public disclosure per RCW 42.56.300.
(c) For public resources (fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions):
    (i) The team shall determine the current condition of the resource characteristics of these resources, shall classify their condition as "good," "fair," or "poor," and shall display this information on the map of the WAU. The criteria used to determine current resource conditions shall include indices of resource condition, in addition to such other criteria as may be included in the manual. The indices will include two levels, which will distinguish between good, fair, and poor conditions.
    (ii) The team shall assess the likelihood that identified watershed processes in a given physical location will be adversely changed by one forest practice or by cumulative effects and that, as a result, a material amount of water, wood, sediment, or energy (e.g., affecting temperature) will be delivered to fish, water, or capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions. (This process is referred to in this chapter as "adverse change and deliverability.") (For example, the team will address the likelihood that road construction will result in mass wasting and a slide that will in turn reach a stream.) The team shall rate this likelihood of adverse change and deliverability as "high," "medium," "low," or "indeterminate." Those likelihoods rated high, medium, or indeterminate shall be displayed on the map of the WAU.

(iii) For each instance of high, medium, or indeterminate likelihood of adverse change and deliverability identified under (c) (ii) of this subsection, the team shall assess the vulnerability of potentially affected resource characteristics. Criteria for resource vulnerability shall include indices of resource condition as described in (c) (i) of this subsection and quantitative means to assess the likelihood of material adverse effects to resource characteristics caused by forest practices. (For example, the team will assess the potential damage that increased sediment caused by a slide reaching a stream will cause to salmon spawning habitat that is already in fair or poor condition.) The team shall rate this vulnerability "high," "medium," "low," or "indeterminate" and shall display those vulnerabilities on the map of the WAU. If there are no other criteria in the manual to assess vulnerability at the time of the assessment, current resource condition shall be used, with good condition equivalent to low vulnerability, fair condition equivalent to medium vulnerability, and poor condition equivalent to high vulnerability.

(iv) The team shall identify as areas of resource sensitivity, as provided in table 1 of this section, the locations in which a management response is required under WAC 222-22-070(3) because, as a result of one forest practice or of cumulative effects, there is a combination of a high, medium, or indeterminate likelihood of adverse change and deliverability under (c) (ii) of this subsection and a low, medium, high, or indeterminate vulnerability of resource characteristics under (c) (iii) of this subsection:

Table 1

Areas of Resource Sensitivity and Management Response

Likelihood of Adverse Change and Deliverability

Vulnerability		Low	Medium	High
	Low	Standard rules	Standard Rules	Response: Prevent or avoid
	Medium	Standard rules	Response: Minimize	Response: Prevent or avoid
	High	Standard rules	Response: Prevent or avoid	Response: Prevent or avoid

The team shall display the areas of resource sensitivity on the map of the WAU.

(v) The decision criteria used to determine low, medium, and high likelihood of adverse change and deliverability shall be as set forth in the manual. A low designation generally means there is minimal likelihood that there will be adverse

change and deliverability. A medium designation generally means there is a significant likelihood that there will be adverse change and deliverability. A high designation generally means that adverse change and deliverability is more likely than not with a reasonable degree of confidence. Any areas identified as indeterminate in the level 1 assessment shall be classified for the purposes of the level 1 assessment as medium until a level 2 assessment is done on the WAU under WAC 222-22-060, during which the uncertainties shall be resolved.

(d) For cultural resources, the team shall follow the methodology outlined in the cultural resources module to determine the risk call for cultural resources based upon resource vulnerability and resource importance.

(e) The team shall prepare a causal mechanism report regarding the relationships of each process identified in (c) and (d) of this subsection. The report shall demonstrate that the team's determinations were made in accordance with the manual. If, in the course of conducting a level 1 assessment, the team identifies areas in which voluntary corrective action will significantly reduce the likelihood of material, adverse effects to the condition of a resource characteristic, the team shall include this information in the report, and the department shall convey this information to the applicable land owner.

*(3) Within 21 days of mailing notice under WAC 222-22-040(4), the level 1 team shall submit to the department its draft level 1 assessment, which shall consist of the map of the WAU marked as set forth in this section and the causal mechanism report proposed under subsection (2)(e) of this section. If the level 1 team is unable to agree as to one or more resource sensitivities or potential resource sensitivities, or the causal mechanism report, alternative designations and an explanation therefor shall be included in the draft assessment. Where the draft level 1 assessment delivered to the department contains alternative designations, the department shall within 21 days of the receipt of the draft level 1 assessment make its best determination and approve that option which it concludes most accurately reflects the proper application of the methodologies, indices of resource condition, and checklists set forth in the manual.

*(4) If the level 1 assessment contains any areas in which the likelihood of adverse change and deliverability or resource vulnerability are identified as indeterminate under this section or if the level 1 methodology recommends it, the department shall assemble a level 2 assessment team under WAC 222-22-060 to resolve the uncertainties in the assessment, unless a forest land owner acting under WAC 222-22-040(3) has conducted a level 2 assessment on the WAU.

*(5) Pending the completion of the level 2 assessment, if any, on the WAU, the department shall select interim prescriptions using the process and standards described in WAC 222-22-070 (1), (2), and (3) and 222-22-080(3) and shall apply them to applications and notifications as provided in WAC 222-22-090 (1) and (2). Before submitting recommended interim prescriptions to the department, the field managers' team under WAC 222-22-070(1) shall review the recommended prescriptions with available representatives of the jurisdictional management authorities of the fish, water, capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, and cultural resources in the WAU, including, but not limited to, the departments of fish and wildlife, ecology, and affected Indian tribes.

WAC 222-22-060 Level 2 watershed resource assessment. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

*(1) The department, or forest land owner acting under WAC 222-22-040(3), may assemble a

level 2 assessment team either, in the case of a forest land owner, to begin a watershed analysis or to review the level 1 assessment on a WAU. The level 2 team shall consist of specialists qualified under WAC 222-22-030(1). Each level 2 team shall include persons qualified in the disciplines indicated as necessary in the methodology, and should generally include a person or persons qualified in the following:

(a) Forestry;
(b) Forest hydrology;
(c) Forest soil science or geology;
(d) Fisheries science;
(e) Geomorphology;
(f) Cultural anthropology; and
(g) Archaeology.

Any owner, and any cooperating group of owners, of ten percent or more of the nonfederal forest land acreage in the WAU and any affected Indian tribe shall be entitled to designate one qualified member of the team at its own expense. The cultural resources module must include the participation of the affected Indian tribe(s). See board manual section 11, J. Cultural Resources Module, Introduction, 1) *Using this methodology in formal watershed analysis.*

*(2) The level 2 team shall perform an assessment of the WAU utilizing the methodology, indices of resource condition, and checklist set forth in the manual in accordance with the following:

(a) If a level 1 assessment has not been conducted under WAC 222-22-050, the assessment team shall complete the tasks required under WAC 222-22-050(2), except that the level 2 team shall not rate any likelihood of adverse change and deliverability or resource vulnerability as indeterminate.
(b) If the level 2 team has been assembled to review a level 1 assessment, the level 2 team shall, notwithstanding its optional review of all or part of the level 1 assessment, review each likelihood of adverse change and deliverability and resource vulnerability rated as indeterminate and shall revise each indeterminate rating to low, medium, or high and shall revise the map of the WAU accordingly.

*(3) Within 60 days of mailing notice under WAC 222-22-040(4) where a watershed analysis begins with a level 2 assessment or within 60 days of beginning a level 2 assessment after completion of a level 1 assessment, the level 2 team shall submit to the department its draft level 2 assessment, which shall consist of the map of the WAU and the causal mechanism report.

*(4) The level 2 team shall endeavor to produce a consensus report. If the level 2 team is unable to agree as to one or more areas of resource sensitivity or the casual mechanism report, alternative designations and an explanation therefor shall be included in the draft assessment. Where the draft level 2 assessment delivered to the department contains alternative designations or reports, the department shall within 30 days of the receipt of the draft level 2 assessment make its best determination and approve that option which it concludes most accurately reflects the proper application of the methodologies, indices of resource condition, and checklists set forth in the manual.

WAC 222-22-070 Prescription and management strategies. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

*(1) For each WAU for which a watershed analysis is undertaken, the department, or forest land owner acting under WAC 222-22-040(3), shall assemble a team of field managers qualified under WAC 222-22-030(1). The team shall include persons qualified in the disciplines

indicated as necessary in watershed analysis methods, and shall generally include a person or persons qualified in the following:

(a) Forest resource management;
(b) Forest harvest and road systems engineering;
(c) Forest hydrology;
(d) Fisheries science or management;
(e) Cultural anthropology and/or archaeology, depending on the cultural resources identified in the assessment.

Any owner, and any cooperating group of owners, of ten percent or more of the nonfederal forest land acreage in the WAU and any affected Indian tribe shall be entitled to include one qualified individual to participate on the team at its own expense. The cultural resources module must include the participation of the affected Indian tribe(s). See board manual section 11, J. Cultural Resources Module, Introduction, 1) *Using this methodology in formal watershed analysis*.

*(2) Each forest land owner in a WAU shall have the right to submit to the department or the forest land owner conducting the watershed analysis prescriptions for areas of resource sensitivity on its land. If these prescriptions are received within the time period described in subsection (4) of this section, they shall be considered for inclusion in the watershed analysis.

*(3) For each identified area of resource sensitivity, the field managers team shall, in consultation with the level 1 and level 2 teams, if any, select and recommend to the department prescriptions. These prescriptions shall be reasonably designed to minimize, or to prevent or avoid, as set forth in table 1 in WAC 222-22-050 (2)(c)(iv), the likelihood of adverse change and deliverability that has the potential to cause a material, adverse effect to resource characteristics in accordance with the following:

(a) The prescriptions shall be designed to provide forest land owners and operators with as much flexibility as is reasonably possible while addressing the area of resource sensitivity. The prescriptions should, where appropriate, include, but not be limited to, plans for road abandonment, orphaned roads, and road maintenance and plans for applying prescriptions to recognized land features identified in the WAU as areas of resource sensitivity but not fully mapped;
(b) Restoration opportunities may be included as voluntary prescriptions where appropriate;
(c) Each set of prescriptions shall provide for an option for an alternate plan under WAC 222-12-040, which the applicant shows meets or exceeds the protection provided by the other prescriptions approved for a given area of resource sensitivity;
(d) The rules of forest practices and cumulative effects under this chapter shall not require mitigation for activities or events not regulated under chapter 76.09 RCW. Any hazardous condition subject to forest practices identified in a watershed analysis requiring corrective action shall be referred to the department for consideration under RCW 76.09.300 et seq.; and
(e) The forests and fish riparian permanent rules, when effective, supersede all existing watershed analysis riparian prescriptions with the exception of riparian management zones for exempt 20-acre parcels, when watershed analysis prescriptions were in effect before January 1, 1999. (See WAC 222-30-021, 222-30-022, and 222-30-023.) No new riparian prescriptions will be written after completion of the riparian management zone assessment report during a watershed analysis.

*(4) For each identified cultural resource area of resource sensitivity, the field managers team shall develop cultural resources management strategies in consultation with the assessment team and affected tribe(s).

(a) If a management strategy involves a site registered on the department of archaeology and historic preservation's archaeological and historic sites data base, data recovery at an archaeological site, or any resource that requires mandatory protection under chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW, the field managers team shall submit the management strategy to the department of archaeology and historic preservation for agreement.

(b) The management strategies should be reasonably designed to protect or allow the recovery of resources by measures that minimize or prevent or avoid risks identified in the assessment.

(c) Management strategies resulting from conducting a cultural resources module are voluntary, not mandatory prescriptions, whether the module is conducted as part of a watershed analysis or as a stand-alone method separate from watershed analysis. However, the mandatory protections of resources under chapters 27.44 and 27.53 RCW still apply.

(5) The field managers team shall submit the recommended prescriptions, monitoring recommendations and cultural resources management strategies to the department within 30 days of the submission to the department of the level 2 assessment under WAC 222-22-060 or within 21 days of the submission to the department of the level 1 assessment under WAC 222-22-050.

WAC 222-22-075 Monitoring. *In connection with any watershed analysis that is not a revision (WAC 222-22-090(4)), the monitoring module will be required to be completed but implementation of monitoring recommendations would be voluntary unless otherwise required by existing laws and rules, or required by an HCP implementation agreement. Implementation of the monitoring recommendations will be encouraged when needed as part of the statewide effectiveness monitoring program.

WAC 222-22-076 *Restoration. Restoration opportunities will also be identified based on the watershed resource assessment. Implementation of restoration opportunities will be voluntary.

WAC 222-22-080 *Approval of watershed analysis. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

(1) Upon receipt of the recommended prescriptions and management strategies resulting from a level 2 assessment under WAC 222-22-060 or a level 1 assessment under WAC 222-22-050 where a level 2 assessment will not be conducted, the department shall select prescriptions. The department shall circulate the draft watershed analysis to the departments of ecology, fish and wildlife, affected Indian tribes, local government entities, forest land owners in the WAU, and the public for review and comment. The prescriptions recommended by the field managers' team shall be given substantial weight. Within thirty days of receipt of the prescriptions and management strategies, the department shall review comments, revise the watershed analysis as appropriate, and approve or disapprove the watershed analysis for the WAU.

*(2) The department should notify any governmental agency or Indian tribe having jurisdiction over activities which are not regulated under chapter 76.09 RCW but which are identified in the draft analysis as having a potential for an adverse impact on identified fish, water,

capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions, and cultural resources.

*(3) The department shall approve the draft watershed analysis unless it finds:

(a) For any level 1 assessment or level 2 assessment, that:

(i) The team failed in a material respect to apply the methodology, indices of resource condition, or checklists set forth in the manual; or

(ii) A team meeting the criteria promulgated by the department and using the defined methodologies, indices of resource conditions, and checklists set forth in the manual could not reasonably have come to the conclusions identified in the draft level 1 or level 2 assessment; and

(b) For the prescriptions, that they will not accomplish the purposes and policies of this chapter and of the Forest Practices Act, chapter 76.09 RCW.

(c) In making its findings under this subsection, the department shall take into account its ability to revise assessments under WAC 222-22-090(3).

*(4) If the department does not approve the draft watershed analysis, it shall set forth in writing a detailed explanation of the reasons for its disapproval.

(5) All watershed analyses must be reviewed under SEPA on a nonproject basis. SEPA review may take place concurrently with the public review in subsection (1) of this section. (See WAC 222-10-035.)

(6) The department will not review or approve cultural resource management strategies because their implementation is voluntary.

WAC 222-22-090 Use and review of watershed analysis. *[Effective 7/1/05]*

*(1) Where a watershed analysis has been completed for a WAU under this chapter:

(a) Any landowner within the WAU may apply for a multiyear permit to conduct forest practices according to the watershed analysis prescriptions. This permit is not renewable if a five-year review is found necessary by the department and has not been completed.

(b) Nonmultiyear forest practices applications and notifications submitted to the department shall indicate whether an area of resource sensitivity will be affected and, if so, which prescription the operator, timber owner, or forest land owner shall use in conducting the forest practice in the area of resource sensitivity;

(c) The department shall assist operators, timber owners, and forest land owners in obtaining governmental permits required for the prescription (see WAC 222-50-020 and 222-50-030);

(d) The department shall confirm that the prescription selected under (b) of this subsection was one of the prescriptions approved for the area of resource sensitivity under WAC 222-22-080 and shall require the use of the prescription; and

(e) The department shall not further condition forest practices applications and notifications in an area of resource sensitivity in a WAU where the applicant will use a prescription contained in the watershed analysis nor shall the department further condition forest practices applications and notifications outside an area of resource sensitivity in a WAU, except for reasons other than the watershed processes and fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions analyzed in the watershed analysis in the WAU, and except to correct mapping errors, misidentification of soils, landforms, vegetation, or stream features, or other similar factual errors.

*(2) Pending completion of a watershed analysis for a WAU, the department shall process forest practices notifications and applications in accordance with the other chapters of this title, except that applications and notifications received for forest practices on a WAU after the

date notice is mailed under WAC 222-22-040(4) commencing a watershed analysis on the WAU shall be conditioned to require compliance with interim, draft, and final prescriptions, as available.

Processing and approval of applications and notifications shall not be delayed by reason of review, approval, or appeal of a watershed analysis.

*(3) The board encourages cooperative and voluntary monitoring. Evaluation of resource conditions may be conducted by qualified specialists, analysts, and field managers as determined under WAC 222-22-030. Subsequent watershed analysis and monitoring recommendations in response to areas where recovery is not occurring shall be conducted in accordance with this chapter.

*(4) Where the condition of resource characteristics in a WAU are fair or poor, the department shall evaluate the effectiveness of the prescriptions applied under this chapter to the WAU in providing for the protection and recovery of the resource characteristic. If the department finds that the prescriptions are not providing for such protection and recovery over a period of 3 years, the department shall repeat the watershed analysis in the WAU. Aside from the foregoing, once a watershed analysis is completed on a WAU, it shall be revised in whole or in part upon the earliest of the following to occur:

(a) Five years after the date the watershed analysis is final, if necessary;

(b) The occurrence of a natural disaster having a material adverse effect on the resource characteristics of the WAU;

(c) Deterioration in the condition of a resource characteristic in the WAU measured over a 12-month period or no improvement in a resource characteristic in fair or poor condition in the WAU measured over a 12-month period unless the department determines, in cooperation with the departments of ecology, fish and wildlife, affected Indian tribes, forest land owners, and the public, that a longer period is reasonably necessary to allow the prescriptions selected to produce improvement; or

(d) The request of an owner of forest land in the WAU, which wishes to conduct a watershed analysis at its own expense.

Revision of an approved watershed analysis shall be conducted in accordance with the processes, methods, and standards set forth in this chapter, except that the revised watershed analysis shall be conducted only on the areas affected in the case of revisions under (b) or (c) of this subsection, and may be conducted on areas smaller than the entire WAU in the case of revisions under (a) and (d) of this subsection. The areas on which the watershed analysis revision is to be conducted shall be determined by the department and clearly delineated on a map before beginning the assessment revision. Forest practices shall be conditioned under the current watershed analysis pending the completion of any revisions.

WAC 222-22-100 Application review prior to watershed analysis. *The watershed analysis system established in this chapter is a principal methodology for assessing the effects on fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions of two or more forest practices. Recognizing that it will not be possible to achieve state-wide implementation of the analysis process for all WAUs for some time, the board hereby establishes certain interim regulatory measures pending watershed analysis on a given WAU. These measures are designed to ensure use of the best available analysis techniques and existing authorities to protect fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political subdivisions.

*(1) The department shall continue to use its implementation and enforcement authority to prevent damage to fish, water, and capital improvements of the state or its political

subdivisions. See chapter 222-46 WAC.

*(2) The department shall condition the size of clearcut harvest applications in the significant rain-on-snow zone where the department determines, using local evidence, that peak flows have resulted in material damages to public resources. The department may prepare conditioning guidelines to assess and condition applications located in a significant rain-on-snow zone.

(a) Each year not later than August 31, the department shall provide a summary report of actions taken under rain-on-snow conditioning or conditioning guidelines to the appropriate board committee.

(b) Such conditioning authority shall expire upon completion of watershed analysis in a WAU.

(c) Nothing in this section shall require a watershed analysis to develop harvest size recommendations.