



# RULE-MAKING ORDER

**CR-103P (May 2009)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.360)**

**Agency:** Forest Practices Board

**Permanent Rule Only**

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

31 days after filing.

Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_ (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

Yes  No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** The purpose is to inform prospective applicants that the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) may require additional information, including additional geologic information, when reviewing Forest Practices Applications (FPAs).

**Citation of existing rules affected by this order:**

Repealed:  
Amended: WAC 222-10-030; WAC 222-20-010  
Suspended:

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 76.09.040(3)

**Other authority :**

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 14-23-047 on November 14, 2014.  
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version:

- WAC 222-10-030(5)** Change from "...preparation of requested geologic information..." to "...preparation of **required** geologic information..." for consistency with the use of "required" in new subsection (7) in WAC 222-20-010.
- WAC 222-20-010(2)** Added, "...the operator is known at the time the application is submitted" to account for situations where the landowner or landowner/timber owner does not, at the time the application is submitted, know who the operator will be.
- WAC 222-20-010(9)**
  - Changed first sentence, from: "...Where potentially unstable slopes or landforms are **on** or around the area of an application..." to: "...Where potentially unstable slopes or landforms are **in** or around the area of an application..."
  - Added a sentence: "Nothing in this subsection is intended to require a geotechnical report if the geologic information provided is sufficient to appropriately classify the application."
  - Eliminated a sentence: "This information is for classification purposes only."

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: Gretchen Robinson phone (360) 902-1705  
Address: 1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98504-7012 fax (360) 902-1428  
e-mail gretchen.robinson@dnr.wa.gov

**Date adopted:** February 10, 2015

**CODE REVISER USE ONLY**

**NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)**  
Aaron Everett

**SIGNATURE**

**TITLE**  
Chair

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED  
**DATE: February 26, 2015**  
**TIME: 10:31 AM**  
**WSR 15-06-037**

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

<b>Federal statute:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Federal rules or standards:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Recently enacted state statutes:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
-----	-------	---------	-------	----------	-------

**The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:**

New	_____	Amended	<u>2</u>	Repealed	_____
-----	-------	---------	----------	----------	-------

**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	_____	Amended	<u>2</u>	Repealed	_____
-----	-------	---------	----------	----------	-------

**The number of sections adopted using:**

<b>Negotiated rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Pilot rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	_____	Repealed	_____
<b>Other alternative rule making:</b>	New	_____	Amended	<u>2</u>	Repealed	_____

**WAC 222-10-030 \*SEPA policies for potentially unstable slopes and landforms.** In addition to SEPA policies established elsewhere in this chapter, the following policies apply to forest practices described in WAC 222-16-050 (1)(d) relating to construction or harvest on potentially unstable slopes or landforms.

(1) In order to determine whether such forest practices are likely to have a probable significant adverse impact, and therefore require an environmental impact statement, the applicant must submit the following additional information, prepared by a qualified expert as defined in subsection (5) of this section. The qualified expert must describe the potentially unstable landforms in and around the application site and analyze:

(a) The likelihood that the proposed forest practices will cause movement on the potentially unstable slopes or landforms, or contribute to further movement of a potentially unstable slope or landform;

(b) The likelihood of delivery of sediment or debris to any public resources, or in a manner that would threaten public safety; and

(c) Any possible mitigation for the identified hazards and risks.

(2) The department's threshold determination will include an evaluation of whether the proposed forest practices:

(a) Are likely to increase the probability of a mass movement on or near the site;

(b) Would deliver sediment or debris to a public resource or would deliver sediment or debris in a manner that would threaten public safety; and

(c) Such movement and delivery are likely to cause significant adverse impacts.

If the department determines that (a), (b) and (c) of this subsection are likely to occur, then the forest practice is likely to have a probable significant adverse impact.

(3) The department will evaluate the proposal, using appropriate expertise and in consultation with other affected agencies and Indian tribes.

(4) Specific mitigation measures or conditions must be designed to avoid accelerating rates and magnitudes of mass wasting that could deliver sediment or debris to a public resource or could deliver sediment or debris in a manner that would threaten public safety.

(5) Qualified expert for the purposes of this section (~~and for~~), reanalysis of watershed analysis mass wasting prescriptions under WAC 222-22-030, and preparation of requested geologic information under WAC 222-20-010(9), means a person licensed under chapter 18.220 RCW as either an engineering geologist or as a hydrogeologist (if the site warrants hydrologist expertise), with at least three years of field experience in the evaluation of relevant problems in forested lands.

**WAC 222-20-010 Applications and notifications—Policy.** (1) **No Class II, III or IV forest practices** shall be commenced or continued unless the department has received a notification for Class II forest practices, or approved an application for Class III or IV forest practices pursuant to the act. Where the time limit for the department to act on the application has expired, and none of the conditions in WAC 222-20-020(1) exist, the operation may commence. (NOTE: OTHER LAWS AND RULES AND/OR PERMIT REQUIREMENTS MAY APPLY. SEE CHAPTER 222-50 WAC.)

(2) **The department shall** prescribe the form and contents of ~~((the))~~ notifications and applications ~~((, which))~~. The department shall specify ~~((what))~~ the information ~~((is needed))~~ required for a notification, and the information required for the department to approve or disapprove ~~((the))~~ an application.

(3) **Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, applications and notifications** shall be signed by the landowner, the timber owner, and the operator ~~((, or the operator and accompanied by a consent form signed by the timber owner and the landowner. A consent form may be another document if it is signed by the landowner(s) and it contains a statement acknowledging that he/she is familiar with the Forest Practices Act, including the provisions dealing with conversion to another use (RCW 76.09.060(3))))~~.

(4) In lieu of a landowner's signature, where the timber rights have been transferred by deed to a perpetual owner who is different from the forest landowner, the owner of perpetual timber rights may sign a forest practices application or notification for operations not converting to another use and the statement of intent not to convert for a set period of time. The holder of perpetual timber rights shall serve the signed forest practices application or notification and the signed statement of intent on the forest landowner. The forest practices application shall not be considered complete until the holder of perpetual timber rights has submitted evidence acceptable to the department that such service has occurred.

(5) **Where an application** for a conversion is not signed by the landowner ~~((or accompanied by a consent form, as outlined in subsection (3) of this section))~~, the department shall not approve the application. Applications and notifications for the development or maintenance of utility rights of way shall not be considered to be conversions.

(6) **Transfer of the** approved application or notification to a new landowner, timber owner or operator requires written notice by the former landowner or timber owner to the department and should include the original application or notification number. This written notice shall be in a form acceptable to the department and shall contain an affirmation signed by the new landowner, timber owner, or operator, as applicable, that he/she agrees to be bound by all conditions on the approved application or notification. In the case of a transfer of an application previously approved without the landowner's signature, the new timber owner or operator must submit a bond securing compliance with the requirements of the forest practices rules as determined necessary by the department. If an application or notification indicates that the landowner or timber owner is also the operator, or an operator signed the application, no notice need be given regarding any

change in subcontractors or similar independent contractors working under the supervision of the operator of record.

(7) The landowner or timber owner must provide notice of hiring or change of operator to the department within forty-eight hours of the change. The department shall promptly notify the landowner if the operator is subject to a notice of intent to disapprove under WAC 222-46-070. Once notified, the landowner will not permit the operator, who is subject to a notice of intent to disapprove, to conduct the forest practices specified in the application or notification, or any other forest practices until such notice of intent to disapprove is removed by the department.

(8) **Applications and notifications**, if complete, will be considered officially received on the date and time shown on any registered or certified mail receipt, or the written receipt given at the time of personal delivery, or at the time of receipt by general mail delivery. The department will immediately provide a dated receipt to the applicant. Applications or notifications that are not complete, or are inaccurate will not be considered officially received until the applicant furnishes the necessary information to complete the application.

(a) A review statement from the U.S. Forest Service that evaluates compliance of the forest practices with the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Act (CRGNSA) special management area guidelines is necessary information for an application or notification within the CRGNSA special management area. The review statement requirement shall be waived if the applicant can demonstrate the U.S. Forest Service received a complete plan application and failed to act within forty-five days.

(b) A complete environmental checklist (WAC 197-11-315) is necessary information for all Class IV applications.

(c) A local governmental entity clearing and/or grading permit is necessary information for all Class IV applications on lands that will be converted to a use other than commercial timber operations if the local governmental entity has jurisdiction and has an ordinance requiring such permit.

(d) A checklist road maintenance and abandonment plan is necessary information for all small forest landowners' applications or notifications for timber harvest (including salvage), unless exempt under WAC 222-24-0511, or unless the application is a small forest landowner long-term application which requires a roads assessment.

~~((8) **An operator's name**, if known, must be included on any forest practices application or notification. The landowner or timber owner must provide notice of hiring or change of operator to the department within forty eight hours. The department shall promptly notify the landowner if the operator is subject to a notice of intent to disapprove under WAC 222-46-070. Once notified, the landowner will not permit the operator, who is subject to a notice of intent to disapprove, to conduct the forest practices specified in the application or notification, or any other forest practices until such notice of intent to disapprove is removed by the department.))~~

(9) Where potentially unstable slopes or landforms are on or around the area of an application, the department may require the landowner to provide additional geologic information prepared by a qualified expert in order to classify the application appropriately. The information shall include an explanation of how the qualified expert evaluated the proposed harvest or construction activities with respect to the potentially unstable slopes or landforms. This information is for classification purposes only.

(a) "Qualified expert" is defined in WAC 222-10-030.

(b) "Potentially unstable slopes or landforms" are those listed in WAC 222-16-050 (1)(d)(i)(A) through (E).

(10) **Financial assurances** may be required by the department prior to the approval of any future forest practices application or notification to an operator or landowner under the provisions of WAC 222-46-090.