

## Hello Professional Land Surveyors of Washington State,

DNR Public Land Survey Office (PLSO) is reaching out to you to make you aware of our success in updating the Auditor's Checklist in WAC 332-130-050.

Your representatives on the DNR Survey Advisory Board relayed your requests for updates and improvements to the Checklist. While the checklist may never satisfy everyone's desires, several positive changes have been made.

First, all references to Mylar have been removed from the rule. The requirement concerning **media for filing has been replaced by any standard compatible with the recording office's processes.** You need to know what media and format the recording office can process under the current statutes and therefore you will have to check with them.

Second, is the issue of surveyors' signatures. You are now provided with options for placing your signature on the final map. Your surveyor's signature must be over your stamp and in black. These are the only signature requirements for surveyors going forward. **Recorders ARE NOT advised to reject surveys related to signatures unless they are in a color other than black.** Surveyors are professionals and as such are expected to know and follow the statutes and rules. The PLSO and other professionals will monitor this issue as necessary.

Third, to make the recording office's job easier the Auditor's liaison on the SAB submitted the following language for the Checklist ***"The documents submitted must be legible and reproducible by the auditor's recording system regardless of media used for recording."*** We were pleased to be able to add this language to the update.

Fourth, all survey maps **must include written index data** as well as a graphic representation of quarter-quarters in which the surveyed parcel lies. Discussion is taking place to consider changing this requirement by removing the graphic index altogether. We will keep you informed should this or any other changes come about.

The following page includes a copy of the updated WAC which takes effect on Monday 12/07/2020.

As always, we thank you for your continuing efforts to keep the land surveying records of our State legible and free from error.

Respectfully,

*Bob P. Knuth*, Manager, PLSO



**CHECKLIST FOR SURVEY MAPS BEING RECORDED**  
(Adopted in WAC 332-130)

The following checklist applies to land boundary survey maps and plans, records of surveys, plats, short plats, boundary line adjustments, and binding site plans required by law to be filed or recorded with the county. There are other requirements to meet legal standards. Records of survey filed pursuant to chapter 58.09 RCW, that comply with this checklist, shall be recorded; no other checklist is authorized for determining their recordability.

**ACCEPTABLE MEDIA:**

- Acceptable media are:
  - [ ] Any standard material compatible with county processes; or, an electronic version of the original.
- [ ] All signatures must be made with black ink.
- [ ] The media submitted for filing must not have any material on it that is affixed by adhesive.

**LEGIBILITY:**

- [ ] The documents submitted, including paper copies, must have a uniform contrast throughout the document.
- [ ] The documents submitted must be legible and reproducible by the auditor's recording system regardless of media used for recording.
- [ ] No information, on either the original or the copies, should be obscured or illegible due to cross-hatching, shading, or as a result of poor drafting technique such as lines drawn through text or improper pen size selection (letters or number filled in such that 3's, 6's or 8's are indistinguishable).
- [ ] Signatures, date, and seals must be legible on the prints or the party placing the seal must be otherwise identified.
- [ ] Text must be 0.08 inches or larger; line widths shall not be less than 0.008 inches (vicinity maps, land surveyor's seals and certificates are excluded).

**INDEXING:**

- [ ] The recording officer's information block must be on the bottom right edge of the map.
- [ ] A title block (shows the name of the preparer and is on each sheet of multiple sheets).
- [ ] An auditor's certificate (on the first sheet of multiple sheets, although Vol./Pg. and/or AF# must be entered by the recording officer on each sheet).
- [ ] A surveyor's certificate (on the first sheet of multiple sheets; seal, date, and signature on multiple sheets).
- The map filed must provide the following indexing data:
  - [ ] S-T-R and the quarter-quarter(s) or approximate quarter-quarter(s) of the section in which the surveyed parcel lies, and a graphic representation of the section divided into quarter-quarters in which the surveyed parcel lies are clearly marked.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- If the function of the document submitted is to change previously filed record, it must also have:
- [ ] A title identifying it as a correction, amendment, alteration or change to a previously filed record.
- [ ] A note itemizing the changes.
- For records of survey:
  - [ ] The sheet size must be 18" x 24".
  - [ ] The margins must be 2" on the left and 1/2" for the others, when viewed in landscape orientation.
  - [ ] In addition to the map being filed there must be two prints included in the submittal; except that, in counties using imaging systems fewer prints, as determined by the auditor, may be allowed.