Water Type Classification Worksheet

You are required to verify and identify water types and wetlands within 200 feet of your proposed forest practices activities prior to turning in a Forest Practices Application/Notification (FPA/N). Call the Clark County Foresters office if you need help classifying water types or wetlands. Type S (shorelines) waters don't need to be verified and can't be changed as these are determined by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Type F waters get the highest protection; you are not required to verify Type F waters but they must be designated on the map.

Water typing affects your FPA/N because specific water types have specific riparian management zone (RMZ) requirements. Applying a larger buffer than what is required will not affect your FPA/N in any way; however, applying a smaller buffer may result in your FPA/N being disapproved. For example:

- If you typed a stream as an Np stream and left an Np buffer, and the County Forester determines said stream to be an F stream, your FPA will be disapproved or amended.
- If you typed a stream as an F stream and left an F buffer, and the County Forester determines the stream to be an Np stream, your FPA will not be disapproved or amended.

Note: If you base your riparian management zones on a proposed water type change, and Clark County cannot process this change before the Decision Date, Clark County may disapprove your FPA/N.

Step 1: Get an Activity Map from Clark County MapsOnline website:

https://gis.clark.wa.gov/mapsonline/?site=Environmental&ext=1

Step 2: Check the locations and types of all streams, ponds, lakes, and wetlands that exist

- Within the boundaries of your forest practice; and
- Within 200 feet on all sides of the outer boundaries of your forest practice.
 - See WAC 222-16-031 and the Forest Practices Board Manual Section 13- Guidelines for Determining Fish
 Use for the Purpose of Typing Waters for water typing information.
 - o See the Water Type Classification Worksheet within this document for help.
 - o See WAC 222-16-035 for wetland typing information.

Step 3: Update the Activity Map so that it accurately shows the correct water and wetland types and their locations as they exist on the ground. These include Type F, Np, and Ns waters, F/N type breaks, Np/Ns type breaks, and type A, B, and forested wetlands greater than three acres in size.

- For water bodies not shown on the Activity Map:
 - o Draw the stream, lake, pond, or wetland on the map in its correct location.
 - o Label it with the correct water type and identifier that will match it to your FPA/N.
- For waterbodies that are labeled with an incorrect water type or no water type, label with the correct water type or give it an identifier that will match it to your Forest Practices Application/Notification (FPA/N).
- For waterbodies that don't exist, cross them off the Activity Map using a series of X's. This includes streams labeled as "U" for "unidentified." Explain in Question 31 of your FPA/N how you determined that the water bodies do not exist (i.e. you walked the area and didn't find a defined channel).
- Note: The updated map that you create is only for your FPA/N and doesn't result in an update to DNR's maps.

Step 4: Use one or more of the following ways to explain how you verified water types, including how you determined that a water type shown on the map doesn't exist on the ground:

- Provide detailed information on the following:
 - Site visit date(s),
 - The area visited (the area covered by your property, length of stream observed, etc.),
 - o Observations (stream width, stream gradient, no water, no channel, etc.), and
 - Describe how you found the uppermost point of perennial flow for type Np waters.
- Use a Water Type Classification Worksheet(s) to help you determine stream types and describe how streams were typed within and adjacent to the proposal area.
- Use a Water Type Modification Form to both explain the information above AND update the DNR hydro layer:
 - o These aren't required with your FPA/N.
 - o Use these when you want to change the water type map in DNR's system.
 - Refer to the Water Type Modification form and instructions, which can be found on the DNR website or at the DNR Regional office, for more information.

Western Washington Water Type Classification Worksheet

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