



Watershed Masters Nov. 8, 2022

Washington Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Nick Kunz - District Forester

**BS Forestry and Natural Resources with a concentration in Geology
- minor in Water Science: California Polytechnic State University**

Forest inventory, prescribed fire, silviculture research (UC Blodgett Forest Research Station)

Forest and rangeland water quality policy and grants (CA State Water Resources Control Board)

Reforestation and tree improvement (Quinault Indian Nation)

Forest management, wetland delineation, remote sensing and spatial analysis (Consulting Forester)

An aerial photograph of a forested landscape with a winding river, overlaid with a ruler and a list of topics. The ruler at the top shows measurements from 180 to 300. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent grey box.

Washington Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs)


What are BMPs

Why BMPs

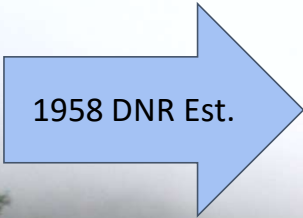
How are BMPs developed

Where and When are BMPs implemented

BMP Monitoring and Effectiveness

An aerial photograph of a forested hillside. The top of the hill is covered in a mix of green and brown vegetation, possibly indicating a transition zone or a specific land management practice. A stream flows down the slope, surrounded by dense green trees. The overall scene is a natural landscape with a focus on water and land management.

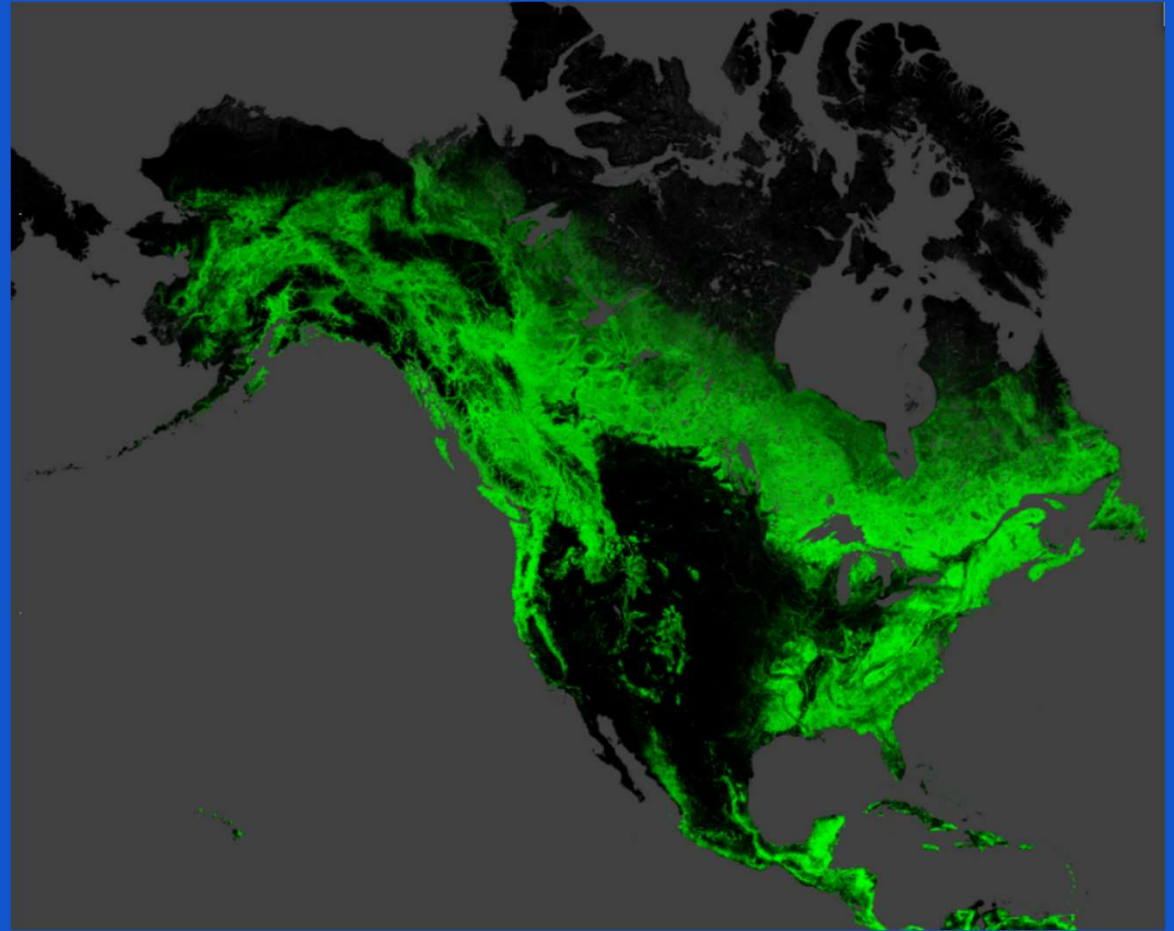
A Best Management Practice is "...a practice or combination of practices considered by a State [or authorized Tribe] to be the most effective means (including technological, economic and institutional considerations) of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals." (40 CFR 130.2(Q))



Year Est.	State and Federal Environmental Law	Administered by this Agency
1947	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act	Environmental Protection Agency
1949	Hydraulics Code Guidelines	Wash. Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
1969	National Environmental Policy Act	Environmental Protection Agency's Council on Environmental Quality
1970	Federal Clean Air Act	Environmental Protection Agency
1971	Wash. Clean Air Act	Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources, Wash. Dept. of Ecology
1971	State Environmental Policy Act	Wash. Dept. of Ecology
1971	State Shorelines Management Act	Wash. Dept. of Ecology
1971	Wash. Pesticide Control Act	Wash. Dept. of Agriculture
1972	Federal Clean Water Act	Environmental Protection Agency
1973	State Water Pollution Control Act	Wash. Dept. of Ecology
1973	Federal Endangered Species Act	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries
1974	State Forest Practices Act	Wash. Dept. of Natural Resources' Forest Practices Board

Modern BMP's are the result of decades of research and ever expanding demand on forest resources:

- Wood/Minerals
- Water
- Fish and Wildlife
- Recreation/Scenic
- Cultural/Spiritual



Forest BMPs are important because:

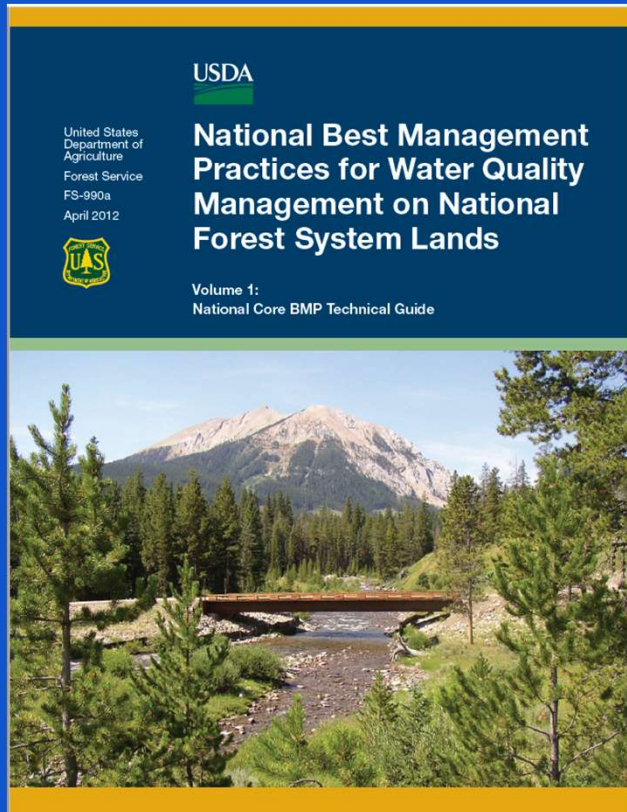
- Habitat for terrestrial and aquatic organisms
- Drinking water to millions, water for irrigated Ag
- Fishing, Swimming, Boating
- Hydroelectric, Navigation



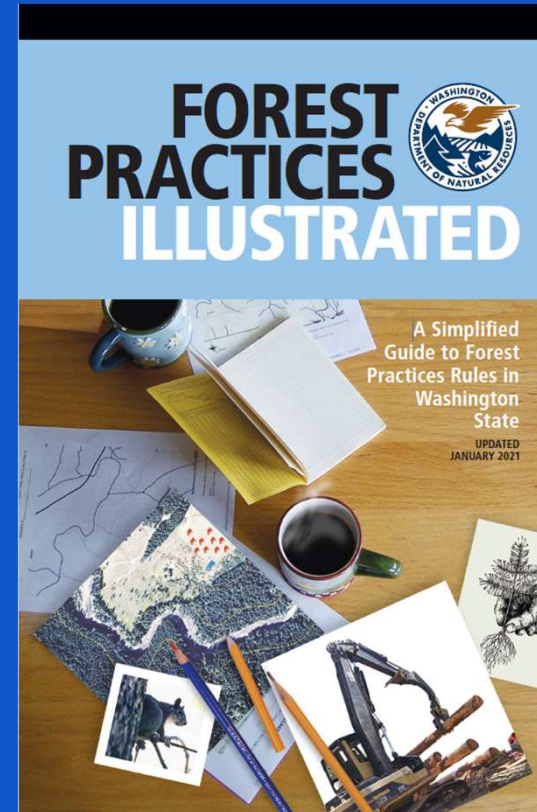
Image Source: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/4e450a6c7ed24f0cbae4abc1c07843b7?item=1>

1902 Yolt Burn (Clark County)





(National Forest Land)



(State and Private Forest Land in WA)

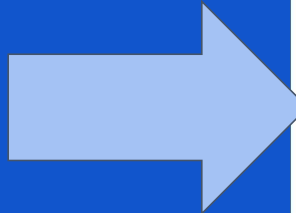


[Forest Practices Rules](#)

[Forest Practices Board Manual](#)

[Forest Practices Rule Making](#)

[Forest Practices Rule Archive](#)



Forest Practices Board Manual



The Forest Practices Board Manual is an advisory technical supplement to the Washington State forest practices rules ([Title 222 WAC](#)). The [Forest Practices Board](#) — an independent agency — adopts forest practices rules to set standards for timber harvesting, road construction, forest chemical application and other forest practices. (See [Forest Practices Rules](#))

Board Manual Development

DNR, in cooperation with the departments of Fish and Wildlife, Ecology, and other agencies, affected Indian Tribes, or interested stakeholders having appropriate expertise, prepares and submits board manual revisions to the Board.

FOREST PRACTICES BOARD MANUAL

To download a section of the board manual, right-click on the link, select "save target as" or "save as" from the short-cut menu and save the file to your computer or tablet. Then open the file using portable document software, such as [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#), not your browser.

Download [all sections of the Forest Practices Board Manual](#)

CONTACT

Patricia Anderson

Forest Practices Board Rules
Coordinator

1111 Washington St. SE, MS
47012

Olympia, WA 98504-7012
360-902-1400

Fax 360-902-1428

forest.practicesboard@dnr.wa.gov

[E-Subscribe \(Receive free E-mail updates when changes occur to this webpage\)](#)

RELATED LINKS

[Forest Practices Act \(Chapter 76.09 RCW\)](#)

[Examples of Hydraulic Plans can be Found on the Forest Practices Forms and Instructions Webpage](#)

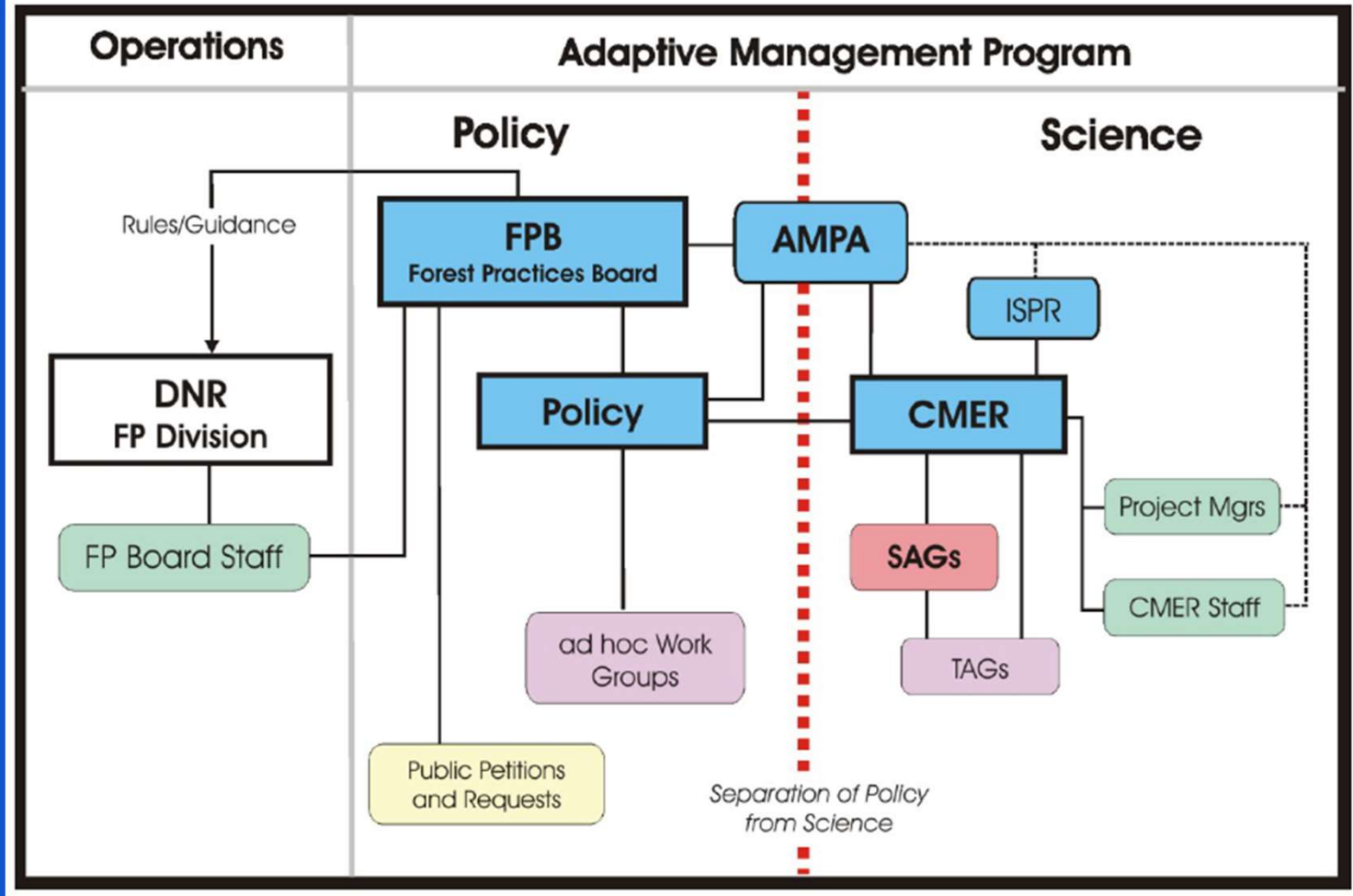
Resources for Small Forest Landowners

DNR Small Forest Landowner Office 'SFLO' provides:

Regulation assistance foresters

Washington Farm Forestry Association provides: Support for small forestland owners in policy

Relationships between Adaptive Management Program (AMP), Operations, Policy, and Science Participants



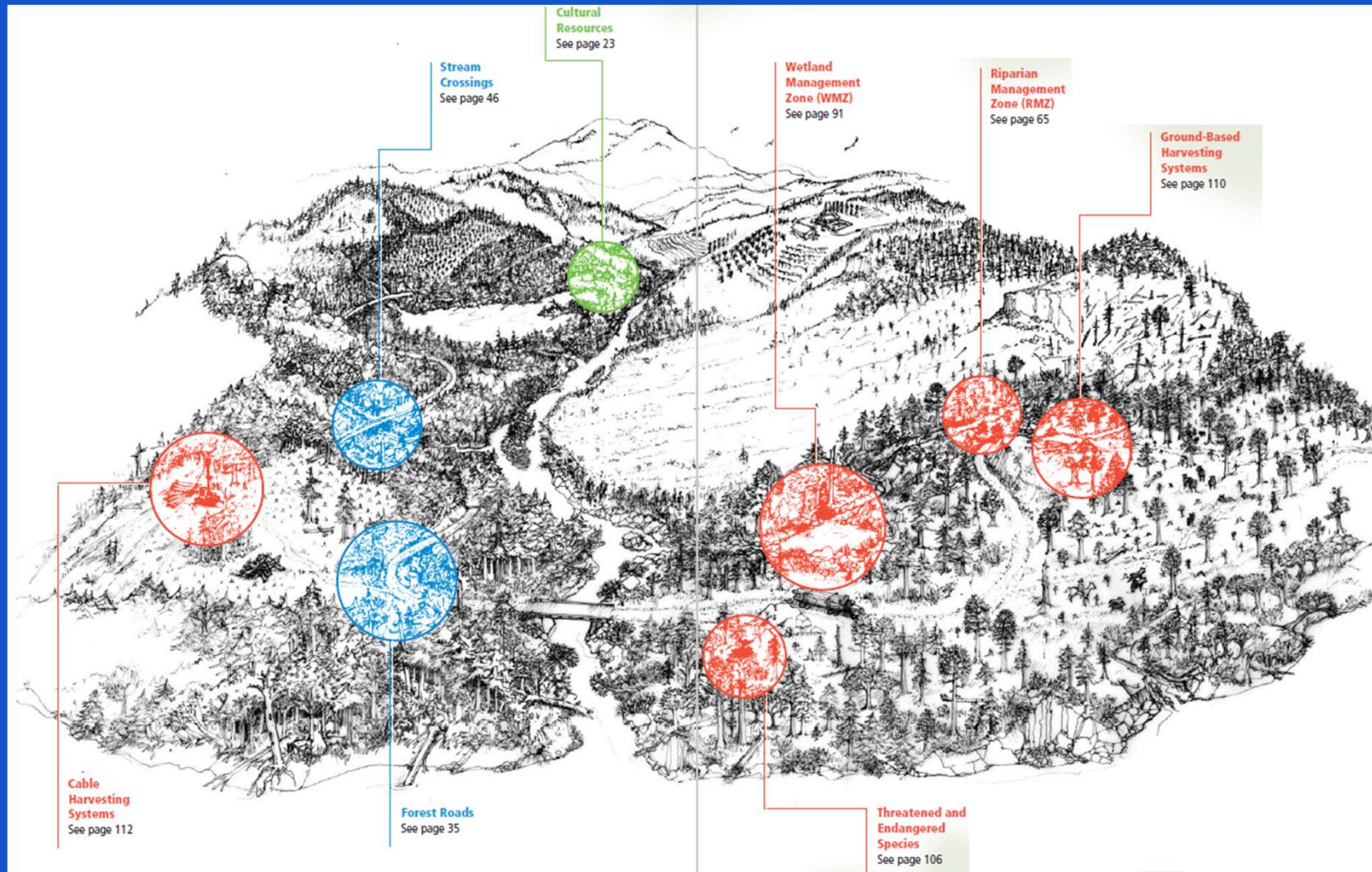
Forest Practice Rules Differ Between East and Westside



Of all the non-point sources of pollution associated with forest disturbance: Sediment, from roads, makes up the vast majority of water quality impacts.

Thus much of the early emphasis on Forest BMPs were on roads and road crossing

now increasingly there are concerns about stream temperature...



Each section provides the process and methods for determining how a given BMP is to be implemented

Certain specialized tools may be required, such as:

- Spherical Densiometer*
- Range Finder
- Length & Diameter Tape...

Download individual sections of the manual:

Cover & Table of Contents

Section 1: Method for Determination of Adequate Shade Requirements on Streams

Section 2: Standard Methods for Identifying Bankfull Channel Features and Channel Migration Zones

Section 3: Guidelines for Forest Roads

Section 4: Guidelines for Clearing Slash and Debris from Type Np and Ns Water

Section 5: Guidelines for Forest Practices Hydraulic Projects

Section 6: Guidelines for Determining Acceptable Stocking Levels

Section 7: Guidelines for Riparian Management Zones (RMZ) (Measuring Widths and Tree Counts)

Section 8: Guidelines for Wetland Delineation

Section 9: Guidelines for Wetland Replacement by Substitution or Enhancement

Section 10: Non-Native Wetland Plant Species

Section 11: Standard Methodology for Conducting Watershed Analysis

Section 12: Guidelines for Application of Forest Chemicals

Section 13: Guidelines for Determining Fish Use for the Purpose of Typing Waters

Section 14: Survey Protocol for Marbled Murrelets

Section 15: Guidelines for Estimating the Number of Marbled Murrelet Nesting Platforms

Section 16: Guidelines for Evaluating Potentially Unstable Slopes and Landforms

Section 17: Guidelines for the Small Forest Landowner Forestry Riparian Easement Program

Section 18: Guidelines for Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program

Section 19: Guidelines for Hardwood Conversion

Section 20: Guidelines for Financial Assurances

Section 21: Guidelines for Alternate Plans

Section 22: Guidelines for Adaptive Management Program

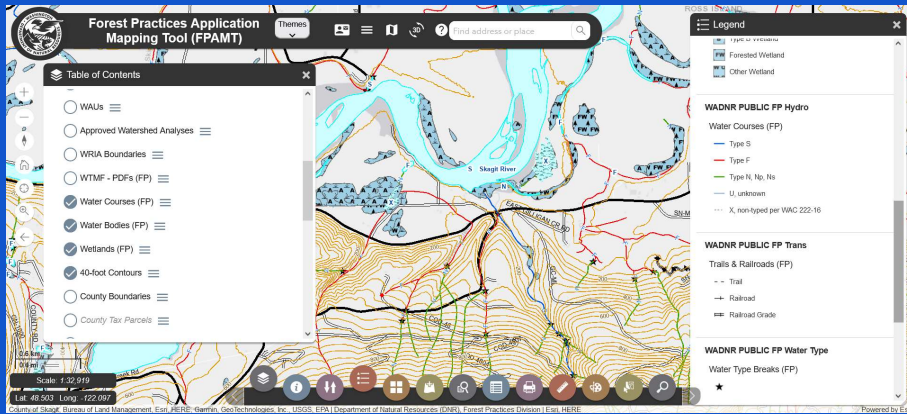
Section 23: Guidelines for Field Protocol to Locate Mapped Divisions Between Stream Types & Perennial Stream Identification

Section 24: Guidelines for the Interim Modification of Bull Trout Habitat Overlay

Section 25: Guidelines for Bull Trout Presence Survey Protocol

Section 26: Guidelines for Large Woody Debris Placement Strategies

Water Course Types are found online



Water Type Classifications

The following table provides a general description of forest practices water type classifications currently in use.

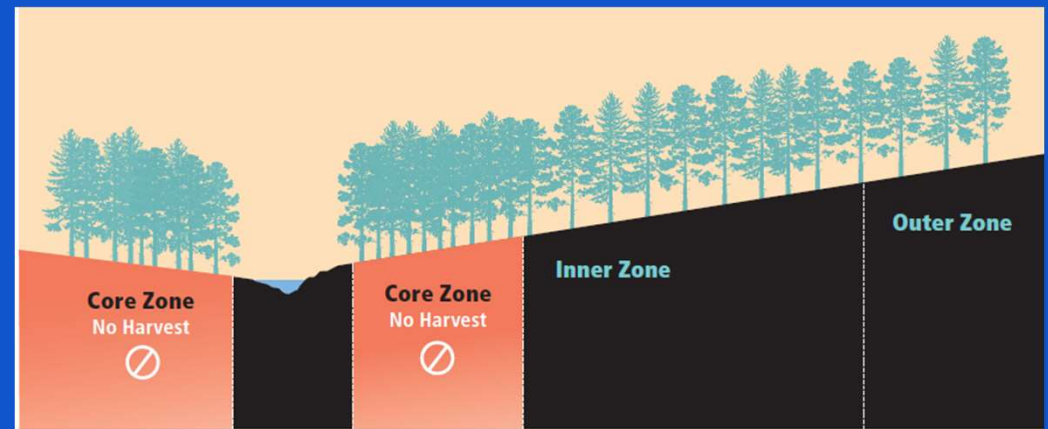
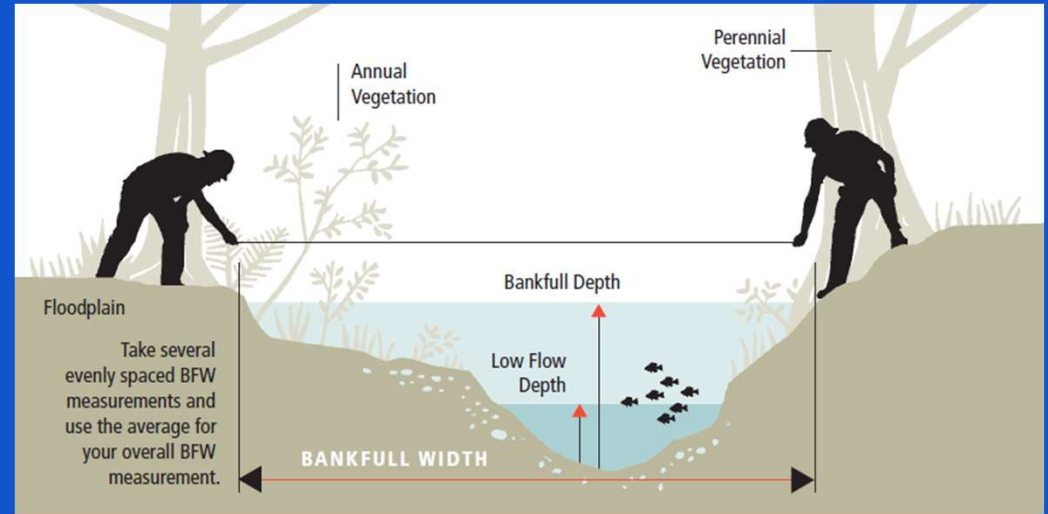
Type	Description
Type "S" = Shoreline	Streams and waterbodies that are designated "shorelines of the state" as defined in chapter 90.58.030 RCW. (formerly type 1)
Type "F" = Fish	Streams and waterbodies that are known to be used by fish, or meet the physical criteria to be potentially used by fish. Fish streams may or may not have flowing water all year; they may be perennial or seasonal. (formerly type 2 or 3)
Type "Np" = Non-Fish	Streams that have flow year round and may have spatially intermittent dry reaches downstream of perennial flow. Type Np streams do not meet the physical criteria of a Type F stream. This also includes streams that have been proven not to contain fish using methods described in Forest Practices Board Manual Section 13 . (formerly type 4)
Type "Ns" = Non-Fish Seasonal	Streams that do not have surface flow during at least some portion of the year, and do not meet the physical criteria of a Type F stream. (formerly type 5)

Type X is a symbol on DNR maps that identifies various water features (for example: irrigation ditches, sanitation ponds, pipeline, etc.) which are not part of the above classifications. Type U is a symbol on DNR maps that identifies unknown water features that need to be verified and identified on proposed forest practices activity maps.

Washington Forest Practices Rules: Identifying and Measuring the Bankfull Channel Width: Part 1 (video)

Importance of Determining Bankfull

1. Water Typing
2. Used to determine where shade measurements are made
3. Where Riparian Management Zones begin and end
4. Stream Crossing Design

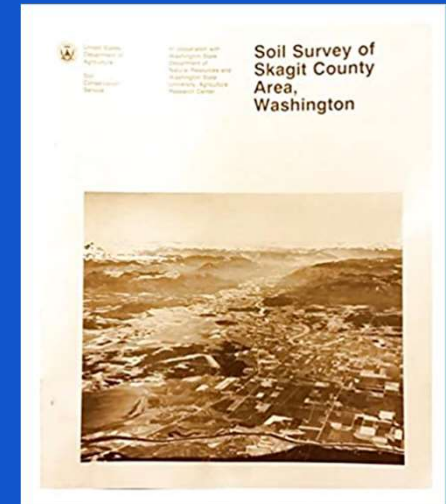


Bank Full Indicators

1. Stream bank Shape
2. Vegetation
3. Stream Bank and Channel Sediments

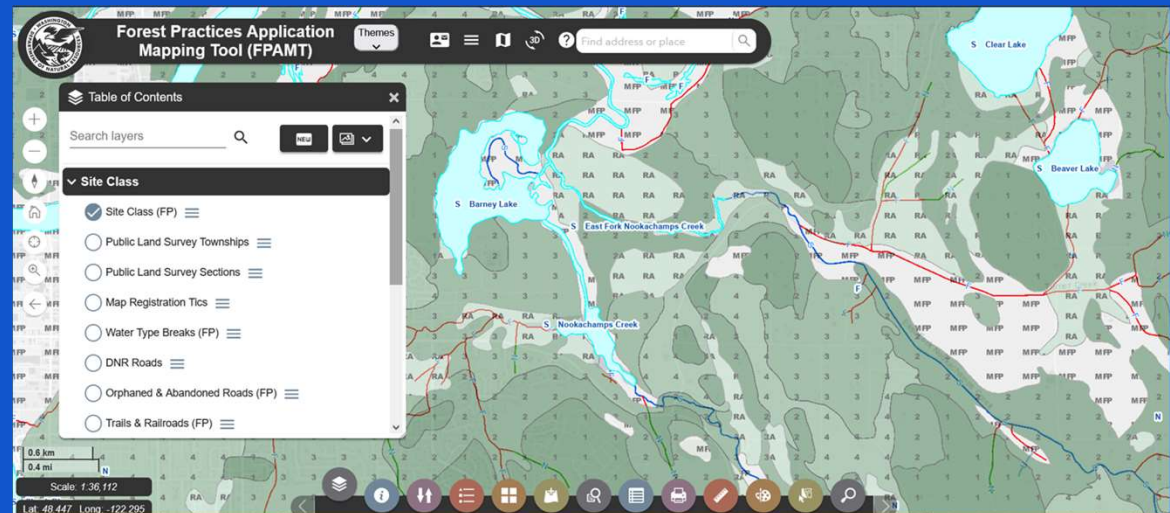


Site Class: A grouping of site indices that are used to determine the 50-year or 100-year site class. In order to determine site class, the landowner will obtain the site class index from the state soil survey, place it in the correct index range shown in the two tables provided in this definition, and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



Site Class Determined Online:

Forest Practice Application Mapping Tool



Riparian Management Zones



WESTERN WASHINGTON

S | F

TYPE 'S' OR 'F'
WESTERN WASHINGTON
RMZ REQUIREMENTS



TYPES 'S' AND 'F'
ARE FISH HABITAT
STREAMS

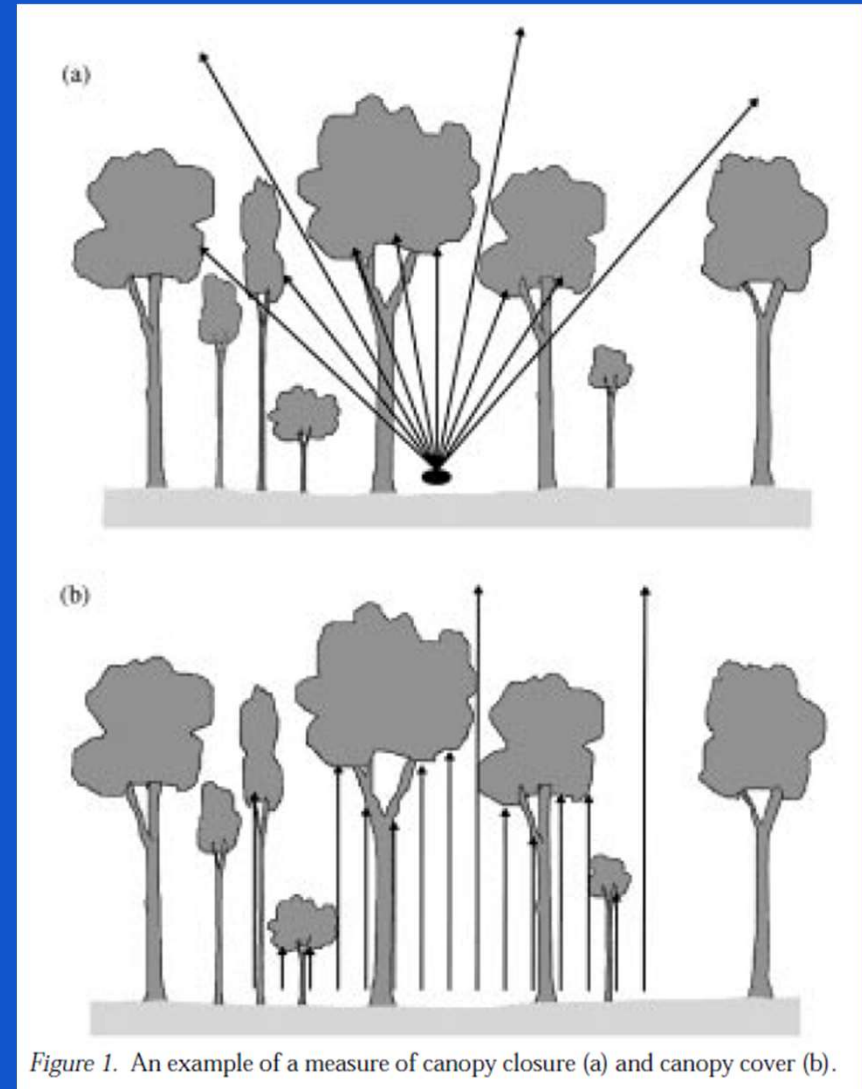
Site Class	Total RMZ Width	Core Zone Width ¹	Inner Zone Width ²		Outer Zone Width ³	
			Stream ≤ 10'	Stream > 10'	Stream ≤ 10'	Stream > 10'
I	200'	50'	83'	100'	67'	50'
II	170'	50'	63'	78'	57'	42'
III	140'	50'	43	55'	47'	35'
IV	110'	50'	23	33'	37'	27'
V	90'	50'	10'	18'	30'	22'

No Harvest

Determining Adequate Shade on Streams

* Using correct methods is critical to assessing the effectiveness of BMP!

Figure Source:
SB Jennings, ND Brown, D Sheil, *Assessing forest canopies and understorey illumination: canopy closure, canopy cover and other measures*, *Forestry: An International Journal of Forest Research*, Volume 72, Issue 1, 1999, Pages 59–74



Forest Road BMPs

1. Road Locations (topography)
2. Width (cut and fill)
3. Crossings (fish and flow requirements)
4. Surface shape and materials

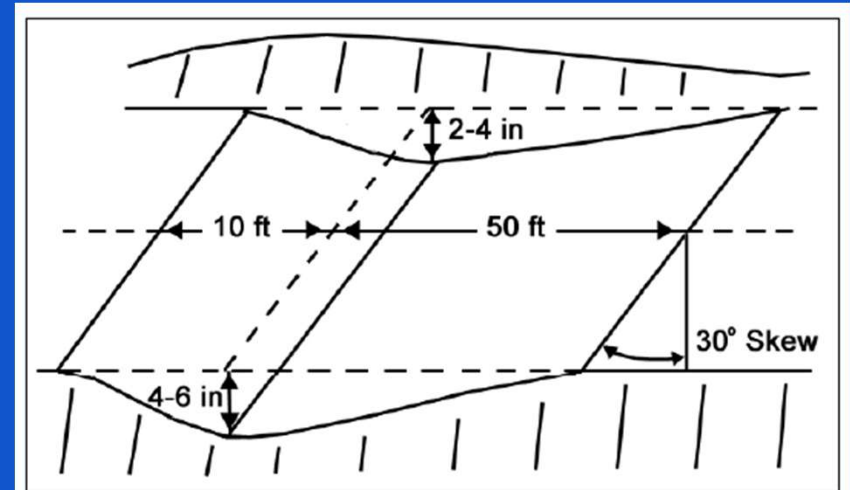


Figure 3.2 Diagram of a rolling dip

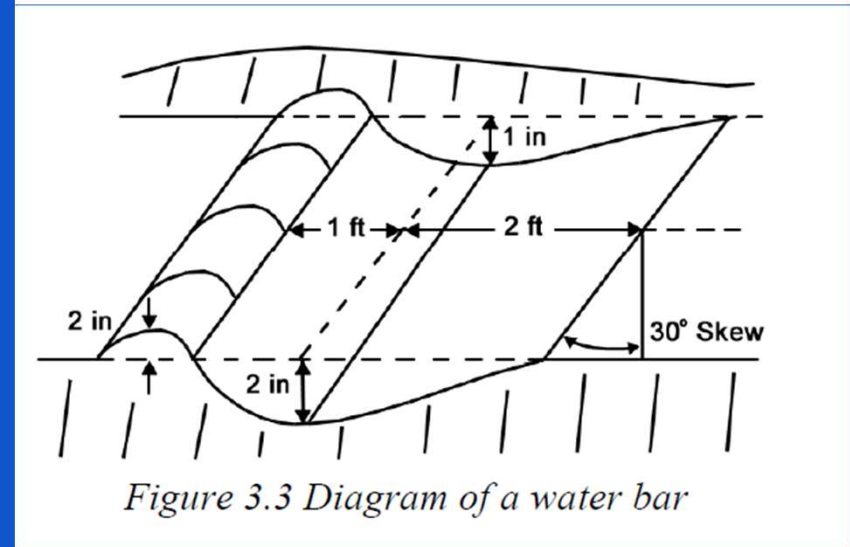


Figure 3.3 Diagram of a water bar

Road Location

Modified from: Adams and Storm, 2011



Unacceptable option: Roads should not be built or reconstructed next to stream channels where multiple crossings are required. Many older roads may have been built in these locations and they are expensive to maintain and can greatly impact the stream. Whenever possible, these roads should be decommissioned and moved to more favorable locations.

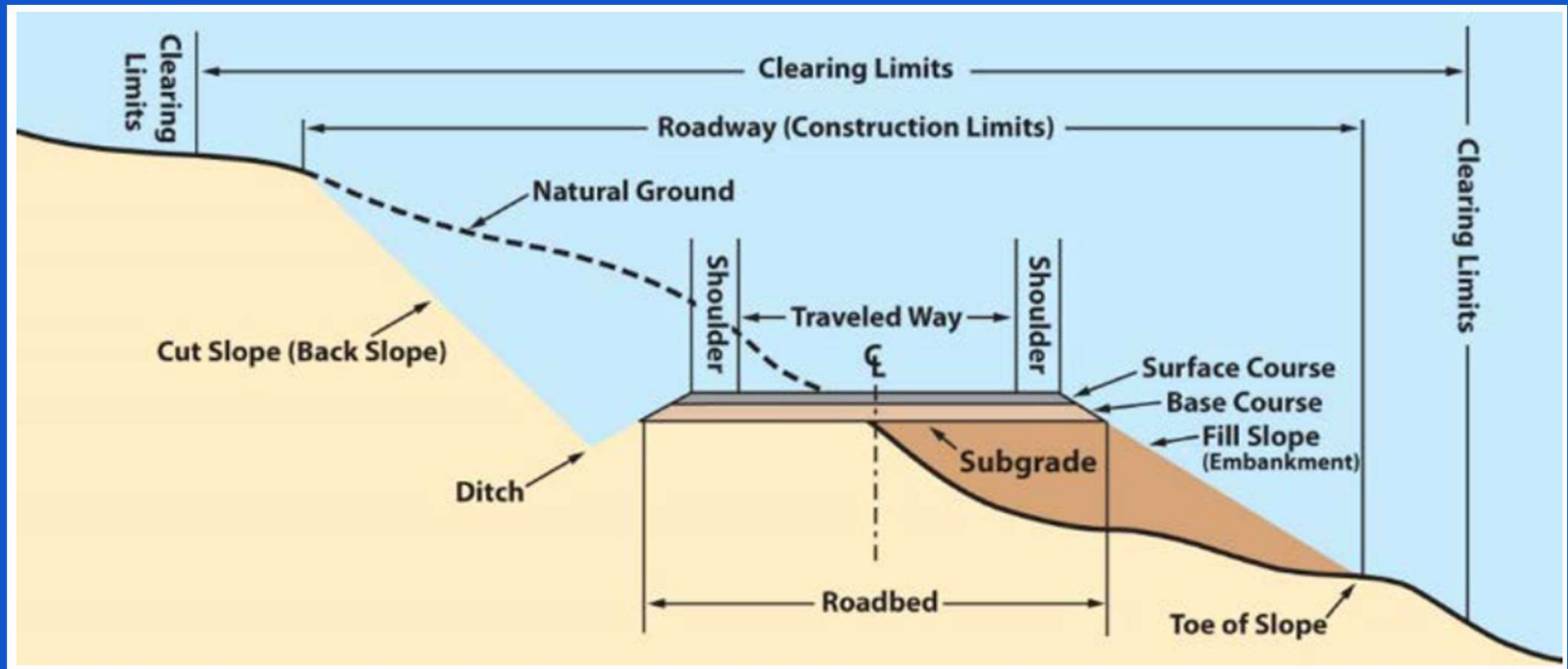


Least preferred option: Roads built on steep or inner gorge slopes near streams should be avoided if possible. If not, they may require special construction techniques, such as full bench endhauling. Roads will require high maintenance and slopes in these areas may be unstable and prone to road failures that impact streams.



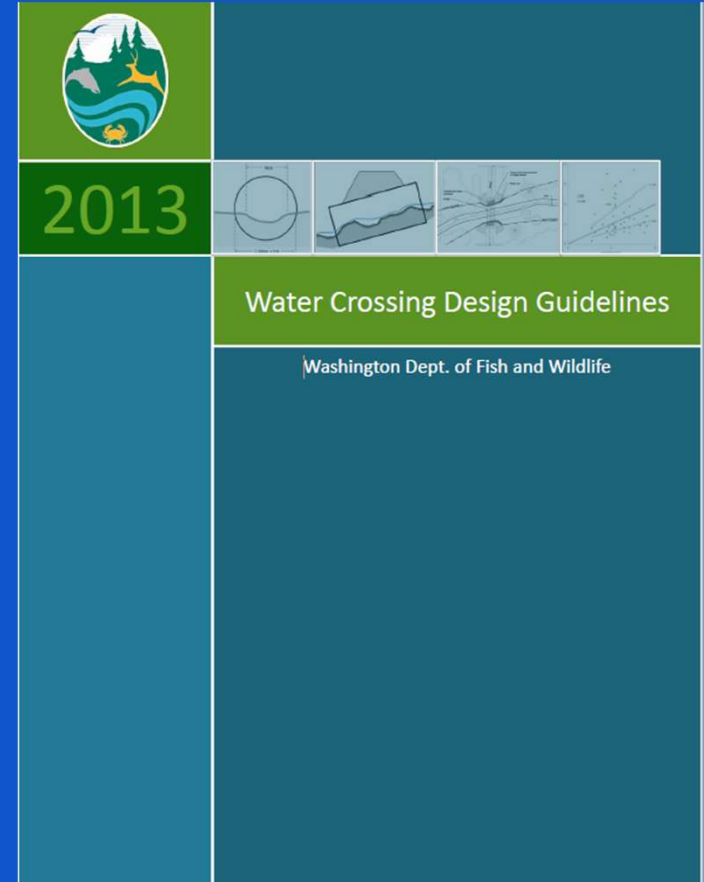
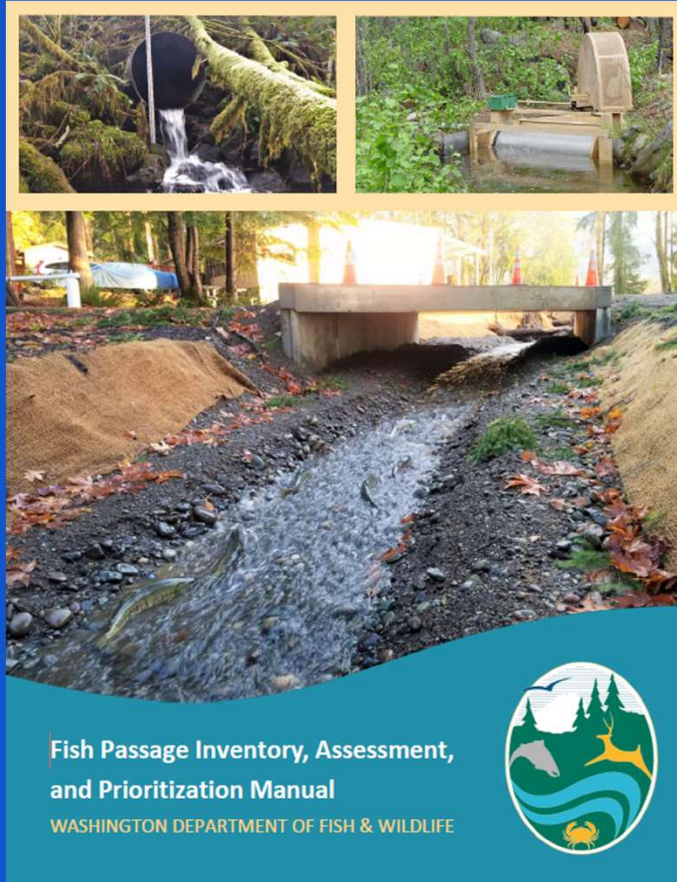
Preferred option: Roads should be aligned to take advantage of benches, low gradient slopes, upper hillslope areas and ridges. Generally, roads in these locations will be farthest from streams, have the fewest stream crossings, cost less to construct, be easier to drain, and require less maintenance.

Road Terminology



Crossings go through rigorous review for fish passage

When required (State Waters) WDFW has a Hydraulic Project Approval process...



Wetland Management Zone


Wetlands: Areas that are saturated or covered with water long enough and often enough that their soils and plants differ from those in nearby uplands.

Type A Wetlands: At least 1/2 acre of open water for one week during the growing season, with surrounding crown closure less than 30 percent (see Board Manual in Forest Practices Rule book for specifics).

Type B Wetlands: All other non-forested wetlands greater than 1/4 acre.

Forested Wetlands: Wetlands with tree canopy closure of at least 30 percent.

all wetland types within 200 feet of your harvest, including those on your neighbor's property (with the neighbor's permission).



TREES PER 1,000 LINEAR FEET OF WETLAND BOUNDARY
WESTERN WASHINGTON

	100' Width WMZ: 172 Total Trees	50' Width WMZ: 86 Total Trees	25' Width WMZ: 43 Total Trees
6" DBH	115	57	29
12" DBH	46	23	11
20" DBH	11	6	3

Many sources of
Effectiveness Results....

Adaptive Management
means were never really
done refining BMPs

The screenshot shows the website header for the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, featuring the state seal and the name of the Commissioner, Hilary S. Franz. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main navigation menu includes links for Programs and Services, About, Managed Lands, Employment, and COVID-19 Info, along with social media icons. The breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: Home > Forest Regulation > Adaptive Management. The page title is 'Adaptive Management Program Research and Monitoring Documents'. Below the title are social media sharing icons and a text block explaining the program's purpose: 'The Adaptive Management Program was created to provide science-based recommendations and technical information to assist the Forest Practices Board in determining if and when it is necessary or advisable to adjust rules and guidance. This page contains research and monitoring documents that provide scientific information that supports the Adaptive Management Program. Documents dated pre 2001 were prior to the Forest and Fish negotiations.' A note states: 'The page is currently incomplete but updates are in progress. Each entry includes information on title, author(s), and year. Documents are in alphabetical order by title.' A final instruction reads: 'To find a document, click on the first letter of its title, then select the title from the list.' On the right side, there is a 'CONTACTS' section listing Teresa Miskovic (Environmental Planner) and Patti Shramek (Contacts Specialist).

Edwards, Pamela J.; Wood, Frederica; Quinlivan, Robin L. 2016. Effectiveness of best management practices that have application to forest roads: a literature synthesis. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-163. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 171 p.

Stumped? Got Questions?

