

Type Np Water Buffer Rule Making Update May 9, 2024

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Type Np Buffer Rule

- **Draft Rule**
- **Spatial Analyses**
- **CBA and SBEIS**
- **SEPA**
- **Timeline**



Type Np Buffer Draft Rule

Draft Rule Amended:

- Incorporate minor changes for clarity
- Emphasize full protection of sensitive sites

WAC 222-30-0211 (2) **Sensitive site protections along Type Np Waters.**

Forest practices must be conducted to protect Type Np sensitive sites.

The sensitive sites must be identified and protected before establishing the Type Np RMZ as required in subsection (3).

(3) Riparian Management Zones (RMZ) protection along Type Np Waters. Forest practices must be conducted to protect Type Np RMZs as detailed below. Where sensitive site protections as outlined in subsection (2) exceed the no-harvest RMZ requirements in subsection (3), the wider no-harvest buffer requirement shall apply.

(3)(b)(ii) For each Type Np stream less than three feet bankfull width, the landowner must identify and protect the sensitive sites as detailed in subsection (2), then designate a two-sided no-harvest fifty-foot buffer along the remaining entire stream reach in the harvest unit. ~~Where the outer edge of sensitive sites protections are less than fifty feet from bankfull width or the alluvial fan, the fifty-foot buffer shall apply.~~



Type Np Buffer Rule – Spatial Analysis

Draft WTR Spatial Analysis Report

- Provided methodology and preliminary results
- Shared with stakeholders for comments
- Staff is working with vendor to complete analysis

Spatial analysis will be complete with DNR approval of the revised report

- Staff will forward the spatial analysis to be used in the CBA



Type Np Buffer Rule – Economic Analyses

- Finalized contract with Industrial Economics Inc. (IEc)
- Draft CBA methodology presented to the Economist Workgroup
- IEc will prepare preliminary CBA and SBEIS for February 2025 meeting.



Type Np Buffer Rule – Environmental Assessment

- DNR Staff is soliciting for a vendor to identify and analyze potential environmental impacts of the proposed rule change
- 2 - month contract
- Staff review of potential environmental impact analysis
- SEPA checklist, to be completed by February 2025



Type Np Buffer Rule – Timeline

February 2025 Meeting

Board receives:

- Type Np Water Buffer rule
- Preliminary CBA and SBEIS
- SEPA
- Draft Board Manual Section 7, 23

Board action:

- Approval of draft Type Np Buffer rule and accompanying analysis, and direct staff to file CR-102

