Instructions for Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form

The Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form is used to propose changes to Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Water Type Maps specific to non-forest land. Non-forest land typically includes lands converted to a residential or commercial use, land used for agricultural purposes, low-density neighborhoods and urban interface lacking managed forests.

Local government entities may use the Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form to change stream locations and water types within their jurisdiction. Landowners seeking to change a water type designation should first contact their local government entity (county or city) for assistance. They may also seek additional assistance with their change proposal from representatives of either the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) or Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology).

DNR maintains a statewide Water Type Map depicting stream layers and water bodies. Water type classifications are shown on the map as "Type S" (Shorelines of the State), "Type F" (fish), "Type N" (non-fish), or "Type U" (unknown). The locations of the streams and associated classification on the map are derived from GIS data. Some waters are a "best approximation" and may not be accurately delineated in all areas. The mapping tool and the instructions for finding an area of interest are found online at:

dnr.wa.gov/forest-practices-water-typing

DNR has jurisdiction for water typing decisions specific to forest land¹ per RCW 76.09.020(15), the Forest Practices Act and the Forest Practices Rules. Although proposed water type modifications that occur on non-forest lands do not reflect decisions made by DNR, the department may update its GIS data for these areas based on validated information it receives from local governments and other entities.

Water type changes on non-forest land must meet the water classification definition in WAC 222-16-031 and pass a concurrence review by the area biologist from WDFW or the forest practices representative from Ecology. Local tribes may also participate in the review and concurrence process. Once DNR receives a complete and validated Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form with a map showing the proposed changes and a Concurrence Summary Form, it will update its GIS data to reflect the changes. It generally takes one month for such changes to appear on the Water Type Map.

Mapping Standards

- The location of each requested change (add, delete, location change, water type change) to the DNR GIS hydrography layers must be shown. This may be depicted on one map or multiple maps.
- Information must be displayed clearly and legibly.
- Water body location changes do not require the additional information necessary for changing water types.
- Use the identifier from Block 1 of the accompanying Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form to label each mapped change.
- Use blue or black permanent ink; do not use highlighters.

¹ RCW 76.09.020 (15) Forest land means all land which is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of timber and is not being actively used for a use which is incompatible with timber growing. Forest land does not include agricultural land that is or was enrolled in the conservation reserve enhancement program by contract if such agricultural land was historically used for agricultural purposes and the landowner intends to continue to use the land for agricultural purposes in the future. As it applies to the operation of the road maintenance and abandonment plan element of the forest practices rules on small forest landowners, the term "forest land" excludes: a) Residential home sites, which may include up to five acres; and (b) Crop fields, orchards, vineyards, pastures, feedlots, fish pens, and the land on which appurtenances necessary to the production, preparation, or sale of crops, fruit, dairy products, fish, and livestock exist.
Check applicable boxes:

[ ] Adding streams/water bodies. Check this box to add streams or water bodies to the map. Use the identifier referenced in Block 1 to show the location(s) being added to the map.

[ ] Removing streams/water bodies. Check this box if the streams or water bodies indicated on the map do not exist on the ground. Use labeling on the map to show the streams or water bodies that do not exist. Describe in Block 13 the evidence/reasons a stream or water body is proposed for removal.

[ ] Changing location of streams/water bodies. Check this box if streams or water bodies are mapped incorrectly (i.e., wrong location).
   - Complete Blocks 1, 4, 5, and 8 if you are only changing the location of the stream or water body (not proposing a new water type).
   - Show the new location for the stream or water body and its identifier on the map.

[ ] Changing water type. Check this box if you are changing the water type per WAC 222-16-031. Refer to Forest Practices Board Manual Section 13 for additional information. Complete the form and show the location with identifier on the Water Type Map.

[ ] Other. Describe ______________ Check this box and describe if you are:
   - Identifying the Type Np/Ns water break, or
   - Identifying a water feature that does not meet a WAC 222-16-031 definition. Water features may include pipelines, actively maintained irrigation ditches, or seasonal streams not physically connected by an above-ground channel system to Type S, F, or Np waters.
   Complete the form and show the location with identifiers on the Water Type Map.

**Block 1.** Enter an identifier for each stream, stream segment, or water body. The identifier must correspond with the identifier on the map. Do not use “S”, “F”, “N”, “U” or “X” as the identifier label.

**Block 2.** Enter the official name of the stream or water body, if known.

**Block 3.** Enter the official name of the major stream or water body that the proposed water type change flows into, if known.

**Block 4.** Enter the legal description of where the stream or water body exists (i.e. Section 8, Township 12 North, Range 5 West, W.M.).

**Block 5.** Enter the county in which the stream or water body is located.

**Block 6.** Enter the existing water type shown on the current DNR Water Type Map for the stream or water body. If the water does not currently exist on the DNR Water Type Map, enter “N/A”.

**Block 7.** Enter the proposed water type: “S”, “F”, “Np”, or “Ns” (refer to WAC 222-16-031). If the stream or water body does not exist on the ground, enter “remove.” If the water feature does not meet a water type defined in WAC 222-16-031, enter “untyped.”

**Block 8** Enter date(s) that the field assessment or a protocol survey was completed.
Block 9  Check each box that applies. Indicate in the block the additional information as necessary.

[ ] **Interdisciplinary Team (ID team) review.** Check this box if the proposed change is based upon an ID team review. Attach supporting documentation (e.g., ID Team Report or Informal Conference Note).

[ ] **Water type does not meet WAC 222-16-031 definition.** Check this box only if there is a water feature that does not meet the definitions outlined in WAC 222-16-031. These features may include pipelines, actively maintained irrigation ditches, or seasonal streams not physically connected by a defined channel to Type “S,” “F,” or “Np” waters. Indicate how you arrived at this conclusion. Label the location on the Water Type Map.

[ ] **Protocol Electrofishing Survey.** Check this box if the proposed change is based on an electrofishing protocol survey. See Forest Practices Board Manual Section 13 for information on conducting a protocol survey. A WDFW Scientific Collection Permit is required if performing an electrofishing survey. Attach survey information.

[ ] **Visual Observation.** Check this box if the proposed change is based on visual observations made in the field.

[ ] **Random or Incremental Measurements.** Check this box if the proposed change is based on measurements taken in the field. Document the measurements in Block 10.

[ ] **Fish Found.** Check “yes” if fish were found and indicate the species, if known. Check “no” if fish were not found.

[ ] **Physical Characteristics.** Check this box if the proposed change is based on bankfull width, gradient, or seasonality. Default physical characteristics for presumed fish use are provided in WAC 222-16-031.

[ ] **Channel is a Public Water Diversion.** Check this box if there is a public water diversion to more than 10 residential or camping units, or to a public accommodation facility licensed to serve more than 10 people from this channel. Attach a copy of the Ecology Water Right, or indicate its reference number. Indicate the distance from the diversion and whether the proposed change is upstream or downstream of the diversion. Refer to WAC 222-16-031(3) for more information.

[ ] **Channel is a Fish Hatchery Diversion.** Check this box if water is diverted from this channel to a fish hatchery. Enter the name of the hatchery. Indicate the distance to the hatchery and whether the proposed change is upstream or downstream from the hatchery diversion. Refer to WAC 222-16-031(2)(b) for more information.

Block 10  Indicate how the stream channel characteristics were measured. (Use the Segment Tally Sheet for multiple stream segments). Provide the following channel characteristics information:

- Enter the number of bankfull width measurements used to calculate the average.
- Enter the average bankfull width measurement.
- Enter the average stream gradient.
- Enter the average wetted stream width at the time of the survey.
- Enter the number of protocol pools that were surveyed.
- If a pond or impoundment greater than 0.5 acre in size at seasonal low flow exists within the surveyed segment, check “yes.” If it does not exist, check “no.”
Block 11  Indicate how the location of the water type break was determined, Check all boxes that apply.


[ ] End of Project or Property Boundary. Describe in Block 13 how the end of the project or property boundary was determined.

[ ] Uppermost Point of Perennial Flow. Describe in Block 13 how the uppermost point of perennial flow was determined.

[ ] Last Fish Observed. Describe the location, species, and size of the last fish observed in Block 13.

[ ] Physical Characteristics. Using WAC 222-16-031(3)(b)(i), describe stream characteristics observed in the field in Block 13. When describing physical characteristics, be aware that:

(i) Waters having any of the following characteristics are presumed to have fish use:
   (A) Stream segments having a defined channel of 2 feet or greater within the bankfull width in Western Washington; or 3 feet or greater in width in Eastern Washington; and having a gradient of 16 percent or less;
   (B) Stream segments having a defined channel of 2 feet or greater within the bankfull width in Western Washington; or 3 feet or greater within the bankfull width in Eastern Washington, and having a gradient greater than 16 percent and less than or equal to 20 percent, and having greater than 50 acres in contributing basin size in Western Washington or greater than 175 acres contributing basin size in Eastern Washington, based on hydrographic boundaries;
   (C) Ponds or impoundments having a surface area of less than 1 acre at seasonal low water and having an outlet to a fish stream;
   (D) Ponds of impoundments having a surface area greater than 0.5 acre at seasonal low water.

Block 12  Indicate the presence of fish passage barriers downstream from the stream segment. Check “no” if fish passage barriers do not exist downstream of the surveyed stream segment and continue to Block 13. Check “yes” if fish passage barriers do exist downstream of the surveyed segment and indicate the following:

[ ] Natural Barrier. Check if a natural barrier exists downstream of the surveyed stream segment. Indicate if it is a falls, cascades, bedrock chute, or other, and describe. Enter the length, height, width, and gradient of the natural barrier.

[ ] Temporary Barrier. Check if a temporary barrier exists downstream of the surveyed stream segment.

[ ] Man-made Barrier. Check if a man-made barrier exists downstream of the surveyed stream segment and describe it.

Indicate if fish were observed upstream of the barrier. Indicate how fish passage barriers were identified. If maps were used, specify which maps. Describe the location(s) of fish passage barriers downstream of the surveyed segment. Provide latitude and longitude if possible.

Block 13  Provide any additional information that will assist with the review process. You may include additional information in the space provided or on a separate page. Include the WTMF question number that each comment refers to.
Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form

Water Type Map Instructions

Water Type Maps are available from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website via the Internet at dnr.wa.gov/forest-practices-water-typing or from DNR region offices. To download or request a map, you will need to know the legal description (section, township, and range) of the area in which you are working. Please contact your local county assessor if you need help determining the legal description. DNR will also accept DNR’s Water Type Maps, local government entity maps, and company-generated GIS maps (see next page for alternate map standards) as the base map for requested non-forest land water type modifications.

You may print your map(s) in color or black and white. Color maps are preferred. Use a medium point black or blue pen for handwritten information on your map. Blue ink is easier to read on a black and white map; black ink is easier to read on a color map. Use the following legend to indicate information on your map.

**Legend**

*NOTE: If you choose different symbols, include your own legend*

- X X X X X: Stream removal or incorrect stream location. Mark clearly the point on the stream where the change occurs.
- ______: New stream
- ____ F: Proposed water type (S, F, Np, Ns). Use one (1) per stream segment
- F N: Break between water types within the same segment (S, F, Np, Ns)
- [ ]: The start and end points of the entire surveyed reach
- ▼: Natural fish passage barriers
- ■: Man-made barriers
Non-Forest Land Water Type Modification Form
Alternate Map Standards

Alternate Maps must meet the following standards:

Scale: 1-inch to 1,000-feet (same scale as DNR Water Type Maps)

Color: Color or black and white. Black ink should be used on color maps; blue ink on black and white maps. Do not use pencil, light colors, or highlighters.

Legibility: All notations must be legible.

Features: Must contain the following layers. Numbers 1 through 4 below are found online at:

dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/forest-practices/providing-gis-data-forest-practices-activities-throughout:

(1) Current DNR hydro layers: water courses, and water bodies;
(2) DNR geographic registration tic marks (minimum of 4 tic marks required);
(3) Section, Township, and Range lines and numbers;
(4) DNR transportation layers;
(5) Contours (maximum of 40-ft interval) generated from 10 meter DEM; and
(6) North arrow

Paper Size: 8 ½ x 11 inches (letter), 8 ½ x 14 inches (legal), or 11 x 17 inches (tabloid)

Paper Type: Matte finish paper. Do not use glossy finishes, Mylar, plastic, film, or tracing paper.

Edges: Straight edges with square corners.

Margins: At least ¼-inch margins on all sides.