What are pamphlet HPAs?

WDFW's **Gold and Fish** and **Aquatic Plants and Fish** pamphlet HPAs cover common mineral prospecting and aquatic plant removal activities. If you can follow the timing, location, and equipment restrictions then the pamphlet acts as your HPA. Otherwise, you will need to apply for an individual HPA.

Go to wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/environmental.html to print yours or request one from a WDFW office.

Not sure if you need an HPA?

Discuss the project with your Habitat Biologist.
Find yours at wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/AHB.

When can I get an emergency HPA?

"Emergency" means an immediate threat to life or property. **Only the governor, WDFW, or a county legislative authority can declare an emergency.** In such cases, WDFW can provide immediate verbal approval prior to work via the emergency hotline. See RCW 77.55.021(12).



Temporary culvert and road crossing work done under an emergency HPA.
Hunter Road, Kitsap County

What is SEPA?

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requires environmental review of certain proposed projects, typically conducted by local city or county planning departments. Projects unlikely to have negative environmental impact may be exempt from SEPA, see WACs 197-11-800 and 197-11-835. Learn more at ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/overview.html.

Will my project need other permits?

The Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance can determine other permits your project may need. Call 800-917-0043 or visit www.oria.wa.gov.

TIP APPS will convert your HPA application into a JARPA form for use in obtaining other federal, state, and local permits.

WDFW Regional Offices

Eastern - Region 1	509-892-1001
North Central - Region 2	509-754-4624
South Central - Region 3	509-575-2740
N. Puget Sound - Region 4	425-775-1311
Southwest - Region 5	360-696-6211
Coastal - Region 6	360-249-4628

HPA Processing Center

APPS Help Hotline	360-902-2422
24-hour Emergency Hotline	360-902-2537

Submit applications: HPAapplications@dfw.wa.gov
APPS questions: APPS.Help@dfw.wa.gov

wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/HPA



Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)

- for projects in or near water -



Does your project need an HPA?

Most projects in or around water require an Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA), including, but not limited to:

1. Stream bank protection, bulkheads
2. Docks, piers, ramps, floats, and buoys
3. Boat ramps and launches
4. Culverts and bridges (new, repair, and replacement)
5. Stream channel relocation and realignment
6. Dredging and sand/gravel removal
7. Log placement, repositioning, or removal
8. Beaver dam removal or modification
9. Pond construction
10. Water diversions and intakes
11. Outfall and tide gate structures
12. Utility crossings and test boring
13. Aquatic plant removal and control (outside of **Aquatic Plants and Fish** pamphlet rules)
14. Mineral prospecting (outside of **Gold and Fish** pamphlet rules)



Grated pier
Brownsville Marina, Bremerton

It's the law

Washington law requires people planning projects in or near state waters to get an HPA from WDFW.

This includes most marine and fresh waters. An HPA ensures that construction is done in a manner that protects fish life.

See Chapter 77.55 RCW and Chapter 220-660 WAC.

How do I get an HPA?

To simplify the application process, WDFW uses the Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS). With APPS, you can submit application materials and track the review process online at wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/HPA.

Involve WDFW early in project planning to ensure HPA approval before construction.

TIP Submit a FREE pre-application and WDFW will contact you to discuss the project, answer questions, and determine the type of HPA needed.

This is the typical HPA process for approved projects:

1 Submit complete application to WDFW

Use APPS or JARPA form and include:

- Plans and specifications
- Proof of SEPA compliance
- $150 application fee, unless exempt
- Authorizing signatures

2 Application enters review period

WDFW determines if your project requires an HPA and may request more information.

3 Receive HPA

You will receive an HPA if your project requires one and if fish life is fully protected.

4 Start Project!

How to make your project fish friendly

Fish and shellfish need specific habitat conditions to thrive. WDFW looks for key elements when reviewing your application:

Preserve vegetation on streambanks and shorelines

- Stabilizes banks and provides shade for cool water
- Attracts bugs for fish to eat
- Filters out stormwater pollutants

Keep wood in stream

- Maintains habitat complexity and streambed stability
- Increases dissolved oxygen in water
- Provides shade and attracts bugs
- Beaver dams provide salmon rearing habitat



Keep large wood, it's good for fish

Maintain good water quality during construction

- Prevents sediment from smothering eggs and fry
- Prevents mortality from reduced oxygen levels and clogged fish gills

Mimic natural streambed and shoreline substrate

- Ensures suitable habitat for fish and their prey
- Provides well graded gravels for spawning and egg incubation

Preserve eelgrass beds

- Provides food for salmon and egg laying substrate
- Serves as migratory corridor for juvenile salmon

See WDFW's Aquatic Habitat Guidelines and "Technical assistance for better projects" at wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/HPA for project planning guidance.

TIP Your Habitat Biologist can offer guidance on minimizing project impacts, in-water work window restrictions, and potential mitigation.