

Which Forms do I Use When Delineating a Wetland?

Currently there are three different forms for delineating wetlands.

1. You use the form in the **1987 Corps of Engineers Wetlands Delineation Manual** as modified by the **Western Mountains, Valleys, and Coast Interim Regional Supplement** for delineations that require a federal permit in western Washington and the Northeast corner of the state.
2. You use the form in the **1987 Corps Manual** as modified by the **Arid West Interim Regional Supplement** for delineations that require a federal permit in the Columbia Basin.
3. You use the form in the **Washington State Wetland Identification and Delineation Manual** (Chapter 173.22.080 WAC) for delineations that require a state or local permit anywhere in the state. However, when the final versions of the supplements are released, Ecology will revise the state manual to reflect the changes implemented by the supplements.

To avoid duplication of effort and waste of paper Ecology will accept the data form found in the appropriate regional supplement as a substitute for the form in the state manual when they require a delineation to be submitted. However, if you find that using the supplement results in a different wetland boundary than when using the state manual, we encourage you to submit both forms. Ecology will make the final determination on the boundary for projects requiring a state permit.

Some local jurisdictions specifically mention the state delineation manual in their Critical Areas Ordinances. These jurisdictions may require you to use the data forms in the state manual unless they adopt a policy similar to that of Ecology. Thus, you might be asked to submit both forms until Ecology revises the state manual.

MORE INFORMATION:

The Supplement for the Arid West is final. The Supplement for the Western Mountains, Valleys and Coast is still in a testing phase and has not become final.

You only need to submit the forms in the Supplements for projects reviewed by the Corps or Ecology.

The Department of Ecology will revise the state manual to match the Corps manuals after both versions are final.

Web Page:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/delineation.html>

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