2.5.2 Minimum Requirement #2: Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention (SWPP)

All new development and redevelopment shall comply with Construction SWPP Elements #1 through #12 below.

Projects in which the new, replaced, or new plus replaced impervious surfaces total 2,000 square feet or more, or disturb 7,000 square feet or more of land must prepare a Construction SWPP Plan (SWPPP) as part of the Stormwater Site Plan (see 2.5.1). Each of the twelve elements must be considered and included in the Construction SWPPP unless site conditions render the element unnecessary and the exemption from that element is clearly justified in the narrative of the SWPPP.

Projects that add or replace less than 2,000 square feet of impervious surface or disturb less than 7,000 square feet of land are not required to prepare a Construction SWPPP, but must consider all of the twelve Elements of Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention and develop controls for all elements that pertain to the project site.

Element 1: Mark Clearing Limits

Prior to beginning land disturbing activities, including clearing and grading, all clearing limits, sensitive areas and their buffers, and trees that are to be preserved within the construction area shall be clearly marked, both in the field and on the plans, to prevent damage and offsite impacts.

Plastic, metal, or stake wire fence may be used to mark the clearing limits.

The duff layer, native top soil, and natural vegetation shall be retained in an undisturbed state to the maximum extent practicable. If it is not practicable to retain the duff layer in place, it should be stockpiled on-site, covered to prevent erosion, and replaced immediately upon completion of the ground disturbing activities.

Element 2: Establish Construction Access

- Construction vehicle access and exit shall be limited to one route, if possible, or two for linear projects such as roadways where more than one access is necessary for large equipment maneuvering.
- Access points shall be stabilized with a pad of quarry spalls or crushed rock
 prior to traffic leaving the construction site to minimize the tracking of sediment
 onto public roads.
- Wheel wash or tire baths should be located on-site, if applicable.
- If sediment is tracked off site, public roads shall be cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day, or more frequently during wet weather, if necessary to prevent sediment from entering waters of the state. Sediment shall be removed from roads by shoveling or pickup sweeping and shall be transported to a controlled

- sediment disposal area. Street washing will be allowed only after sediment is removed in this manner.
- Street wash wastewater shall be controlled by pumping back on-site, or otherwise be prevented from discharging into systems tributary to state surface waters.

Element 3: Control Flow Rates

- Properties and waterways downstream from development sites shall be
 protected from erosion due to increases in the volume, velocity, and peak flow
 rate of stormwater runoff from the project site, as required by local plan
 approval authority.
- Downstream analysis is necessary if changes in flows could impair or alter conveyance systems, stream banks, bed sediment or aquatic habitat. See Chapter 3 for offsite analysis guidance.
- Where necessary to comply with Minimum Requirement #7, stormwater retention/detention facilities shall be constructed as one of the first steps in grading. Detention facilities shall be functional prior to construction of site improvements (e.g. impervious surfaces).
- The local permitting agency may require pond designs that provide additional or different stormwater flow control if necessary to address local conditions or to protect properties and
- waterways downstream from erosion due to increases in the volume, velocity, and peak flow rate of stormwater runoff from the project site.
- If permanent infiltration ponds are used for flow control during construction, these facilities should be protected from siltation during the construction phase.

Element 4: Install Sediment Controls

- Prior to leaving a construction site, or prior to discharge to an infiltration facility, stormwater runoff from disturbed areas shall pass through a sediment pond or other appropriate sediment removal BMP. Runoff from fully stabilized areas may be discharged without a sediment removal BMP, but must meet the flow control performance standard of Element #3, bullet #1. Full stabilization means concrete or asphalt paving; quarry spalls used as ditch lining; or the use of rolled erosion products, a bonded fiber matrix product, or vegetative cover in a manner that will fully prevent soil erosion. The Local Permitting Authority shall inspect and approve areas stabilized by means other than pavement or quarry spalls.
- Sediment ponds, vegetated buffer strips, sediment barriers or filters, dikes, and other BMPs intended to trap sediment on-site shall be constructed as one of the first steps in grading. These BMPs shall be functional before other land disturbing activities take place.

- Earthen structures such as dams, dikes, and diversions shall be seeded and mulched according to the timing indicated in Element #5.
- BMPs intended to trap sediment on site must be located in a manner to avoid interference with the movement of juvenile salmonids attempting to enter offchannel areas or drainages, often during non-storm events, in response to rain event changes in stream elevation or wetted area.

Element 5: Stabilize Soils

- All exposed and unworked soils shall be stabilized by application of effective BMPs that protect the soil from the erosive forces of raindrop impact and flowing water, and wind erosion.
- From October 1 through April 30, no soils shall remain exposed and unworked for more than 2 days. From May 1 to September 30, no soils shall remain exposed and unworked for more than 7 days. This condition applies to all soils on site, whether at final grade or not. These time limits may be adjusted by the local permitting authority if it can be shown that the average time between storm events justifies a different standard.
- Soils shall be stabilized at the end of the shift before a holiday or weekend if needed based on the weather forecast.
- Applicable practices include, but are not limited to, temporary and permanent seeding, sodding, mulching, plastic covering, soil application of polyacrylamide (PAM), the early application of gravel base on areas to be paved, and dust control.
- Soil stabilization measures selected should be appropriate for the time of year, site conditions, estimated duration of use, and potential water quality impacts that stabilization agents may have on downstream waters or ground water.
- Soil stockpiles must be stabilized from erosion, protected with sediment trapping measures, and when possible, be located away from storm drain inlets, waterways and drainage channels.
- Linear construction activities, including right-of-way and easement clearing, roadway development, pipelines, and trenching for utilities, shall be conducted to meet the soil stabilization requirement. Contractors shall install the bedding materials, roadbeds, structures, pipelines, or utilities and re-stabilize the disturbed soils so that:
- from October 1 through April 30 no soils shall remain exposed and unworked for more than 2 days; and
- from May 1 to September 30, no soils shall remain exposed and unworked for more than 7 days.

Element 6: Protect Slopes

- Cut and fill slopes shall be designed and constructed in a manner that will minimize erosion.
- Consider soil type and its potential for erosion.
- Reduce slope runoff velocities by reducing the continuous length of slope with terracing and diversions, reduce slope steepness, and roughen slope surface.
- Off-site stormwater (run-on) shall be diverted away from slopes and disturbed areas with interceptor dikes and/or swales. Off-site stormwater should be managed separately from stormwater generated on the site.
- At the top of slopes, collect drainage in pipe slope drains or protected channels to prevent erosion. Temporary pipe slope drains shall handle the peak flow from a 10 year, 24 hour event assuming a Type 1A rainfall distribution. Alternatively, the 10-year and 25-year, 1-hour flow rates indicated by an approved continuous runoff model, increased by a factor of 1.6, may be used. Consult the local drainage requirements for sizing permanent pipe slope drains.
- Provide drainage to remove ground water intersecting the slope surface of exposed soil areas.
- Excavated material shall be placed on the uphill side of trenches, consistent with safety and space considerations.
- Check dams shall be placed at regular intervals within channels that are cut down a slope.
- Stabilize soils on slopes, as specified in Element #5.

Element 7: Protect Drain Inlets

- All storm drain inlets made operable during construction shall be protected so that stormwater runoff shall not enter the conveyance system without first being filtered or treated to remove sediment.
- All approach roads shall be kept clean. All sediment and street wash water shall not be allowed to enter storm drains without prior and adequate treatment unless treatment is provided before the storm drain discharges to waters of the State.
- Inlets should be inspected weekly at a minimum and daily during storm events. Inlet protection devices should be cleaned or removed and replaced when sediment has filled one-third of the available storage (unless a different standard is specified by the product manufacturer).

Element 8: Stabilize Channels and Outlets

• All temporary on-site conveyance channels shall be designed, constructed and stabilized to prevent erosion from the expected peak 10 minute velocity of flow from a Type 1A, 10- year, 24-hour frequency storm for the developed condition. Alternatively, the 10-year, 1-hour flow rate indicated by an approved continuous runoff model, increased by a factor of 1.6, may be used.

 Stabilization, including armoring material, adequate to prevent erosion of outlets, adjacent stream banks, slopes and downstream reaches shall be provided at the outlets of all conveyance systems.

Element 9: Control Pollutants

- All pollutants, including waste materials and demolition debris, that occur onsite shall be handled and disposed of in a manner that does not cause contamination of stormwater. Woody debris may be chopped and spread on site.
- Cover, containment, and protection from vandalism shall be provided for all chemicals, liquid products, petroleum products, and non-inert wastes present on the site (see Chapter 173-304 WAC for the definition of inert waste). On-site fueling tanks shall include secondary containment.
- Maintenance and repair of heavy equipment and vehicles involving oil changes, hydraulic system drain down, solvent and de-greasing cleaning operations, fuel tank drain down and removal, and other activities which may result in discharge or spillage of pollutants to the ground or into stormwater runoff must be conducted using spill prevention measures, such as drip pans. Contaminated surfaces shall be cleaned immediately following any discharge or spill incident. Emergency repairs may be performed on-site using temporary plastic placed beneath and, if raining, over the vehicle.
- Wheel wash or tire bath wastewater, shall be discharged to a separate on-site treatment system or to the sanitary sewer.
- Application of agricultural chemicals, including fertilizers and pesticides, shall be conducted in a manner and at application rates that will not result in loss of chemical to stormwater runoff. Manufacturers' recommendations for application rates and procedures shall be followed.
- BMPs shall be used to prevent or treat contamination of stormwater runoff by pH modifying sources. These sources include, but are not limited to, bulk cement, cement kiln dust, fly ash, new concrete washing and curing waters, waste streams generated from concrete grinding and sawing, exposed aggregate processes, and concrete pumping and mixer washout waters. Stormwater discharges shall not cause or contribute to a violation of the water quality standard for pH in the receiving water.
- Construction sites with significant concrete work shall adjust the pH of stormwater if necessary to prevent violations of water quality standards.

Element 10: Control De-Watering

- Foundation, vault, and trench de-watering water, which has similar characteristics to stormwater runoff at the site, shall be discharged into a controlled conveyance system prior to discharge to a sediment trap or sediment pond. Channels must be stabilized, as specified in Element #8.
- Clean, non-turbid de-watering water, such as well-point ground water, can be discharged to systems tributary to state surface waters, as specified in Element #8, provided the de-watering flow does not cause erosion or flooding of receiving

- waters. These clean waters should not be routed through a stormwater sediment pond.
- Highly turbid or otherwise contaminated dewatering water, such as from construction equipment operation, clamshell digging, concrete tremie pour, or work inside a cofferdam, shall be handled separately from stormwater.
- Other disposal options, depending on site constraints, may include: 1) infiltration, 2) transport off-site in a vehicle, such as a vacuum flush truck, for legal disposal in a manner that does not pollute state waters, 3) Ecology-approved on-site chemical treatment or other suitable treatment technologies, 4) sanitary sewer discharge with local sewer district approval, if there is no other option, or 5) use of a sedimentation bag with outfall to a ditch or swale for small volumes of localized dewatering.

Element 11: Maintain BMPs

- All temporary and permanent erosion and sediment control BMPs shall be maintained and repaired as needed to assure continued performance of their intended function. All maintenance and repair shall be conducted in accordance with BMP specifications.
- All temporary erosion and sediment control BMPs shall be removed within 30 days after final site stabilization is achieved or after the temporary BMPs are no longer needed. Trapped sediment shall be removed or stabilized on site. Disturbed soil areas resulting from removal of BMPs or vegetation shall be permanently stabilized.

Element 12: Manage The Project

- Phasing of Construction Development projects shall be phased where feasible
 in order to prevent soil erosion and, to the maximum extent practicable, the
 transport of sediment from the site during construction. Revegetation of
 exposed areas and maintenance of that vegetation shall be an integral part of the
 clearing activities for any phase.
- Clearing and grading activities for developments shall be permitted only if conducted pursuant to an approved site development plan (e.g., subdivision approval) that establishes permitted areas of clearing, grading, cutting, and filling. When establishing these permitted clearing and grading areas, consideration should be given to minimizing removal of existing trees and minimizing disturbance/compaction of native soils except as needed for building purposes. These permitted clearing and grading areas and any other areas required to preserve critical or sensitive areas, buffers, native growth protection easements, or tree retention areas as may be required by local jurisdictions, shall be delineated on the site plans and the development site.
- Seasonal Work Limitations From October 1 through April 30, clearing, grading, and other soil disturbing activities shall only be permitted if shown to the satisfaction of the local permitting authority that silt-laden runoff will be prevented from leaving the site through a combination of the following:

- 1. Site conditions including existing vegetative coverage, slope, soil type and proximity to receiving waters; and
- 2. Limitations on activities and the extent of disturbed areas; and
- 3. Proposed erosion and sediment control measures.

Based on the information provided and/or local weather conditions, the local permitting authority may expand or restrict the seasonal limitation on site disturbance. The local permitting authority shall take enforcement action such as a notice of violation, administrative order, penalty, or stop-work order under the following circumstances:

- If, during the course of any construction activity or soil disturbance during the seasonal limitation period, sediment leaves the construction site causing a violation of the surface water quality standard; or
- If clearing and grading limits or erosion and sediment control measures shown in the approved plan are not maintained.

The following activities are exempt from the seasonal clearing and grading limitations:

- 1. Routine maintenance and necessary repair of erosion and sediment control BMPs;
- 2. Routine maintenance of public facilities or existing utility structures that do not expose the soil or result in the removal of the vegetative cover to soil; and
- 3. Activities where there is one hundred percent infiltration of surface water runoff within the site in approved and installed erosion and sediment control facilities.
- Coordination with Utilities and Other Contractors The primary project proponent shall evaluate, with input from utilities and other contractors, the stormwater management requirements for the entire project, including the utilities, when preparing the Construction SWPPP.
 - Inspection and Monitoring All BMPs shall be inspected, maintained, and repaired as needed to assure continued performance of their intended function. Site inspections shall be conducted by a person who is knowledgeable in the principles and practices of erosion and sediment control. The person must have the skills to 1) assess the site conditions and construction activities that could impact the quality of stormwater, and 2) assess the effectiveness of erosion and sediment control measures used to control the quality of stormwater discharges.
- For construction sites one acre or larger that discharge stormwater to surface
 waters of the state, a Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Specialist shall be
 identified in the Construction SWPPP and shall be on-site or on-call at all times.
 Certification may be obtained through an approved training program that meets
 the erosion and sediment control training standards established by Ecology.

Whenever inspection and/or monitoring reveals that the BMPs identified in the Construction SWPPP are inadequate, due to the actual discharge of or potential to discharge a significant amount of any pollutant, appropriate BMPs or design changes shall be implemented as soon as possible.

• Maintaining an Updated Construction SWPPP - The Construction SWPPP shall be retained on-site or within reasonable access to the site.

The SWPPP shall be modified whenever there is a significant change in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance at the construction site that has, or could have, a significant effect on the discharge of pollutants to waters of the state.

The SWPPP shall be modified, if during inspections or investigations conducted by the owner/operator, or the applicable local or state regulatory authority, it is determined that the SWPPP is ineffective in eliminating or significantly minimizing pollutants in stormwater discharges from the site. The SWPPP shall be modified as necessary to include additional or modified BMPs designed to correct problems identified. Revisions to the SWPPP shall be completed within seven (7) calendar days following the inspection.

Objective

To control erosion and prevent sediment and other pollutants from leaving the site during the construction phase of a project.

Supplemental Guidelines

If a Construction SWPPP is found to be inadequate (with respect to erosion and sediment control requirements), then the Plan Approval Authority¹ within the Local Government should require that other BMPs be implemented, as appropriate.

The Plan Approval Authority may allow development of generic Construction SWPPP's that apply to commonly conducted public road activities, such as road surface replacement, that trigger this minimum requirement.

¹ The Plan Approval Authority is defined as that department within a local government that has been delegated authority to approve stormwater site plans.