



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

RESOLUTION 2022-05

SHORT TITLE: 2022-05 Streamlining Permitting Process

SPONSOR CD: Stevens County CD

AREA: NW SW NC SC NE SE

RESOLUTION TYPE:

- Policy
- Position Statement
- Recognition
- Study

RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY (check any option that applies):

- WACD
- WSCC
- OTHER STATE AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_
- NRCS
- NACD
- NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_

BACKGROUND/PROBLEM STATEMENT:

The permitting process is inordinately time-consuming, complicated, and laborious for landowners who want to improve natural resource environmental conditions on their property.

The Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance has out-of-date or incomplete information and is understaffed.

Many conservation projects have limited time frames for funding sources, landowner and or sponsor interest, and work windows, so time is of the essence.

Each agency has individual rules, guidelines, and specific regulations for project work which are independent of other agencies' procedures. There are no clear or accessible guidelines for determining the sequence of submittal or continuity to other agencies' requirements.

Additionally, personnel responsible for permitting have considerable latitude to input personal values or opinions into projects, leaving landowners little or no time to challenge these opinions.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE:



## WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

WACD and WSCC will

- Request the use of the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA) as the standard application dispersed to all required agencies for each proposal. Agencies to determine if permit required not the applicant.
- Request funding for the Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance.
- Will not support any fees or fee increases for restoration, protection, and enhancement projects.
- Propose creating specific permitting departments in agencies, separate from regulatory departments.
- Promote communication between agencies and the creation of a standardized process of permit movement through required agencies.
- Consider supporting improvements and additional funding for the Governor's Office for Regulatory Innovation and Assistance to achieve the above goals.

**TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION** (check all boxes that apply):

- Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.
- Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.
- New policy.

**ARE WACD RESOURCES (FUNDING, STAFF CAPACITY, ETC.) REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY?**

- NO**
- YES** (briefly explain): Staff requested to support movement of proposal through necessary channels for implementation.