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WAC 220-110-310 Utility lines.

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Utility line projects shall incorporate mitigation measures as necessary to achieve no-net-loss of productive capacity of fish and shellfish habitat. The following technical provisions apply to utility line projects. In addition, these projects shall comply with technical provisions and timing restrictions in WAC [220-110-240](#) through [220-110-271](#).

(1) Timing restrictions for digging trenches in the beach area for the installation of cables, sewer lines, and other utilities may be further restricted to protect other important fish life.

(2) Excavation of trenches within the beach area shall not occur when the project area is inundated by tidal waters.

(3) Trenches excavated for placement of utilities may remain open for limited times during construction, but fish shall be prevented from entering open trenches.

(4) If a fish kill occurs, or fish are observed in distress, excavation activities shall immediately cease and the department shall be notified immediately.

(5) Excavation for and installation of cables, sewer lines, and other utilities shall be conducted with equipment and techniques that minimize adverse impacts to fish and shellfish and their habitats.

(6) Utility lines shall be located to avoid Pacific herring spawning beds, rockfish and lingcod settlement and nursery areas and eelgrass (*Zostera* spp).

(7) Kelp (Order laminariales) and intertidal wetland vascular plants (except noxious weeds) adversely impacted due to excavation or installation activities shall be replaced using proven methodology.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [75.08.080](#). WSR 94-23-058 (Order 94-160), § 220-110-310, filed 11/14/94, effective 12/15/94. Statutory Authority: RCW [75.20.100](#) and [75.08.080](#). WSR 83-09-019 (Order 83-25), § 220-110-310, filed 4/13/83.]