

## Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)

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Welcome to the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) website for Washington State.

Since 1943, anyone planning certain construction projects or activities in or near state waters has been required to obtain an environmental permit commonly known as an HPA. Thousands of HPAs are issued each year for activities ranging from work on bulkheads, piers, and docks to culvert replacement and mineral prospecting.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) administers the HPA program under the state [Hydraulic Code](#), which was specifically designed to protect fish life. [WDFW Habitat Biologists](#) are available to help people and groups apply for an HPA and ensure their projects meet state conservation standards for finfish, shellfish and their aquatic environment.

To simplify the application process, the department recently added a new online Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS) – available on this website – which allows applicants to:

- Submit an application and any necessary supporting documents.
- Convert the APPS application into a JARPA with one click **NEW!**
- Pay their application fee, using a credit card or bank transfer.
- Check the status of their application and correspond with WDFW staff.

The new online tool also allows the public to search for, receive updates about, and comment on HPA applications.

Before applying for an HPA, people are encouraged to use the tabs above to learn more about the application process and WDFW's new APPS online application system.



[Emergency HPA Information](#)

[Contact a WDFW biologist](#)

#### **Commission adopts comprehensive update to state's Hydraulic Code rules**

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted broad-based updates to the state's Hydraulic Code Rules at a public meeting Nov. 7 in Olympia. See the [Hydraulic Code Rulemaking site](#) for more information.