



Publication Title / Publication Number <i>Geotechnical Design Manual</i> M 46-03.14	Date June 2021
Originating Organization Environmental and Engineering Programs, Geotechnical Office	

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For updating printed manuals, page numbers indicating portions of the manual that are to be removed and replaced are shown below.

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Washington State Department of Transportation  
Environmental and Regional Operations  
Geotechnical Office  
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Tumwater, WA 98512-6951





**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

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# **Geotechnical Design Manual**

**M 46-03.14**

June 2021

**Environmental and Regional Operations**  
Construction Division  
Geotechnical Office

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## 3-1 Overview

This chapter addresses subsurface exploration activities performed as part of a geotechnical investigation. Subsurface explorations may include:

- Performing geotechnical soil borings
- Excavating test pits
- Performing field testing (e.g., Standard Penetration Testing (SPT), cone penetration tests, downhole seismic testing, etc.)
- Installing standpipe piezometers (i.e. observation wells) or vibrating wire piezometers
- Other geotechnical instrumentation such as slope inclinometers.

This chapter is organized by activities and policies involved prior to, during, and after exploration. Also addressed, through appendices included with this chapter, are best management practices (BMPs) for erosion and spill prevention during geotechnical field investigations, as well as other potential impacts to the natural environment in the vicinity of the geotechnical investigation site (Appendices 3-C and 3-D), and the handling, and disposing of, contaminated and potentially contaminated materials/samples obtained during the geotechnical field investigation (Appendices 3-E and 3-F). [Appendix 3-G](#) provides a listing of the information required to track wells as defined in [RCW 18.104.020](#) and [WAC 173-160-111](#) and which is included in the WSDOT database of well installations. This is information that shall be submitted to WSDOT for any “well” installed on WSDOT property or in connection with WSDOT Projects, regardless of who installs it.

## 3-2 Activities and Policies – Before Exploration

### 3-2.1 Field Exploration Plan Development and Permissions

A geotechnical field exploration plan should be formulated as described in [Chapter 2](#). The Geotechnical Project Manager (GPM) assigned to the project is responsible to coordinate with the Region or Washington State Ferries (WSF) Project Office (PO) to prepare the way for the field exploration crews to implement the field exploration program. The GPM also functions as the primary liaison between the Region, Megaprograms, or WSF and the Field Exploration Manager (FEM), to keep the FEM informed as the Region or WSF completes the necessary preparations to begin implementation of the field exploration plan.

Specifically, the GPM should do the following before submitting the final field exploration request to the FEM:

1. Make sure senior Geotechnical Office management agrees with the proposed exploration plan (see [Section 1-4](#)).
2. Make sure that the Project Office has provided adequate site data to locate test holes and key project features on paper and in the field.

3. Make sure that the project office has asked for (preferably obtained) an environmental assessment of the site to determine whether or not there is potential to encounter hazardous subsurface materials. The GPM is responsible to have a basic knowledge of previous site use as well.
4. Make sure that the project office has asked for (preferably obtained) an archeological assessment of the site to determine if there is potential to encounter Native American or other artifacts.
5. Coordinate with the project office to make sure any right-of-entry's needed are obtained for the proposed drilling.
6. Coordinate with the project office to make sure the necessary permits are obtained (especially with regard to wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas).
7. Coordinate with the Field Exploration Supervisor (FES) who will be assigned to the project, and the project office, to conduct a joint field review to evaluate access and other issues related to setting up and finalizing the field exploration program.
8. Act as the liaison between the Field Exploration Manager (FEM) and the project office to make sure the FEM knows when all the tasks have been completed and to inform the FEM of the results so that the exploration program can be properly estimated.

To obtain permits and right-of-entry, a preliminary field exploration plan will likely be needed by the Region (or WSF) before the final exploration plan is completed and turned in. Therefore, the development of the field exploration plan may require a somewhat iterative process. Once enough field exploration plan details have been developed, the GPM should request that those who will be directly negotiating with local owners to obtain right-of-entry (if needed) invite the FEM or FES to assist in those negotiations. This generally makes the negotiations go much smoother.

If the GPM recognizes, either through an environmental assessment or through general knowledge of the previous site use, that there is a potential to encounter hazardous materials during the geotechnical field exploration, it is important that the GPM make the FEM aware of this as soon as possible in the development of the exploration plan. This will enable the FEM to be prepared to meet the requirements as specified in Appendices 3-C and 3-D, as well as to initiate procedures provided in Appendices 3-E and 3-F. The potential to encounter hazardous subsurface materials can completely change the approach, cost, and scheduling for the site exploration activities.

A preliminary field exploration plan is also needed for use as the basis for conducting the joint field review mentioned above. This field review should be used to determine how each individual exploration site will be accessed, the type of drill equipment best suited for the site, areas for utility locates, required traffic control, and to identify any permit, right-of-entry, and environmental issues. Adjustments to the specific locations of exploration points can be made as needed during the field review to address the above issues.

During the field review, the FES will stake the borings if they have not already been located and if right-of-entry (if needed) has been obtained. The FES should also assess the traffic control needs for the exploration work at this time. The FES will coordinate directly with the Maintenance Office for traffic control. After staking borings, the FES is responsible for calling all utility locates a minimum of 48 hours prior to the start of explorations.

The final field exploration plan shall be developed as described in [Chapter 2](#). The plan should include provisions and costs to decommission installed wells. Once the final field exploration plan has been completed, the FEM will provide a cost estimate to the GPM to complete the field exploration plan. Once the expenditure for the field exploration has been authorized, the GPM must then notify the FEM to commence with the field exploration. Once the exploration plan has been executed, any subsequent requests to modify the plan should be provided in writing by the GPM to the FES. The FES will respond with an updated estimate and schedule for requested plan change.

If the geotechnical design is to be conducted by a geotechnical consultant, the WSDOT GPM who is overseeing the consultant task assignment or agreement is responsible to make sure that the consultant accomplishes the tasks described above and to assist in the coordination between the consultant and the FEM. If the consultant needs changes to the field exploration plan, the GPM is responsible to provide input to the FES or FEM as to the acceptability of the changes. The FES or FEM is not to act on the requested changes to the field exploration plan without input from the GPM.

While the GPM is responsible to coordinate between the project office and the FEM or FES regarding permits, the project office is ultimately responsible to perform or provide right-of-entry, hazardous materials assessment and archeological evaluation for the site, and to provide adequate site data to locate the exploration points for exploration plan development and for location in the field.

Currently, WSDOT has a five-year General Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) for performing geotechnical exploration in both marine and fresh waters statewide. Once again the FEM or FES should be involved early in the process to define all technical questions for each project. For all barge projects, the drilling shall be in compliance with the provisions described in the general HPA from the Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW).

The FEM (or as delegated to a FES) will assign the project to a drill inspector(s) and a drill crew. The drill inspector will then initiate a meeting with the GPM to discuss the objectives and any particulars of the exploration plan. Either the FES or the drill inspector should notify the GPM of the anticipated start date of the requested work.

### 3-2.2 Department of Ecology Requirements for Wells

Well definitions, and submittal, construction, protection, and decommissioning requirements as specified in [RCW 18.104](#) and [WAC 173-160](#) shall be followed.

In accordance with [RCW 18.104.020](#) and [WAC 173-160-111](#), a well is defined as a water well, resource protection well, dewatering well, and geotechnical soil boring. Specifically, [RCW 18.104.020\(8\)](#) defines “geotechnical soil boring” or “boring” as “a well drilled for the purpose of obtaining soil samples or information to ascertain structural properties of the subsurface”.

A “resource protection well” is defined as “a cased boring intended or used to collect subsurface information or to determine the existence or migration of pollutants within an underground formation. Resource protection wells include monitoring wells, observation wells, piezometers, spill response wells, remediation wells, environmental investigation wells, vapor extraction wells, ground source heat pump boring, grounding wells, and instrumentation wells.” Note that these definitions of a well do not apply to “excavations made for the purpose of ... inserting any device or instrument less than 10 feet in depth into the soil for the sole purpose of performing soil or water testing or analysis or establishing soil moisture content as long as there is no withdrawal of water in any quantity other than as necessary to perform the intended testing or analysis.”

Reports required for wells by the Washington State Department of Ecology (hereinafter referred to as Ecology) in accordance with the RCWs and WACs include Notice of Intent (NOI) and water well reports for both the construction and decommissioning of wells.

The following sections provide the most relevant RCWs and WACs for wells. The WACs and RCWs identified herein are not intended to be an exhaustive list. Other RCWs and WACs may also be applicable.

#### 3-2.2.1 RCWs and WACs for Geotechnical Soil Borings

Given the definition of “well” provided above, the following RCWs and WACs are applicable to geotechnical borings:

[WAC 173-160-101](#): General standards that apply to all water wells

[RCW 18.104.050](#): Reports of well construction or decommissioning

[WAC 173-160-141](#): Requirements regarding water well reports

[RCW 18.104.048](#): Prior notice of well construction, reconstruction, or decommissioning

[WAC 173-160-151](#): Prior notice to the Department of Ecology and fees regarding well construction, reconstruction, and decommissioning

[WAC 173-160-181](#): Requirements for preserving the natural barriers to groundwater movement between aquifers

[WAC 173-160-191](#): Design and construction requirements for completing wells

[WAC 173-160-311](#): Well tagging requirements

[WAC 173-160-381](#): Standards for decommissioning a well

[WAC 173-160-420](#): General construction requirements for resource protection wells

[WAC 173-160-460](#): Decommissioning process for resource protection wells



For a geotechnical boring, an NOI as described in [WAC 173-160-151](#) shall be provided to Ecology, with a copy to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office, at least 72 hours prior to drilling the boring. If the boring is not left open or cased after it is drilled, the well report(s) developed in accordance with [WAC 173-160-141](#) for both conducting the boring and its decommissioning can be provided at the same time. In this case, a well tag (i.e., per [WAC 173-160-311](#)) is not required.

For a geotechnical boring that is not decommissioned immediately after the boring is completed, but is left open or cased after it is drilled to provide opportunity to monitor ground water, movements, or access for future testing (i.e., a resource protection well as previously defined), a NOI as described in [WAC 173-160-151](#) shall be provided to Ecology, with a copy to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office, at least 72 hours prior to drilling the boring. A well report describing the well construction shall be provided to Ecology after the boring is complete in accordance with [WAC 173-160-141](#).

Resource protection wells shall be physically identified with a well identification tag provided by Ecology in accordance with [WAC 173-160-311](#) and [WAC 173-160-420](#). The well identification tag must be placed in a secure, visible location. Per [WAC 173-160-311](#) and [WAC 173-160-420](#), the well tag shall be permanently attached to the outer well casing or other prominent well feature and be visible above land surface.

### **3-2.2.2 Definition and Responsibilities of the Well Contractor and Well Owner**

[RCW 18.104.020](#) defines the “well contractor” as “any person, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, association, or other entity, licensed and bonded under [chapter 18.27 RCW](#), engaged in the business of constructing water wells.” [RCW 18.104.020](#) also applies this definition to resource protection well contractors.

Wells, as defined in [RCW 18.104.020](#) and [WAC 173-160-111](#), which includes geotechnical borings and resource protection wells, shall be drilled by a licensed resource protection well operator as specified in [RCW 18.104.095](#), [RCW 18.104.097](#), and [WAC 173-162](#). A resource protection well operator with a training license (i.e., as specified in [RCW 18.104.097](#)) may operate the drilling rig to conduct the well construction, including geotechnical borings, under the supervision of a licensed operator as allowed in that RCW. Licenses shall be kept current as specified in [RCW 18.104.100](#).

[RCW 18.104.020](#) defines the “well owner” as the “person, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, association, other entity, or any combination of these, who owns the property on which the well is or will be constructed or has the right to the well by means of an easement, covenant, or other enforceable legal instrument for the purpose of benefiting from the well.” In general, responsibilities of the well owner include making sure that NOIs, well reports, and fees are properly submitted to Ecology in a timely manner, that the well is protected from damage and contamination, and that it is properly decommissioned.

As applied to the various situations in which wells are constructed on WSDOT right-of-way or other property where WSDOT may be considered the “well owner” as defined under [RCW 18.104.020](#) by WSDOT or other entities, the application of this definition and the associated responsibilities are as follows:

- For all wells that are constructed by WSDOT drill crews (including headquarters crews and NW Region crews), and private sector contract drill crews hired by WSDOT, WSDOT will fulfill the responsibilities of the well owner, making sure that NOIs, well reports, and fees are properly submitted to Ecology in a timely manner, that the well is protected from damage and contamination, and that it is properly decommissioned.
- For all wells constructed by consultants and their subcontracted drill crews, the consultant shall be responsible to make sure that, for each well, survey coordinates, NOIs, well reports, and fees are properly submitted to the Ecology in a timely manner and to make sure that a copy of those documents are provided to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office for its records. WSDOT will maintain primary responsibility to make sure that the well is protected from damage and contamination, and that it is properly decommissioned.
- For all wells constructed by design-build contractors, the design-builder shall be responsible to submit NOIs, well reports, and fees to Ecology, to make sure wells are properly tagged, and shall be responsible to make sure that the well is protected from damage and contamination and that it is properly decommissioned. In addition, for each well, the design-builder shall submit copies of survey coordinates, the NOIs, and well reports submitted to Ecology to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office for its records. WSDOT, as the well owner, will provide oversight to make sure that the design-builder carries out its responsibilities regarding wells.
- For all wells as defined above constructed by another agency or private sector developer within WSDOT right-of-way, the responsibility for the wells shall be as defined in the Subterranean Monitoring Permit (see also the WSDOT Development Services Manual, Section 5.4.05). The developer, or other agency, shall be responsible to submit, for each well, survey coordinates, NOIs, well reports, and fees to Ecology, to make sure wells are properly tagged, and shall be responsible to make sure that the well is protected from damage and contamination and that it is properly decommissioned. In addition, the other agency or private developer shall submit a copy of the survey coordinates, NOIs and well reports submitted to Ecology to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office for its records. WSDOT, as the well owner, will provide oversight to make sure that the other agency or private sector developer carries out its responsibilities regarding wells.
- For land purchased by WSDOT that contains wells, WSDOT becomes the owner of the wells and is responsible to protect the wells from contamination and damage. WSDOT becomes responsible to decommission the wells, unless WSDOT requires the previous landowner to decommission the wells through the purchase agreement. If the prior landowner is required to decommission the wells, it shall provide the required decommissioning notices and reports to Ecology, with copies to WSDOT.

Protection of wells between well construction and decommissioning shall meet the requirements in [WAC 173-160-101](#) and [WAC 173-160-420](#).

### 3-2.2.3 Submittal and Tracking Requirements for Wells

WSDOT will maintain a database of all well installations on WSDOT property made by WSDOT, its contract drill crews, consultants, design-builders, other agencies, and private sector developers. Consultants, design-builders, and other agencies shall provide pertinent information as listed in [Appendix 3-G](#) for the database in addition to the following documents for each installed well:

- A copy of all NOIs submitted Ecology, both for constructing the well and its decommissioning
- A copy of the well report submitted to Ecology, both for constructing the well and for its decommissioning

The above documents will be stored by the WSDOT Geotechnical Office, and a link to these documents will be included in the database for easy retrieval.

## 3-3 Activities and Policies – During Exploration

The drill inspector will maintain regular contact with the GPM. The drill inspector shall contact the GPM, for example, when unanticipated conditions or difficulties are encountered, significant schedule delays are anticipated, and prior to terminating the exploration and installing instrumentation. The driller is required to complete a daily drill report at the end of each workday. This is also required of any contract driller working for WSDOT. The drilling inspector is also required to complete a daily inspector's report at the end of each workday. At the completion of each workweek these reports shall be turned in to the FES and put in the project file. Examples for both the daily drill and inspector reports that show the minimum required documentation are included in [Appendix 3-A](#).

Exploration activities during drilling must adhere to the Geotechnical Office's Best Management Practices to mitigate for sediment/erosion control and spill prevention (see [Appendix 3-C](#)).

Methods for advancing geotechnical borings should be in accordance with the following ASTM standards:

- D6151-97(2003) Standard Practice for Using Hollow-Stem Augers for Geotechnical Exploration and Soil Sampling
- D5876-95(2000) Standard Guide for Use of Direct Rotary Wireline Casing Advancement Drilling Methods for Geoenvironmental Exploration and Installation of Subsurface Water-Quality Monitoring Devices
- D2113-99 Standard Practice for Rock Core Drilling and Sampling of Rock for Site Investigation

Hollow-stem augers are not to be used for assessment of liquefaction potential; wet rotary methods should be used. Further, care must be exercised during drilling with hollow-stem augers to mitigate for heave and loosening of saturated, liquefiable soils.

Sampling of subsurface materials should be in accordance with the following ASTM standards:

- D1586-99 Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils

- D3550-01 Standard Practice for Thick Wall, Ring-Lined, Split Barrel, Drive Sampling of Soils
- D1587-00 Standard Practice for Thin-Walled Tube Sampling of Soils for Geotechnical Purposes
- D4823-95(2003)e1 Standard Guide for Core Sampling Submerged, Unconsolidated Sediments

In addition to the methods described above for sampling for soft, fine-grained sediments, WSDOT utilizes a thick-walled sampler referred to as the Washington undisturbed sampler. This sampler is lined with 2-inch (I.D.) extrudible brass tubes. The sampler is intended for stiffer fine-grained deposits than what would be suitable for Shelby tubes.

Down-the-hole hammers are not allowed for use in performing Standard Penetration Tests.

Samples should be handled in accordance with the following ASTM standards:

- D4220-95(2000) Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Soil Samples
- D5079-02 Standard Practices for Preserving and Transporting Rock Core Samples

Disturbed soil samples should be placed in watertight plastic bags. For moisture-critical geotechnical issues, a portion of the sample should be placed in a moisture tin and sealed with tape. Extreme care must be exercised when handling and transporting undisturbed samples of soft/loose soil; undisturbed samples must also be kept from freezing. Rock cores of soft/weak rock should be wrapped in plastic to preserve in situ moisture conditions. Rock cores should be placed in core boxes from highest to lowest elevation and from left to right. Coring intervals should be clearly labeled and separated. Core breaks made to fit the core in the box must be clearly marked on the core. All soil and rock samples should be removed from the drill site at the end each day of drilling and transported to the laboratory as soon as possible.

In situ testing methods commonly employed in geotechnical investigations should be in accordance with the following ASTM standards:

- D2573-01 Standard Test Method for Field Vane Shear Test in Cohesive Soil
- D5778-95(2000) Standard Test Method for Performing Electronic Friction Cone and Piezocone Penetration Testing of Soils

Groundwater monitoring and in situ characterization methods commonly employed in geotechnical investigations should be in accordance with the following ASTM standards:

- D5092-02 Standard Practice for Design and Installation of Ground Water Monitoring Wells in Aquifers
- D4750-87(2001) Standard Test Method for Determining Subsurface Liquid Levels in a Borehole or Monitoring Well (Observation Well)
- D4044-96(2002) Standard Test Method for (Field Procedure) for Instantaneous Change in Head (Slug) Tests for Determining Hydraulic Properties of Aquifers

Additional information on ground water investigation and monitoring is provided in Mayne, et al. (2002).

As described herein, the term “piezometer” includes the use of open standpipe piezometers and pore pressure transducers (pneumatic or vibrating wire). [RCW 18.104.020/WAC 173.160.111](#) defines these as observation or monitoring wells, and when pressure transducers are used, as an instrumentation well. As a minimum, groundwater levels should be measured/recorded prior to the daily commencement of drilling activities and upon completion of piezometer installation. Subsequent monitoring is at the discretion of the GPM. Prior to constructing a piezometer, the boring should be thoroughly purged of drill fluids using clean, potable water. The GPM should provide design input on the construction of the piezometer, specifically regarding the screened interval and seals. Piezometers shall be constructed in accordance with Ecology regulations ([RCW 18.104/WAC 173.160](#)) governing water wells. Following completion of the piezometer, the piezometer should be repeatedly surged or bailed to develop the well screen and optimize hydraulic connectivity with the formation. Furthermore, the piezometer should be sealed within the aquifer of interest, not hydraulically linking multiple aquifers.

Slope inclinometers are routinely employed for slope stability investigations. The installation and monitoring of slope inclinometers should be in accordance with the following ASTM Standard:

- D6230-98 Standard Test Method for Monitoring Ground Movement Using Probe-Type Inclinometers

Explorations using hand equipment such as augers and drive probes may also be useful for some geotechnical investigations, such as to define lateral and vertical extent of soft/loose, near-surface deposits. The WSDOT portable penetrometer consists of 1.75 inch diameter rod which tapers to a rounded 0.5 inch tip over a 4.5 inch length, and which is driven in the ground with a 35 lb weight dropped from a 25.5 inch height. Detailed procedures for portable penetrometer testing are provided in [Appendix 3-B](#). Standard Penetration Test correlations for the WSDOT portable penetrometer (PP) are approximated as follows:

Soil Type	SPT Correlation
Clay	# PP blows/4
Silt	# PP blows/3
Sand/Gravel	# PP blows/2

The excavation of test pits can provide valuable subsurface information not determinable or well characterized by test borings. Extreme care should be exercised around open excavations, and access within them should adhere to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) sections [296-155-655](#) and [296-155-657](#). Prior to de-mobilizing, the drill inspector should ensure location information (e.g., station, offset, elevation and/or state plane coordinates) of all the explorations are recorded on the field logs. If exact location information is unavailable upon completion of field activities, a sketch of each exploration location should be made indicating relationship to observable features (i.e., bridge/structure, mile post, etc.). This information should be provided with the field logs to the GPM. In addition to providing field logs for all explorations, required documentation for test pits should include a scale drawing of the excavation and photographs of the excavated faces. Sampling methods and in situ measurement devices such as pocket penetrometers should also be documented. Detailed requirements for boring logs are provided in [Chapter 4](#).

## 3-4 Activities and Policies – After Exploration

### 3-4.1 Field Notes, Finished Log, and Sample Handling

Upon completion, the drilling inspector shall transmit recovered samples to the State Materials Lab and provide both the original copy of the field notes and a finished log for all explorations to the GPM. If the samples to be transmitted to the lab are known to be contaminated or are potentially contaminated, the procedures provided in Appendices 3-E and 3-F shall be followed.

Upon completion of the subsurface explorations, a finished well report that meets the requirements of WAC 173-160-141 shall be submitted to Ecology within 30 days of completion of the last boring for the project or the end of the calendar year, whichever occurs first.

### 3-4.2 Well Protection and Decommissioning Requirements

The primary goals of the policies and procedures outlined in this section are to ensure proper protection of wells in service, timely decommissioning of all wells, decrease the potential for incomplete documentation of well installation and decommissioning with Ecology, and increase the degree to which complete documentation is verified with Ecology.

Protection of wells between well construction and decommissioning shall meet the requirements in WAC 173-160-101 and WAC 173-160-420. With assistance from the FES in charge of the well installations, the GPM should coordinate with the local WSDOT maintenance office to make sure they are aware of any wells located within their jurisdiction.

RCW 18.104.020 defines “decommission” as “filling or plugging a well so that it will not produce water, serve as a channel for movement of water or pollution, or allow the entry of pollutants into the well or aquifers”. Well decommissioning shall be carried out in accordance with WAC 173-160-420 and WAC 173-160-460 (see Section 3-2.2). The GPM will make the request for decommissioning to the FEM, updating the original field exploration request as needed (initial estimate will be in the original estimate for the drilling). The GPM is responsible to coordinate the well decommissioning with the Region Project Office, and for wells preserved for longer term monitoring, also with the Geotechnical Design and Project Development Engineer.

The timing of decommissioning is determined as follows:

**Design-Bid-Build** – For these projects, decommissioning of wells is scheduled by the assigned GPM when the project reaches final PS&E review, or sooner, if possible. The GPM is responsible for reaching out to the Project Office, informing them of the need to decommission and making appropriate arrangements with the FEM. In addition to less formal notification to the Project Office (email, etc.), a comment indicating the need for well decommissioning should also be provided as part of PS&E review. If the geotechnical design work is conducted by either a HQ or region consultant, the WSDOT staff assigned to review the consultant’s work will make sure any wells installed are properly decommissioned. Ideally, well decommissioning should be included in the consultant’s scope of work, but if not the HQ GPM will do the coordination with the FEM to make sure the wells get decommissioned.

**Design Build** – For these projects, for wells installed during project development, the GPM is responsible for informing the WSDOT Project Office during final review of the RFP of the need to decommission prior to RFP advertisement. For wells installed by the Design-Builder, the Design-Builder shall decommission the wells prior to contract physical completion. The GPM should make sure that specifications requiring decommissioning by the Design-Builder are included in the RFP.

For either type of project (i.e., Design-Bid-Build or Design-Build), if the GPM feels that the well(s) should be maintained for long-term monitoring through project construction (e.g., for landslides or ground water monitoring), the GPM shall notify the WSDOT FEM and the Geotechnical Design and Project Development Engineer so that the well can be tracked for future decommissioning. The GPM is also responsible for informing the WSDOT Project Office of the need for special provisions or RFP language to handle both the protection-in-place of the wells and their decommissioning. In addition, the locations of wells to be protected will be clearly shown on the project plans. Standard Specification language is already in place to require the Contractor to protect the wells and not disturb them as a result of any construction activity. Decommissioning of these wells should occur at or about Contract Physical Completion, unless other arrangements are made to leave the wells in place longer term, and will be triggered by the Construction Project Engineer notifying the Geotechnical Office. If left in place longer term, the GPM is responsible to request and arrange for the proper decommissioning of the wells and all Ecology reporting requirements.

**Historic Wells** – During project development, construction, or maintenance activities, previously installed, historic wells may be encountered. During project development, the GPM should attempt to locate and positively identify all such wells, determine whether or not they have been properly decommissioned, that records for those wells are available, and that those records have been submitted to Ecology. If the well has not been decommissioned, or if the records for the well are lacking, the GPM should work with the FES to make sure that the well is properly decommissioned. If the region Project Office discovers the historic wells, the GPM assigned to the project should be notified as soon as practical.

At least 72 hours prior to well decommissioning, a NOI as described in [WAC 173-160-151](#) shall be provided to Ecology. Once the decommissioning is completed, a well report documenting the decommissioning shall be submitted to Ecology in accordance with [WAC 173-160-141](#) and [WAC 173-160-420](#). In both cases, a copy of the NOI and well report for decommissioning shall be retained by the WSDOT Geotechnical Office for its records if drilled by state forces or its drilling contractors, or shall be submitted to the WSDOT Geotechnical Office for its records if drilled by others (e.g., consultants, design-build contractors, other governmental agencies, developers).

### 3-5 Standard Penetration Test (SPT) Calibration

Calibration to determine specific hammer system efficiencies shall be developed in general accordance with ASTM D4633 for dynamic analysis of driven piles or other accepted procedure. In general, hammers should be tested annually, and may be tested on a project specific basis if deemed necessary and staff are available to do the testing. Measured hammer efficiencies for WSDOT drilling equipment can be obtained by contacting the WSDOT Geotechnical Office.

## 3-6 References

Mayne, P. W., Christopher, B.R., and DeJong, J., 2002, *Subsurface Investigations – Geotechnical Site Characterization*, Publication No. FHWA NHI-01-031, National Highway Institute, Federal Highway Administration, Washington, DC, 300 pp.

## 3-7 Appendices

- [Appendix 3-A](#) Daily Drill Report Form
- [Appendix 3-B](#) Portable Penetrometer Test Procedures
- [Appendix 3-C](#) Field Investigation Best Management Practices for Erosion and Spill Prevention
- [Appendix 3-D](#) Department of Natural Resources Memorandum of Understanding: Drilling Operations – State Owned Aquatic Lands
- [Appendix 3-E](#) Geotechnical Field Investigation and Contaminated Drilling Waste Management Procedures
- [Appendix 3-F](#) State Materials Laboratory Sample- Handling Policy for Contaminated and Potentially Contaminated Samples
- [Appendix 3-G](#) WSDOT Well Tracking Database Information to be Tracked



# Appendix 3-A Daily Drill Report Form



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

## Daily Drill Report

SR		CS		Date				
Project				Project No.				
Drill				Drill No.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure		<input type="checkbox"/> Line		<input type="checkbox"/> Landslide		<input type="checkbox"/> Materials Source		
Hole No	Size	Angle	From	To	Soil	Rock	Total	
Item			Hours	Item			Hours	
Mobilization and Demobilization				Water Haul: Mileage				
On Site Moving/Rigging				Equipment Downtime				
Drill Site Preparation				Explain:				
Soil Drilling				Standby for Hole Survey and Other Delays				
Rock Drilling				Explain:				
Reaming Hole				Installation of Instrumentation				
Placing and Removing Casing				Type:				
Hole Stabilization				Special Testing				
Install and Maintain Water System				Type:				
Water Delay				Travel Time				
Expendables								
Core Boxes		Piezo Pipe		Slope Incl		Cement		
Bentonite		Additives						
Other								
Support Equipment				No.	Job	Yard	O Serv.	
Remarks								
					Reg.	OT	Comp	Total
Inspector								0
Driller								0
Helper								0
Shift Start		Shift Finish		Service Codes				

DOT Form 350-152  
Revised 07/2012

## Appendix 3-B Portable Penetrometer Test Procedures

### Background

The WSDOT portable penetrometer (PP) is a field test used in highway and small foundation design. The test may be used in both cohesive (clay) and cohesionless (sands & gravels) soils. The test values (i.e., blow count per foot of penetration) are dependent upon the effective overburden pressure of granular soils and shear strength of cohesionless soils. However, since all equations and correlations related to use of blow count values are approximate, sound engineering judgment is necessary for accurate interpretation of the test results.

The PP test is a derivative of the Standard Penetration Test (SPT), the most widely used method for determining soil conditions in the world. The SPT is both a dynamic penetration test and a method of obtaining disturbed samples. For the SPT test, a split-spoon sampler attached to drill steel is driven downward by the impact of a falling weight on the steel. In the SPT test, a 140 lb. weight falls a distance of 30 inches per blow. In the PP test method, a 35 lb weight falls an approximate distance of 25.5 inches. In the SPT test, as a split-spoon sampler is driven downward, it fills with disturbed soil. In the PP test, no sample is obtained as a solid, cone-shaped tip is driven downward by a falling weight. However, the PP method requires excavation of a test hole, and samples should be obtained with each change in soil strata.

### Equipment

Performance of portable penetrometer testing requires two groups of equipment. The first group is associated with preparation of a drilled borehole, backhoe test pit, or hand-excavated test hole. This group includes the tools used to dig the hole, with a hand auger employed most frequently in a PP test application. A list of equipment used for excavation of a test hole with a hand auger follows:

- Shovel with pointed end for breaking up turf and vegetation at the surface.
- Posthole digger for assistance in establishing the test hole excavated using the hand auger.
- Hand auger to include: auger, pipe extensions ( $\pm$  3 feet lengths), and handle.
- Steel bar to loosen up hard pack soil and assist in the removal of rock or gravel from the test hole.
- Tarp for collecting representative samples of soil strata.
- Field notebook and pencil for recording location of test holes, numbers and descriptions of distinct soil layers encountered, and other information relative to a review of site characteristics and conditions.
- Sample bags with ties for preservation of samples of material encountered with changes of soil strata.
- Marker for writing on sample bags or tags to delineate test hole and depth of sample collection.
- Pocket or rag tape to be used to locate the test hole relative to some reference point, grid, or proposed alignment and for measurement of depth below surface of distinct soil strata and depth of exploration.

The PP device and accessories form the second group of equipment required for geotechnical investigation of proposed highway or small foundation designs. A list of the equipment necessary for this group follows:

- Portable penetrometer to include cone-shaped tip; drill rod sections (A-rod - 1.75 in. pipe OD & 22.5 in. lengths); falling weight section (length of bar for sliding weight up and down); the 35-lb weight; and the coupling devices used for connecting the tip – drill rod sections – falling weight section – falling weight stop.
- Pipe wrenches (2) used to loosen connections when breaking down the portable penetrometer.
- Lathe or another “straight-edge” useful for establishing a surface reference elevation.
- Construction crayon or marker used for marking three 6 inch intervals on the penetrometer in order to clearly delineate displacement as the penetrometer is driven into the ground.
- Rags to wipe down equipment, removing moisture and dirt, prior to packing away equipment.

## Test Procedure

1. Using a shovel or other hand tool, strip away sod or surface vegetation and set aside for future restoration of the location. Using a posthole digger or a 6 in diameter or greater hand auger, dig down approximately 2 feet, noting the depth of topsoil, subsoil, and other changes in soil strata. Describe soil conditions such as color, texture, and moisture content of the soils encountered in the bore log. Collect samples for lab soil classification, grain size determination, or Atterberg limits determination.
2. Assemble the PP device for evaluation of soils near the surface. Use threaded coupling devices to connect the cone-shaped tip, drill rod sections, and falling weight slide section.
3. Measure the distance from the bottom of the test hole to the surface and record. From the tip of the penetrometer, measure this distance on the body of the testing device and annotate a reference line on the body of the device. From this line measure and mark three intervals, each 6 inches in length.
4. Lift up the PP device and place the tip at the bottom of the test hole. Insure that the bottom or base line mark lines up with the approximate ground surface. Place a lathe or other straight edge on the ground surface so that any downward displacement of the PP device may be measured accurately.
5. Lift the 35 lb weight up and lower it down on to the upper, slide portion of the testing device. Screw on the threaded stop at the upper end of the slide section.

6. Performance of PP testing requires a minimum of two people. One person should be responsible for steadying the PP device in the test hole, counting the number of times the weight drops, and watching the reference line in order to stop the process every time the device is displaced downward a total of 6 inches. The second person is responsible for raising and dropping the weight in as smooth and controlled manner as possible. Raising the weight upward of fifty times per 6 inch interval can prove to be a workout. Additional personnel can be employed to relieve the person responsible for lifting the weight and assist in the manual work requirements of test hole excavation.
7. For each “blow”, the 35 lb weight drops a distance of approximately 25.5 in. The number of blows required to drive the cone penetrometer through three 6 inch intervals is recorded. The count for the initial 6 inch interval is noted but isn’t used to compute a test value because it reflects the seating of the PP device. The sum of the blows for the last two 6 inch intervals is recorded. This sum of the blows represents the blow count for that 1 foot interval below the surface.
8. Upon completion of PP testing at a specific depth, the device is unseated by thrusting the weight against the stop at the end of the slide. Repeating this action should loosen the tip and permit removal of the device from the test hole.
9. Employ the hand auger to remove material “disturbed” by the action of the PP. Place this affected material on the tarp and obtain a sample for lab testing. Associate PP test results with material sampled from the proper test hole and elevation.
10. Continue advancing the auger into the soil, emptying soil and repeating the procedure until the desired depth is reached. Advances from one PP test to the next lower level test are usually in 2 feet increments. Monitor the condition and properties of the soil, noting any changes in strata. Obtain samples as necessary.
11. To prepare the PP device for the next test at a lower test hole level, remove the weight stop, 35 lb weight, and slide section to permit the attachment of additional drill rod sections. Re-attach the slide section to the penetrometer. Measure the distance from the bottom of the test hole to the surface. Mark this distance on the body of the testing device by measuring from the tip and annotating a base line corresponding to the distance on the PP device.
12. With assistance, lift the PP into the test hole, properly seat it in the center of the hole, and insure that the base line corresponds with the ground surface.
13. Lift the weight up and onto the slide section and screw in the threaded stop at the top end of the slide.
14. Perform PP test procedure and sampling as described previously.
15. Monitor changes in soil strata as the hand auger advances downward in the test hole. In general, sample only when there are obvious changes in soil strata. Use engineering judgment to guide whether additional sampling and testing are warranted. As the degree of geologic complexity increases, the degree of sampling and testing increases as well.

Figures 3-B-1 through 3-B-8 illustrate the equipment and procedures used for conducting the Portable Penetrometer test.

Figure 3-B-1



Perform a field reconnaissance of the site of the geotechnical investigation. Insure that the proposed design is tied to an established coordinate system, datum, or permanent monument.

Figure 3-B-2



Hand augers used in conjunction with the PP test.

Figure 3-B-3



Porta-Pen equipment. Clockwise from the top left: tape measure above cone-shaped tips (2); 22.5-inch lengths (9); threaded coupling devices used to connect PP components (10); threaded coupler used to stop weight (1); falling-weight slide section above pipe wrenches (2); 35 lb. weight; and threaded coupling devices used with small cone tips (not shown).

Figure 3-B-4



The vicinity of the test hole is cleared of vegetation using a shovel or posthole digger. Left photo shows using the auger to advance the hole to the desired depth. Right photo shows placing soil on the tarp prior to sampling.

Figure 3-B-5



Photo of PP device in the process of being assembled. The threaded coupling devices on the left side of the box are used to connect the cone-shaped tip to lengths forming the body of the penetrometer. The lengths forming the body of the penetrometer are then connected to the section on which the weight slides.

Figure 3-B-6



Marking a base line on the body of the penetrometer. This will line up with the top of the test hole. In addition, also mark three 6 inch intervals, measured from this base line, to track the downward displacement when the falling weight is applied.

Figure 3-B-7



PP testing in progress. Lathe is used to mark the surface of the test hole excavation. In this instance, one person is steadying the equipment, another is lifting and dropping the 35 lb weight, and a third is observing downward displacement and counting blows.

Figure 3-B-8



This PP testing can be tiring. Photo shows another person providing relief for the falling weight task.



## **Appendix 3-C      Field Investigation Best Management Practices for Erosion and Spill Prevention**

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is dedicated to protecting the environment when conducting field exploration projects. This memo outlines the erosion/sediment control and spill prevention best management practices (BMPs) that will be followed for all drilling activities.

The two distinct scenarios for drilling include pavement and vegetated areas. The variety of erosion and sediment control BMPs may vary between the two scenarios, but the philosophy of minimizing site disturbance, reducing waste materials, trapping sediment, and stabilizing the site, remains the same.

### **Disturbance Minimizing BMPs:**

- Select the smallest rig capable for the job
- Use elevated scaffolding for driller and assistant when necessary

### **Waste Reduction BMPs:**

- Re-circulate drilling slurry
- Minimize volume of water for drilling

### **Sediment Trapping BMPs:**

- Baffled mud tub (sealed with bentonite to prevent fluid loss)
- Polyacrylamide (PAM) for flocculation (must meet ANSI/NSF Standard 60)
- Silt fence (trenched, below drill, and on contour)
- Sand bag barrier (washed gravel, below drill, two rows high, and on contour)
- Straw bale barrier (trenched, staked, below drill, and on contour)
- Catch basin insert (pre-fabricated type, above or below grate)
- Storage of slurry in locked drums

### **Site Stabilization BMPs:**

- Seed with pasture grass
- Straw mulch (2" maximum for seeded areas)

All BMPs will be installed and a thorough inspection for sensitive areas (wetlands, streams, aquifer recharge, etc.) and stormwater conveyances will be conducted, prior to starting drilling activities. At no time shall drilling slurry or cuttings be allowed to enter Water Bodies of the State of Washington.

When sensitive resources or conveyances to these areas exist, all slurry and cuttings will be stored in lockable drums and disposed of off-site. If not, the slurry will slowly be infiltrated into the ground using surrounding vegetated areas and the cuttings will be stored and disposed of off-site.

Removal of sediment control BMPs will be performed immediately after drilling is completed. Place trapped sediment with cuttings in drums. If significant soil disturbance occurs during drilling, the BMPs will be left in place until the site is stabilized with grass or mulch.

The drill crew will have a copy of the HPA, issued by WDFW on-site for all work adjacent to or over water. The General HPAs are available on the [HPA webpage \(https://wsdot.wa.gov/environment/technical/permits-approvals/hydraulic-project-approval\)](https://wsdot.wa.gov/environment/technical/permits-approvals/hydraulic-project-approval). The Supervisor will discuss the HPA permit provision requirements with the crew prior to each project, which include BMPs to protect fish habitat, water quality, and riparian vegetation. All of the provisions in each HPA will be strictly followed until the completion of said project. The previously defined erosion/ sediment control philosophy and BMPs will be implemented in these conditions

The approach to protecting surface and ground water is focused on prevention. The drill shaft will be filled with bentonite clay to prevent mixing of aquifers and eliminating the route for surface contaminants. In addition, the following Spill Prevention Control & Countermeasures (SPCC) BMPs will be used when applicable:

**Minimize Risk:**

- Visually inspect equipment for leaks or worn hoses on a daily basis
- Fix equipment leaks as soon as possible to minimize cleanup
- Use proper equipment to transfer materials
- Reduce the overall volume of fuel and chemicals on site
- Remove as many sources of spills as possible from the site when not working (evenings/weekends)
- Use environmentally-friendly chemicals whenever possible
- Store all chemicals with lids closed and keep containers under cover
- Have secondary containment devices underneath potential spill sources when applicable (e.g. 5 gallon bucket)

**Maximize Response:**

- Each drilling operation will have at least one emergency spill response kit on site at all times
- Know who to call in case of emergency spill

If an incidental spill (less than 1 gallon/small equipment leak) occurs, immediately collect contaminated soil and store it in label storage drum. Do not mix soils with different contaminants together. Report spill to your supervisor, as they are aware of reporting requirements.

If a major spill (more than 1 gallon) to water occurs, control the source of the leak if possible and contact the Washington State Emergency Management Division (800-258-5990) and the National Response Center (800-424-8802). If a major spill to soil occurs and there is immediate risk to human health and/or the environment, control the source of the leak if possible and contact Ecology (800-407-7170). Then contact your supervisor, as they are aware of reporting requirements.

# Appendix 3-D Department of Natural Resources Memorandum of Understanding: Drilling Operations – State Owned Aquatic Lands



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF  
**Natural Resources**  
Peter Goldmark - Commissioner of Public Lands

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
PETER GOLDMARK, Commissioner of Public Lands

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### MOU No. 92-091209

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is between the State of Washington, acting through its Department of Natural Resources, referred to as DNR, and the State of Washington, acting through its Department of Transportation, referred to as WSDOT.

The DNR is entering into this Agreement under authority of Chapter 39.34 RCW of Washington State, Interlocal Cooperation Act.

The DNR is the steward of 2.6 million acres of state-owned aquatic lands. DNR manages the aquatic lands beneath Puget Sound, the coast, navigable rivers and lakes to encourage direct public use and access, foster water dependent uses, ensure environmental protection, and to utilize renewable resources.

The WSDOT is responsible to keep people and business moving by operating and improving the state's transportation system vital to our taxpayers and communities. A key institutional linkage between DNR and WSDOT is a mandate to ensure environmental protection.

This MOU formally recognizes the connection between marine and freshwater sediment test drilling and State Owned Aquatic Lands habitat function, and it increases coordination between the DNR aquatic lands leasing and WSDOT Geotechnical Services Division programs. This MOU defines a streamlined process for DNR to authorize WSDOT access to state-owned aquatic land for the purposes of temporarily installing test drilling equipment and collecting geotechnical survey data. This increased coordination and streamlined process will result in better environmental protection of State Owned Aquatic Lands at a cost savings to the state.

We agree to the provisions and statements outlined below.

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### 1.01 Definitions.

DNR – an agency of the state of Washington

WSDOT – an agency of the state of Washington

Memorandum of Understanding - The DNR and WSDOT enter into this memorandum of understanding, in good faith, to collaborate on and/or coordinate programs, and to define institutional linkages along broad areas of concern. Memoranda of understanding are not legal contracts and do not strictly obligate the resources of the Department.

Drilling operations may consist of several different types of drilling methods and equipment such as portable aluminum pontoon barge with a skid mounted drill. The ultimate goal is to collect geotechnical data necessary to determine the sub-surface composition for the purpose of structure and roadway design. This memorandum of understanding applies only to work that is conducted consistent with the activities described in Exhibit A. Any work proposed to be conducted on State Owned Aquatic Lands that is outside of the activities described in Exhibit A will require the submission of a completed application for use authorization and possibly a separate use authorization before access to State Owned Aquatic Lands is granted.

Access to State Owned Aquatic Lands – After satisfying all the procedural requirements triggered by this type of work and securing all other applicable federal, state and local permits, and receiving written confirmation that no conflicts exist with aquatic habitats, sediment contamination, navigation and public access, or any prior rights granted on State Owned Aquatic Lands at a proposed drilling site, WSDOT is granted access to State Owned Aquatic Lands for the purpose of temporarily installing marine and freshwater sediment test drilling equipment to collect geotechnical data. In authorizing access to WSDOT for this specific purpose, DNR conveys no rights in property. Access to State Owned Aquatic Lands may be revoked by DNR with thirty (30) day notice to WSDOT.

### 2.01 Objectives.

- Create a formal cooperative agreement between DNR and WSDOT that encourages joint planning and operations in support of the WSDOT's Field Exploration Unit.
- Create a streamlined process to grant WSDOT access to State Owned Aquatic Lands for the purpose of installing marine or freshwater sediment test drilling equipment and collecting geotechnical data while ensuring environmental protection of State Owned Aquatic Lands.
- Build collaboration between DNR and WSDOT that will establish a forum for communication regarding geotechnical surveys.

**3.01 Work Activities.**

See Attachment A

**4.01 Functions/Roles/Tasks of Agencies/Parties.**

DNR shall:

- Review WSDOT proposed sediment test drilling work descriptions and locations for potential conflicts on State Owned Aquatic Lands and consistency with activities described in Exhibit A.
- Provide written notification to WSDOT granting or denying access to State Owned Aquatic Lands for temporarily installing marine and freshwater sediment test drilling equipment to collect geotechnical. Written notification will be provided to WSDOT via email or fax, within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of notice of any proposed work. Written DNR approval does not exempt WSDOT from regulatory permits.
- Maintain communication with WSDOT regarding marine and freshwater sediment test drilling results on State Owned Aquatic Lands.

WSDOT shall:

- Contact DNR at least thirty (30) days before installing drilling devices with a description and anticipated duration of the proposed work and a description of the location in the form of a vicinity map depicting Section, Township, Range and accompanying GPS coordinates. WSDOT will not proceed with the proposed work until receiving written confirmation from the DNR project coordinator that there are no conflicts after and obtaining and fulfilling all other local, state, and federal permits and permit requirements.
- Maintain communication with DNR regarding marine and freshwater sediment test drilling results and implications to potential management activities on State Owned Aquatic Lands.
- Upon request, provide to DNR all sediment quality results and any other data, results, conclusions or findings WSDOT obtains from any of the work completed under this MOU.

**5.01 Terms and Conditions.**

- (1) Effective Dates. This MOU is effective between May 1, 2014 and May 1, 2019. This agreement will be reviewed every two years.
- (2) Amendments. This MOU shall be amended only by written mutual consent of the

Form Date07/01

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Agreement No. 92-091209

- (2) Amendments. This MOU shall be amended only by written mutual consent of the parties.
- (3) Termination. Either party may terminate this MOU by notifying the other party, at the addresses given, of the termination and specifying the termination date. The terminating party shall deliver the notice at least fifteen (15) days prior to the termination date.

**6.01 Project Coordinators.**

- (1) The Project Coordinator for the DNR is Linda Farr, Telephone Number (360) 902-1065.
- (2) The Project Manager for the WSDOT is Cyndi Booze, Property & Acquisition Specialist, Telephone Number (360) 705-7377.

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Dated: 5-19, 2014

By: [Signature]

Title: Acquisition Prog. Mgr

Address: PO Box 47338, Olympia  
WA 98504

Phone: 360-705-7312

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Dated: 5/21, 2014

By: [Signature]

Title: AQR Division Manager

Address: PO Box 47027, Olympia  
WA 98504-7027

## Attachment A

**WORK ACTIVITIES**

## Habitat Stewardship Measures and Best Management Practices:

- (1) Species work windows will be used for the timing of any in-water construction and operational activities. This includes protection of forage fish, forage fish spawn, and associated spawning areas, as applicable.
- (2) Avoid impacts to aquatic vegetation and fish spawning habitat/vulnerable life history stages. WSDOT will avoid drilling in Puget Sound eelgrass beds.
  - (i) Fuels and other toxic materials must be stored in a location where they do not pose a risk of contaminating intertidal or nearshore areas.
    1. Maintaining pumps, boat motors, and other equipment in good condition, without leaks.
    2. Storing equipment free of fuel or in secure containment areas where any accidental leaks will be contained.
    3. Containing and cleaning up spills of fuels or other fluids without delay. Absorbent materials must be available onsite for this purpose.
    4. Removing broken-down vehicles promptly from beaches and intertidal areas.
- (3) Floating structures and boats must not rest on the substrate. Boat moorage systems must be deployed in a manner that prevents dragging of the vessel or line. NOTE: When drilling location is in a confirmed forage fish spawning beach area, either use of the portable or large barge method is required for sediment test drilling and geotechnical surveys. However, deployment needs to be from a designated boat launch or beach void of suitable forage fish spawning habitat. Only in areas where successful avoidance of forage fish, their spawn and associated spawning areas is achieved, can other methods be deployed (i.e., truck or track mounted drill).

After satisfying all requirements triggered by this type of work, the WSDOT project coordinator will provide a description and anticipated duration of the proposed work and a description of the location in the form of a vicinity map depicting Section, Township, Range and accompanying GPS coordinates to the DNR project coordinator. The DNR project coordinator will review these proposals for potential conflicts on State Owned Aquatic Lands and provide written notification to the WSDOT project coordinator within 15 days granting access to State Owned Aquatic Lands for the sole purpose of conducting marine and freshwater sediment testing activities. WSDOT projects the length of time at each location to be approximately 1-60 days.

Marine and freshwater sediment test drilling and geotechnical surveys are necessary to determine the sub-surface composition for the purpose of structure and roadway design, hazardous materials detection, and other information necessary in the design roadway structures such as bridges.

WSDOT sampling procedure is as follows:

A 4 inch casing is sealed into the lake or river bottom. The test boring is advanced through that casing with a 3 inch casing. At every 5 foot interval a split spoon sampler is lowered on a 2 1/4 inch rod through the 3 inch casing to the bottom of the hole for taking soil samples. This process is repeated to the required depth of the soil investigation.

#### TRUCK MOUNTED DRILL

The truck mounted drill will access boring locations that are on relatively flat, easy to access sites. Each drill will have a support truck for water, tooling, and other required supplies.

#### TRACK MOUNTED DRILL

The track mounted drill is a low ground pressure (2.5 pounds per square inch rubber and steel track vehicle). It is used to access soft ground areas and sites with uneven or rough terrain. Each drill will have a support truck for water, tooling, and other required supplies.

#### PORTABLE BARGE

The Portable Barge is used when access is needed to an area within the waterbody where none of the above methods will work. It consists of hauling transportable pontoons to the vicinity by trailer and setting them into the water with a boom truck for assembly into a barge. Drills and support equipment are placed on the barge and moved into position for the drilling operation. The barge is held in place by four anchors.

For operations in deep water, a truck mounted drill is placed on a large barge rented. Tug boats are used to maneuver the barge.

#### CONE PENETROMETER TEST TRUCK

The Cone Penetrometer test truck is used to send sound waves into the ground to determine the density of material underground. It uses an electronic instrumented cone assembly, hollow core sounding rods, a 20 ton hydraulic thrust frame, and a computer data acquisition/processing system to perform the analysis. This is a self-contained unit mounted on a truck. The system can be used from a barge for testing when there is deep soft sediment.



## **Appendix 3-E      Geotechnical Field Investigation and Contaminated Drilling Waste Management Procedures**

Requirements for handling, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials encountered during geotechnical drilling are provided at the following website: <https://wsdot.wa.gov/environment/technical/disciplines/hazardous-materials/investigation-sampling-document>

## **Appendix 3-F State Materials Laboratory Sample-Handling Policy for Contaminated and Potentially Contaminated Samples**

On a project level, if any contaminated sites are brought to the attention of the (GPM), he/she shall immediately notify and forward all contaminant information to the Structural Materials Testing Engineer (SMTE) of the State Materials Laboratory (SML) and the Field Exploration Manager (FEM). Similarly, if the FEM, FE Supervisor, or FE crew is made aware of or suspects the presence of contaminants on a project, they shall immediately notify the GPM and the SMTE. This information shall include the project number, project name, location, boring (if applicable), and the types and scale of the contamination.

The SMTE shall pass this information to the SML geotechnical lab employees. Three situations are anticipated with regard to contaminated or potentially contaminated samples. The sample handling and disposal protocol applicable to the situation shall be followed. These situations, and the protocols associated with those situations, are described in the sections that follow.

### **Situation 1: Contaminated Soils Encountered in the Field**

Soils (or rock) encountered in the field known or suspected to be contaminated shall not be submitted to the lab for standard sample processing and testing. In the event suspected or known contaminated soils/rock are encountered in the field, the following protocol shall be followed:

1. The FE crew shall immediately stop drilling/sampling operations and call the FEM, Supervisor and GPM for direction.
2. The FEM and/or GPM shall then contact the Environmental Services Office (ESO) for direction.
3. Utilizing appropriate PPE, any samples suspected or known to be contaminated shall be marked as contaminated and placed in the contaminated holding area or drum, as directed by the ESO. Labeling should be in the form of a single (~4") strip of black and yellow striped tape and be placed on all samples (across the baggie, or over the cap of a Shelby tube). All drill cuttings and fluids from the boring shall also be placed in sealed drums. All samples from a suspected contaminated boring should be kept together until they have been cleared for testing.
4. If the ESO determines that a suitable secure and offsite storage area is not available or not necessary, they may direct the suspected/known contaminated materials to be transported to the SML for disposal characterization. The FEM or GPM shall then notify the SMTE that suspected/known contaminated samples are being transported to the SML.
5. The FEM shall establish a secure area outside of the main SML building, where the FE crew shall place the samples while they await disposal characterization by the ESO. The FEM shall then notify the ESO of the receipt of samples and request their direction on disposition.

6. Once analytical test results have been obtained, the ESO will direct the soil/rock samples and cuttings to be disposed of properly (protocols for what this entails shall be provided by the ESO) or make them available for geotechnical testing if contamination test(s) indicate they are suitable for geotechnical testing.
7. The samples shall not have geotechnical testing performed on them without being cleared to be tested by the ESO and Safety Office. The ESO/Safety Office shall determine the appropriate safety level for any subsequent testing/handling to be performed by SML employees. It is understood that at this time, only soils/rock not exceeding regulatory cleanup levels, and that have been cleared by the ESO Office, shall be suitable for geotechnical testing to be performed at the SML. Samples not cleared for testing at the SML should not enter the building.
8. Samples cleared for geotechnical testing by the ESO/Safety Office shall be labelled with additional green tape prior to delivery to the SML, indicating that the samples have been cleared for testing but extra precaution should be used. The black and yellow tape shall remain on the samples.

**Situation 2: Screened Samples - Known Contaminants Exist in a Boring, but Samples are Screened in the Field and Deemed Safe for Geotechnical Testing**

1. All samples from a contaminated boring should be kept together until they have been cleared for testing.
2. Upon direction from the ESO, samples that have been retained at a secure offsite location and confirmed to not exceed regulatory cleanup levels through analytical testing may be transmitted to the SML for geotechnical testing. Prior to transmitting the samples to the SML for geotechnical testing, the ESO shall notify the FEM, who in turn will notify the GPM and SMTE, that the soil samples are marginally contaminated and that they may be safely processed for geotechnical testing using appropriate PPE.
3. All such contaminated samples shall be properly labeled before being taken to the SML.
4. Labeling should be in the form of a single (~4") strip of green tape placed on all samples (across the baggie, core box, or over the cap of a Shelby tube), indicating that the sample has been cleared for testing but extra precaution should be used.
5. All lab employees handling such marked samples shall use proper PPE and be at a heightened awareness for the possibility of contaminants to exist in these samples.
6. PPE for marginally contaminated materials includes latex/rubber gloves, eye protection, and other equipment or handling methods as deemed necessary by the ESO (which will vary based on the types of contaminants encountered).
7. Once cleared samples have been tested by the SML Soils Lab, at the direction of the GPM they may be disposed of in the same manner as non-contaminated soils.

**Situation 3: Unexpected Contaminated Samples Discovered in the SML**

If samples inadvertently make it to the SML that are suspected by lab personnel to be contaminated, lab personnel shall immediately secure all samples from the entire boring in an airtight container, label the container as having suspected contaminated samples, and notify the SMTE and the FEM, who shall then contact the ESO for direction.

If any tests have been performed on a sample and contamination is suspected after the fact, the SMTE and FEM should be notified immediately to determine how to proceed. Any equipment that came into contact with the contaminated sample should be identified and addressed (segregated, cleaned) according to ESO recommendations.

Detailing proper disposal for samples determined by ESO to be contaminated and not suitable for geotechnical testing is deemed outside the scope of this protocol. The ESO will convey the disposal requirements to the FEM or, in his absence, the FE Supervisors, and the FE personnel shall follow those disposal procedures accordingly.

## Appendix 3-G WSDOT Well Tracking Database Information to be Tracked

Table 3-G-1 Well Data to be Tracked.

Field Name	Definition
WellTrackingDetail ID	An auto incremented number that serves as the primary key for the WellTrackingDetail table.
ECYRegionName	Ecology Region Name
WSDOTRegionName	The textual description of the geographic and administrative areas of responsibility of the Washington State Department of Transportation within the State of Washington as described in the Chart Of Accounts.
COUNTY	The name of a political and administrative division of a state, providing certain local governmental services. This name does not include the word 'County'.
ControlSectionNumber	A code that identifies a location, either a Roadway Segment, state owned facility or Ferry, established for the purpose of tracking project costs with the location's associated tax base.
TownshipNumber	The numeric designation that identifies a unit of survey of the public lands. Townships run north and south. In Washington Township numbers range from 1 north in Clark and Skamania counties to 40 North across our northern border: 1N-41N
RangeNumber	Ranges run east and west and Range numbers go from 16 West in Clallam County to 45 East along the Idaho border: 1E-47E or 1W-16W
SectionNumber	The full designation of a location based on the US Public Land Survey System in the format of Township, Township Direction, Range, Range Direction, Section. Each Township is divided into a grid of 36 sections. Each section is approximately 1 mile square. About 5% of the townships use section numbers greater than 36 (37-50).
SectionQuarter	Each section is divided into four 1/4 sections. They are defined by their quadrant name. NW - Northwest quadrant NE - the Northeast quadrant SW - the Southwest quadrant SE - the Southeast quadrant.
SectionQuarterQuarter	Each Quarter is divided into four 40-acre parts called a Quarter-Quarter. They are defined by their quadrant name. NW is for the Northwest quadrant of the Northwest quadrant, NE for the Northeast quadrant of the Northeast quadrant, SW for the Southwest quadrant of the Southwest quadrant, and SE for the Southeast quadrant of the Southeast quadrant.
DrillerFirstName	The first name of a WA State licensed well operator
DrillerLastName	The last name of a WA State licensed well operator

Table 3-G-1 Well Data to be Tracked.

Field Name	Definition
DrillerLicenseNumber	Alfa numeric License number driller is required to be licensed with the Washington state Department of Ecology to provide well construction
DecommissionCardNumber	Decommission Card Number - NOI number for a well decommission
DecommissionLicenseNumber	Alfa numeric License number driller is required to be licensed with the Washington state Department of Ecology to provide well decomission
WorkOrderNumber	The number that identifies the central collection point or cost center for managing costs associated with projects. It identifies a written order authorizing work to be performed on a Work Item Phase. It is the first 6 characters of the Job Number.
WorkOrderDescription	The title of the Work Order authorizing work to be accomplished on the Work Item. This field is reporting from TRAINS and cannot be modified in CPMS.
Phase	Phase
Group	Group
StateRouteNumber	The Number assigned to the State Route and enacted into law