

**Application for Streamlined Processing of  
FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS  
Addition to the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA)**

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Under RCW 77.55.181 you may qualify for a streamlined permit process if your project is designed to enhance fish habitat. If your project meets the requirements below, you are entitled to the streamlined Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) process, exemption from the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), and exemption from all local government permits and fees except that, pursuant to chapter 86.16 RCW, a local government may impose such requirements, or charge such fees, or both, only as may be necessary in order for local government to administer the national flood insurance program regulation requirements. To apply for the exemption process, you must provide, on the same day, a complete application package to: the Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and all applicable local government planning and permitting departments. Local governments have 15 days to provide comments to WDFW to aid it in deciding whether your project qualifies (see below for details).

*To QUALIFY for the fish habitat enhancement exemption you must check at least one each from A and B and provide a letter of approval from one of the agencies listed in B. It is highly recommended you discuss your proposal with the local Habitat Biologist prior to submitting your application.*

**A) My project (check all that apply):**

- Removes a human-made or caused fish passage barrier.
- Restores an eroded or unstable stream bank using bioengineering techniques.
- Places woody debris or other in-stream structures that benefit naturally reproducing fish stocks.
- Restores native kelp or eelgrass beds, or native oysters.

**B) My project is approved by (check all that apply):**

- WDFW's Salmon Enhancement, or Volunteer Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Programs.
- The sponsor of a watershed restoration plan as provided in chapter 89.08RCW.
- WDFW, as a department-sponsored fish enhancement or restoration project.
- A Conservation District, as a Conservation District-sponsored fish habitat enhancement or restoration project.
- A formal grant program established by the legislature or the Department of Fish and Wildlife for fish habitat enhancement or restoration.
- A federally recognized tribes as tribally sponsored fish habitat enhancement projects or restoration projects.
- The Washington State Department of Transportation's environmental retrofit program as a stand-alone fish passage barrier correction project, or the fish passage barrier correction portion of a larger transportation project.
- A local, state, or federally approved fish barrier removal grant program designed to assist local governments in implementing stand-alone fish passage barrier corrections.
- A city or county for a stand-alone fish passage barrier correction project funded by the city or county.

*To APPLY for the Exemption, submit a complete application package consisting of the following documents to the local government planning department and WDFW.*

Place a check in each of the following boxes when you have collected each of these required application materials:

- This addition to the JARPA.
- A completed JARPA (use the most recent version of JARPA).
- Project plan drawings (no larger than 11 x 17 format).
- Letter of approval for your specific project from the agency selected in B, above.
- A copy of, or link to an online version of, the watershed restoration plan, if submitting an approved watershed restoration project.

*I am sending my application to the following local government planning department:*

Kittitas County, WA and Yakima County, WA

on: xx/xx/20xx  
01/04/2022 (Date)

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**PLEASE NOTE:**

- In addition to applying for this streamlined processing, you need to apply for all other applicable Federal and State permits identified in the JARPA.
- If WDFW determines that your project meets the fish habitat enhancement exemption criteria, SEPA and all local government permits and fees are waived (with the exception explained above). WDFW will process your HPA within 45 days of receiving your complete application.
- If significant concerns are raised during the 15-day comment period regarding adverse impacts from your project that cannot be addressed through HPA conditions, WDFW may determine that the project does not qualify for the exemption process. If WDFW makes that decision, you may re-apply to WDFW, the applicable local government, and any other applicable permitting agency for approval under the full permitting process. If WDFW determines that your project does NOT qualify for the exemption, or if your application is incomplete, you and the local government planning department will be notified.

**Applicant Name:** Margaret Newman, Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group