

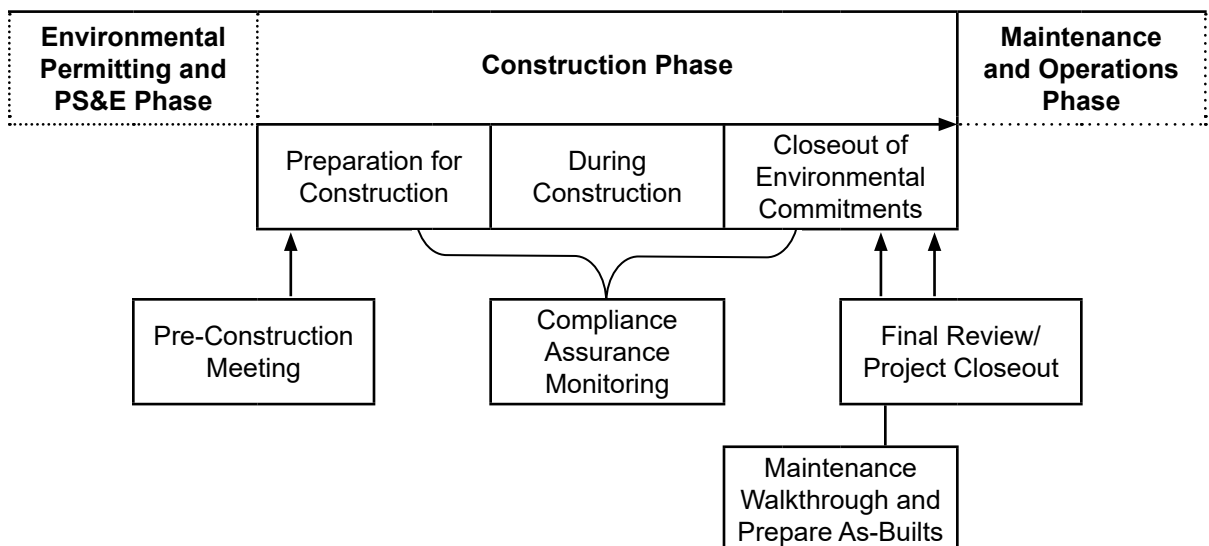
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600.01 Overview of Construction

Secretary’s Executive Order [E 1018 Environmental Policy Statement](#) states that all employees need to be familiar with and adhere to all environmental commitments, policies, and procedures applicable to their activities. WSDOT employees take a role in ensuring that the contractor’s work complies with the environmental documents and permits by incorporating environmental permits into contract documents, monitoring for compliance during construction, enforcing the contract, and taking other measures described in these sections.

After the design phase, a project should have a complete set of environmental documentation, permits, and approvals. In addition, a project will have a final set of plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E). At this time, the project is publicly advertised and WSDOT accepts bids for completion of the work. The contract is then awarded. The contractor and WSDOT share commitments at a preconstruction meeting. Construction begins soon thereafter. As construction is completed, the contract is closed out and maintenance of the project begins. Exhibit 600-1 illustrates the relationship between the preceding and succeeding phases in relation to construction.

Exhibit 600-1 Construction Phase



Because the contractor is responsible for implementing a substantial amount of environmental commitments that WSDOT made during project development, it is crucial to review all environmental documents, permits and approvals to ensure contractor relevant permit requirements make it into the contract (see [Chapter 590](#)).

Chapters 490 and 590 explain how environmental commitments are tracked and incorporated into PS&E. Consistent implementation of commitments is necessary to achieve accountability during construction that leads to good relationships with tribes, resource agencies, and the public. The following sections of this chapter identify policies and procedures to ensure environmental compliance throughout construction.

600.02 Roles and Responsibilities

WSDOT builds trust and fosters positive relationships with the tribes, resource agencies, and the public by implementing the following roles and responsibilities during construction. Some of the tasks may be done by staff other than those identified below depending on how each region or mode is structured.

600.02(1) **WSDOT Region/Mode Environmental Manager**

- Make sure environmental staff are trained to ensure compliance.
- Establish clear expectations for environmental staff.
- Foster good communication with resource agencies and the construction team.
- Communicate WSDOT-owned commitments to the Project Engineer (PE) to ensure they are fulfilled.
- Implement the Design and Construction Environmental Compliance Assurance Procedure (ECAP) (the Design ECAP located in the WSDOT [Design Manual](#) M 22-01 Section 225.05(1) and Construction ECAP located in the WSDOT [Construction Manual](#) M 41-01 Section 1-07.5).
- Work closely with the PE to resolve issues as they arise.
- Ensure noncompliance events are documented in the Commitment Tracking System (CTS) (per the Revised Code of Washington ([RCW 47.85.040\(3\)](#))).
- Document and share lessons learned to prevent recurring issues.

600.02(2) **WSDOT Project Engineer**

- Manage the contract in accordance with the [Construction Manual](#).
- Ensure staff and project offices have the necessary equipment to ensure compliance with permit requirements.
- Discuss environmental topics at the preconstruction meeting and review the environmental contract provisions ([RCW 47.85.030\(2\)](#)).
- Establish submittals, schedule, and compliance expectations for the contractor and their subcontractors.

- Ensure the contractor's submitted plans (such as the Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control (TESC) Plan, Spill Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) Plan, and Temporary Stream Diversion (TSD) Plan) meet WSDOT's technical and timing requirements before accepting them.
- Establish compliance expectations of the contractor related to permit required discharge sampling, monthly data reporting, and Best Management Practices (BMPs) adaptive management.
- Implement ECAP. Stop the contractor when their work violates the contract provisions or environmental requirements and notify the Region/Mode Environmental Manager and construction engineer ([RCW 47.85.030\(4\)](#)).
- Communicate with the Region/Mode Environmental Manager as needed.
- Check with environmental staff about proposed design changes and change orders to ensure they are permitted.

600.02(3) WSDOT Environmental Coordinator and/or Project Office Inspector

- Review all environmental commitments for the project.
- Determine water quality monitoring requirements for the project, if in-water work will occur, and develop a strategy or plan to ensure compliance.
- Ensure the project has been entered into CTS.
- Coordinate with the PE to provide advance notifications to resource agencies to ensure compliance with environmental requirements.
- Attend the preconstruction meeting and participate in discussing environmental requirements.
- Review the contractor's environmental compliance plans (like the TESC Plan, SPCC Plan, and TSD Plan) and forward any concerns to the PE.
- Ensure the contractor creates and maintains a Site Log Book to comply with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Construction Stormwater General Permit (CSWGP).
- Ensure the contractor installs high visibility fencing (HVF) to protect sensitive areas as a first order of work in accordance with the Plans and [Standard Specifications](#).
- Ensure the contractor installs and maintains all BMPs in accordance with their TESC Plan and the CSWGP.
- Ensure the contractor's Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) Lead submits erosion control inspection reports by the end of next working day following their inspection.
- Conduct site visits to verify that the contractor's ESC Lead's inspections are adequate and to ensure issues are resolved.

- Review design modifications and change orders to ensure they comply with environmental requirements.
- Meet with resource agency staff when they visit the project site to document their concerns or recommendations.
- Notify the PE when the project is not in compliance – initiate ECAP as necessary.
- Ensure the contractor samples site discharges as required per the CSWGP. Coordinators can receive automatic email notifications via Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) WebDMR system whenever the contractor submits data.
- Sample water quality as required per in-water work related permits, and ensure results from any in-water work sampling are sent to the Ecology federal permit lead.
- Request permit modifications from resource agencies if the project footprint increases, impacts to environmental resources change, or work means and methods are inconsistent with environmental requirements.

600.02(4) WSDOT Environmental Technical Experts (Regions, Modes, and Headquarters)

- Verify environmentally sensitive areas in the field that need to be protected.
- Review plans as requested and provide comments to the PE and the environmental coordinator/project inspector.
- Install fish exclusion BMPs, and relocate fish per the fish exclusion protocols and permit requirements.
- Monitor noise during nighttime work.
- Monitor for cultural and archaeological resources.
- Monitor for identified protected fish, birds, and other species.
- Assist in assessing and managing unanticipated suspect contamination.

600.02(5) Resource Agencies

- Provide technical and regulatory guidance.
- Review project changes and issue new or modifications to permits or approvals if necessary.
- Conduct site visits during construction to verify compliance.
- Communicate concerns if compliance is not achieved and corrections are needed.

600.02(6) WSDOT Environmental Services Office (Headquarters)

- Update environmental [Standard Specifications](#), [General Special Provisions](#), and [Standard Plans](#).
- Communicate regulatory changes and lessons learned to the regions/modes.
- Develop and maintain environmental compliance construction procedures.
- Provide environmental compliance training.
- Track noncompliance events to look for trends and to identify lessons learned.
- Ensure the regions/modes record noncompliance events in CTS.
- Submit annual violation report ([RCW 47.85.040](#)) to the Washington State Legislature and Ecology.

600.03 Environmental Commitments by Discipline

Specific policies, practices, and requirements exist to protect the environment throughout the life of the project, including prior to, during and post construction. WSDOT and the contractor must implement a variety of BMPs to protect the resources outlined in the following sections. The implementation of BMPs should be incorporated into applicable commitments, be part of the Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook (see [Section 600.04\(1\)](#)), and closed out upon completion (see [600.06\(1\)](#)).

600.03(1) Air

WSDOT's policy implements BMPs for preventing pollutants that impact air quality during construction. Local air pollution authorities are concerned with fugitive dust, which is particulate matter suspended by wind or human activities. [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-07.5(4) requires the contractor to follow the rules of the local air pollution authority. A list of BMPs to prevent fugitive dust is available from the Associated General Contractors of Washington in the publication, [Guide to Handling Fugitive Dust From Construction Projects](#).

WSDOT may include special provisions in their contracts requiring BMPs to minimize emissions (carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides) from construction equipment. Refer to [Chapter 425](#) for additional guidance. WSDOT has a [no idle policy](#) that directs employees to turn off engines when their vehicles are not in motion.

600.03(2) Cultural and Historic

[Construction Manual](#) Section 1-1.9 explains the need to protect archaeological and historical objects during construction. [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-07.16(4) provides instructions to the contractor if these resources are encountered unexpectedly.

WSDOT has a different policy if human remains are encountered. Refer to [Standard Specifications](#) 1-07.16(4)A.

All WSDOT projects that disturb ground must have an Unanticipated Discovery Plan (UDP) ([Chapter 456](#)). This plan describes how WSDOT will respond if archaeological or human remains are discovered. A template for the UDP is available on the WSDOT [Cultural resources policies & procedures](#) webpage. Contact one of the [Regional Cultural Resource Specialists](#) to complete the template.

600.03(3) Earth (Geology and Soils)

WSDOT minimizes impacts to the environment by limiting vegetation and soil disturbance ([Chapter 420](#)). WSDOT provides clearing limits to the contractor in the contract plans. [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-08.4 requires the contractor to install HVF to designate the clearing limits in the field. HVF must be installed as a first order of work. [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-07.16(2) defines additional requirements for the contractor to protect vegetation.

WSDOT restricts the amount of soil the contractor can disturb within the clearing limits. Within the clearing limits, contractors are required to install BMPs to prevent disturbed soil from eroding. Refer to [Standard Specifications](#) Section 8-01.3 for contractor requirements. WSDOT's expectations for controlling erosion are covered in [Construction Manual](#) Sections 8-01 and 9-14, and in the [Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Manual](#) M 3109.

WSDOT has special design requirements for earthquake and landslide-prone hazard areas. Projects in these areas often require ground improvements to strengthen the soil. Stone columns are a ground improvement technique that combines soil densification and partial replacement of unstable material with crushed rock. The operation includes injection of compressed air or water into the ground as a probe is vibrated to funnel aggregate to the end of the probe. This activity can cause impacts to adjacent water bodies up to 200 feet away. Ecology expects WSDOT to implement BMPs to prevent impacts to water bodies when doing stone column ground improvement work. Ecology also expects WSDOT to visually monitor adjacent water bodies for air percolation and perform water quality sampling if turbidity is observed.

600.03(4) Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation

WSDOT makes it a priority to protect fish, wildlife, and vegetation during construction. Policies associated with protecting fish, wildlife, and vegetation are described in [Chapter 436](#).

WSDOT includes provisions in their contracts from permits and Endangered Species Act (ESA) consultations for the contractor to implement. WSDOT also has responsibilities during construction to ensure fish and wildlife is protected. WSDOT's roles and responsibilities should be included in the Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook as described in [Section 600.04\(1\)](#).

Here are some common things that WSDOT and/or the contractor do to ensure fish, wildlife, and vegetation are protected during construction:

- Restrict when the contractor can perform work (i.e., timing restrictions or work windows).
- Isolate the work from fish and their habitat.
- Perform [fish exclusion and removal](#) prior to in-water work.
- Monitor pile driving activities to avoid driving piles when sensitive species are present.
- Install BMPs to reduce noise and vibration during pile driving activities.
- Remove birds or nests and install bird exclusion netting on structures.
- Install BMPs to protect water quality.
- Require the contractor to prepare an SPCC plan.
- Set clearing limits to protect vegetation and sensitive areas.
- Replant disturbed areas.

600.03(5) Hazardous Materials and Solid Waste

See [Chapter 447](#) for information about solid and hazardous materials (HazMat) throughout the WSDOT project lifecycle. Construction related topics found in [Chapter 447](#) include:

- Identifying and reporting HazMat during construction.
- Encountering unknown underground storage tanks.
- Finding releases of unknown HazMat.
- Encountering unknown potential asbestos containing material.
- Responding to spills from construction activities.
- Reporting spills caused by the traveling public.
- Managing HazMat during construction.
- Reusing or disposing of project waste materials.

Please see [Standard Specifications](#) Sections 1-04.7, 1-05.1, 1-05.9, 1-05.13, 1-07.1, and 1-07.15(1) on solid waste and HazMat relevant standards, and visit the WSDOT [Hazardous materials](#) webpage for additional information about WSDOT procedures for solid waste HazMat issues.

600.03(6) Noise

Noise generated during construction affects both people and wildlife. [Chapter 446](#) states that WSDOT's policy is to comply with the local jurisdiction's noise ordinance. If night work is planned, the project may have a noise variance with specific conditions. WSDOT and the contractor must follow all conditions pertaining to the noise variance.

[Chapter 436](#) states that conditions that protect wildlife from noise originate from consultations for ESA, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Gold and Bald Eagle Protection Act. The contract provisions will contain specific noise requirements that must be followed by the contractor. These typically take the form of timing restrictions and in-water work windows. In some cases, the trained biologists are required to be on site during pile driving in-water.

600.03(7) Public Services and Utilities

[Construction Manual](#) Section SS 1-07.23(1) describes how WSDOT ensures the contractor minimizes impacts to public services, including but not limited to, public works departments, schools and buses, or police and fire services. [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-07.23(1) requires the contractor to conduct all operations with the least possible inconvenience to the public and to provide adequate safeguards to protect the life, health, safety, and property of the public. The contractor must also protect the rights of property owners and businesses adjacent to WSDOT projects.

Impacts to public services vary from project to project, making it difficult to develop standard specifications to address these issues. WSDOT may include special provisions in their contracts to meet the commitments made to local jurisdictions during the environmental review and permitting processes.

WSDOT is committed to a successful partnership with public and private utility companies. [Construction Manual](#) Section SS 1-07.17 addresses responsibilities for both the PE and the contractor to coordinate project work with utility companies when necessary. The [Utilities Manual](#) M 22-87 explains that utility companies are required to obtain their own permits and are responsible for compliance when working within WSDOT right of way (See [Chapter 458](#)).

600.03(8) Transportation and Traffic

WSDOT's policy to protect pedestrian and the traveling public as they travel through construction projects. [Construction Manual](#) Section SS 1-07.23(1) clarifies the responsibilities for the PE to accommodate and protect pedestrians during construction. WSDOT must also ensure minimal disruption to existing modes of transportation. Refer to [Construction Manual](#) Section SS 1-07.17 for policy related to railroad traffic. See [Chapter 455](#) for more information on land use and transportation.

600.03(9) Water Quality

WSDOT is committed to protecting water bodies ([Chapter 430](#)) during projects that involve in-water work or that discharge stormwater runoff. State law ([Chapter 90.48 RCW](#)) prevents discharges, for example, of turbid water, construction material, garbage, or chemicals to surface waters of the state. Failure to prevent such discharges causes is a noncompliance event.

Projects with in-water work must comply with the water quality standards established in [Chapter 173-201A](#) of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC). WSDOT worked with Ecology to develop Monitoring Guidance for In-Water Work (available on the WSDOT [Environmental commitments & compliance](#) webpage). Projects that disturb an acre or more of soil and have the potential to discharge stormwater to surface waters must adhere to Ecology's NPDES CSWGP. This permit contains water quality benchmarks that differ from the standards established in [Chapter 173-201A WAC](#).

For projects having a 401 Water Quality Certification or a letter of verification, water quality monitoring data collected during in-water work must be directly submitted to Ecology by the WSDOT PE Office. WSDOT transfers the CSWGP to contractors as a standard practice. Contractors are responsible for collecting and submitting water monitoring data to Ecology via the [WQWebPortal](#). Refer to [TSK620-a](#) for guidance on how to sample construction stormwater runoff for projects that *have not* transferred the CSWGP to the contractor. Refer to [TSK 620-b](#) to ensure sampling of the contractor's in-water work is consistent with the Monitoring Guidance.

General contract requirements for applying and enforcing water quality standards and benchmarks are available in [Standard Specifications](#) Sections 1-07.5(3) and 8-01 as well as [Construction Manual](#) Section GEN 8-01.

WSDOT is committed to protecting ground water during construction. Instructions for managing ground water are provided to the contractor in [Standard Specifications](#) Section 8-01.3(1)C. Some WSDOT projects are constructed within locally designated wellhead protection areas. See [Chapter 433](#) for more details on groundwater. WSDOT includes special provisions in contracts to reduce the risk that construction activities contaminate soil or ground water in these areas.

600.03(10) Wetlands and Other Waters

WSDOT's Wetlands Protection and Preservation policy (accessible through the WSDOT [Wetlands](#) webpage) directs employees to protect wetlands during construction. The contractor is required to restore any fencing damaged or removed throughout the life of the project (see [Standard Specifications](#) Section 8-01.3(1)). Wetlands that are not permitted for impact must be protected by HVF (See 600.09). Maintaining the fence will ensure that contractors don't cause impacts to areas that have not been permitted.

Changes to the limits of work require re-evaluation of wetlands. If the impacts to wetlands change, the project permits and mitigation requirements may also need to change. These changes must be coordinated through the project environmental coordinator and provided to the wetland mitigation design team, so that WSDOT can apply for permit amendments. Please see the WSDOT [Wetlands during construction](#) webpage for more details on wetlands.

600.04 Preparation for Construction

600.04(1) ***Prepare an Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook for the Project***

WSDOT's [Construction Manual](#) Section 1-05.1 states that it is WSDOT policy is to incorporate all environmental commitments into the contract. Compiling all of the environmental requirements, reference materials, and contact information into one place is a useful tool for PEs and their staff. Regions can prepare an Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook in order to accomplish this task.

The binders include, but are not limited to, the following information:

- Contacts – WSDOT Region Environmental Office contacts and resource agency contacts
- Permits and Approvals
- TESC Plan
- SPCC Plan
- Environmental notification requirements
- Environmental commitments
- Inspection forms/checklists
- Procedures for unanticipated discovery or inadvertent discovery of archaeological or cultural resources
- Monitoring plans and forms
- Noncompliance notification triggers and reporting requirements

The PE should use all relevant information from the Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook during the preconstruction meeting (See [Section 600.04\(2\)](#)). Refer to [PRO610-a](#) for additional guidance on preparing an Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook for a project.

600.04(2) ***Discuss Environmental Compliance at the Preconstruction Meeting***

[Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-07.9(1) states that the contractor has responsibility for compliance requirements associated with all parts of the Work necessary to complete the contract. [Construction Manual](#) Section 1-05 requires the PE to discuss the project with the contractor and exchange a variety of information, including compliance expectations. In most cases, the PE and contractor discuss the project and exchange information at a preconstruction meeting. A preconstruction meeting occurs after contract award and prior to construction activities. [RCW 47.85.030](#) requires WSDOT to conduct preconstruction meetings, as does the [Memorandum of Agreement concerning the Implementation of the Fish and Wildlife Hydraulic Code for Transportation Activities](#). WSDOT uses this meeting to establish environmental expectations with the contractor. . An expectation will be that environmental commitments cannot be changed through innovative cost saving proposals or other similar contractor suggested changes. Alternatively, for projects with complex environmental issues, it may be necessary to hold an additional environmental-specific preconstruction meeting.

Staff from the Region/Mode Environmental Office shall support the PE at preconstruction meetings. Consider discussing the following topics at the preconstruction meeting:

- Locations and protection of environmentally sensitive areas
- Risky elements of the construction project
- Schedule for earth work and implementation of BMPs
- Inspections and documentation
- Expected content and schedule of submittals from the contractor, such as the TESC, SPCC, and TSD Plans
- Verification that credentials exist and are current for the environmental work, for example: CESCL certification and 40-hour HazMat certification

Refer to [PRO610-b](#) for guidance on preparing environmental topics to discuss at a preconstruction meeting. Refer to [PRO610-c](#) for guidance on verifying CESCL certification.

600.04(3) Take Environmental Training

Although the contractor is responsible for compliance when delivering a project, [RCW 47.85.040](#) instructs WSDOT to continue efforts to improve training and compliance. Specifically, WSDOT must provide training in environmental procedures and permit requirements for those responsible for project delivery. Note that some permits or approvals may have specific training requirements (e.g., the NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit requires that all WSDOT staff responsible for designing and implementing TESC Plans take WSDOT's Construction Site Erosion & Sediment Control Training). WSDOT staff can find a listing of instructor-led and online courses relevant to environmental compliance in WSDOT's Learning Management System (LMS) course catalog. Staff may also contact the Region/Mode Environmental Office or Headquarters Environmental Services Office for additional training opportunities.

600.04(4) Provide Notifications and Submittals to Resource Agencies

Project permits and approvals often require WSDOT to provide notifications or submittal to resource agencies prior to beginning or completing certain activities. Failure to provide required notifications or submittal is a noncompliance event. The PE should work with staff and from the Region/Mode Environmental Office to determine which and when activities require notifications and submittals for the project.

Examples of activities or situations that might trigger a notification and/or a submittal include:

- Geotechnical activities like pile driving and removal, and well installation and removal.
- Underground storage tank removal
- Demolitions
- Preconstruction meeting
- Request for Chemical Treatment
- In-water work
- Completion of project work

- Noncompliance with a permit condition or regulation
- Sampling that indicates an exceedance
- Stream restoration/reclamation
- Permitted work within wetlands
- Removal of contaminated soil
- Stream diversions
- Mining (including surface pits)
- Wetland or stream mitigations site construction, which requires right of way plan or sundry site plan submittal (refer to [PRO490-f](#) for more information)

600.04(5) Mark Clearing Limits and Protect Sensitive Areas

All WSDOT projects have boundaries that must be marked to keep contractors from clearing land not permitted for impacts. [Construction Manual](#) Section SS 2-01.3(1) provides instructions on marking clearing limits. The [Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control Manual](#) M 3109 and the [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-08.4 requires these limits be marked prior to the start of clearing activities. Flagging, staking, and silt fence, for example, are some appropriate methods to define the project boundary.

WSDOT contracts require HVF to be installed as a first order of work. Use HVF to protect sensitive areas and their buffers where impacts are not permitted. The HVF shall be maintained throughout the life of the project. Sensitive areas include, but are not limited to:

- Wetlands and their buffers
- Surface water features and their buffers
- Mitigation areas
- Areas of vegetation to be preserved
- Archaeological and historical features
- Known Contaminated areas beyond clearing limits

Refer to [PRO610-d](#) for guidance on marking clearing and protecting sensitive areas.

600.04(6) Procedures for Preconstruction

The following procedures available on the WSDOT [Environmental commitments & compliance](#) webpage explain how to:

- Prepare an Environmental Compliance Binder or Notebook for the project (PRO610-a)
- Prepare environmental topics to discuss at the preconstruction meeting (PRO610-b)
- Verify contractor has a Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (PRO610-c)
- Mark clearing limits and protect sensitive areas (PRO610-d)
- Prepare a plan for monitoring water quality (for 401 Certification or Letter of Verification projects (PRO610-e)

600.05 Compliance During Construction

600.05(1) *Enforce the Contract During Construction*

WSDOT's policy, as explained in [Chapter 590](#), is to fully supplement contracts with environmental commitments. As a result, enforcing the contract is the best way to obtain compliance with a majority of WSDOT's commitments and avoid additional impacts.

The contract is defined in [Standard Specifications](#) Section 1-04.2 and includes: Addenda, Proposal Form, Special Provisions, Contract Plans, Amendments to the Standard Specifications, [Standard Specifications](#), and [Standard Plans](#). [Standard Specification](#) Section 1-05 describes the authority of the engineer, assistant engineers, and inspectors, which is critical to enforcing the contract. Refer to [Construction Manual](#) Section 1-05 for more information about the PE's authority, and Section 8-01 for contract enforcement expectations (specifically with regard to erosion control).

Remember that Secretary's Executive Order [E 1018 Environmental Policy Statement](#) states that all employees need to be familiar with and adhere to all environmental commitments, policies, and procedures applicable to their activities. WSDOT employees must make sure the contractor's work complies with the environmental documents and permits. When a project is not complying with a permit or environmental regulation, the PE must immediately order the contractor to stop all nonconforming work and implement measures necessary including reporting ([RCW 47.85.030\(4\)](#)). Refer to ECAP to learn more about how to recognize and rectify environmental noncompliance and ensure prompt notification to WSDOT management and regulatory agencies (Design ECAP located in the WSDOT [Design Manual](#) Section 225.05(1) and Construction ECAP located in the WSDOT [Construction Manual](#) Section 1-07.5).

600.05(2) *Respond to Project Modifications*

There are times during construction when the scope of the project changes in order to accommodate additional work, save money, shorten project timelines, minimize impacts to traveling public, or for safety. These are all legitimate reasons, but the impacts of the change must be evaluated to determine whether WSDOT needs to obtain permit amendments, apply for a new permit, or re-evaluate impacts to comply with permits and approvals like NEPA/SEPA, ESA, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If so, WSDOT must allow extra time to obtain additional permits or approvals. Make sure to coordinate with the Region/Mode Environmental Office when a project modification is proposed. Also, ensure that updated or new commitments are entered into CTS or other commitment tracking tool (see [Chapter 490](#)).

600.05(3) *Respond to Noncompliance*

WSDOT employees are obligated to report noncompliance ([RCW 47.85.030\(3\)\(a\)](#)). WSDOT's ECAP (as described in the [Design Manual](#) Section 225.05(1) and the [Construction Manual](#) Section 1-07.5), provides instructions on how to respond to a noncompliance event, including the requirement to record all noncompliance events into CTS (regardless as to whether the project is using CTS for commitment tracking purposes).

600.05(4) Procedures for During Construction

The following procedures available on the WSDOT [Environmental commitments & compliance](#) webpage explain how to:

- Sample construction stormwater runoff (applicable only if WSDOT retains the CSWGP) (TSK620-a)
- Sample water during in-water work (TSK620-b)

600.06 Construction Close Out for Environmental

600.06(1) Close Commitments Upon Completion

Most construction commitments are performed by the contractor, so achieving contract physical completion should be cause for closing out the commitment. WSDOT is committed to tracking commitments ([RCW 47.85.040](#)), which includes closing them upon completion. This is a difficult task considering the volume of commitments. However, WSDOT employees that use CTS can easily close commitments using the “Commitment Status” feature. All commitments need to be closed out to ensure no future liability and appropriateness for final payment. If the project is using CTS, refer to [PRO630-a](#) for guidance on closing out completed commitments in CTS.

600.06(2) Prepare As-Built Reports for Wetland and Stream Mitigation Efforts

If wetland or stream mitigation was constructed for the project, WSDOT must send as-built reports to Ecology and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Refer to the project permits for specific as-built report and timing requirements. Refer to [PRO630-c](#) to coordinate preparing wetland/stream mitigation as built reports.

600.06(3) Initiate Post Construction Wetland Mitigation Monitoring

If a wetland mitigation site was constructed for the project, WSDOT is obligated to monitor wetland mitigation sites for up to ten years. As construction nears completion, the PE must submit information to the Headquarters Wetland Program so monitoring can commence. Visit the WSDOT [Wetland monitoring](#) webpage for more information on initiating mitigation site monitoring.

600.06(4) Coordinate Long-Term Maintenance

WSDOT regularly makes project-level commitments that require long-term care. It is vital that WSDOT’s Maintenance and Operations personnel receive a copy of and understand these long-term compliance expectations, including maintenance for mitigation sites. WSDOT must maintain these sites in perpetuity. Transition from post construction wetland monitoring to maintenance is specifically described in [Chapter 700](#). Refer to [PRO630-d](#) to ensure long-term commitments are effectively handed off.

600.06(5) Procedures for Close Out of Construction Commitments

The following procedures available on the WSDOT [Environmental commitments & compliance](#) webpage explain how to:

- Use CTS to close out completed commitments (PRO630-a)
- Coordinate the wetland/stream mitigation as-built submittal (PRO630-c)
- Ensure Maintenance and Operations receive commitments requiring long-term maintenance (PRO630-d)

600.07 Applicable Statutes and Regulations

- Transportation Project Delivery and Review – [Chapter 47.85 RCW](#)
- Water Pollution Control – [Chapter 90.48 RCW](#)
- Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington – [Chapter 173-201A WAC](#)

600.08 Abbreviations and Acronyms

CESCL	Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead
CSWGP	Construction Stormwater General Permit
CTS	Commitment Tracking System
ECAP	Environmental Compliance Assurance Procedure
Ecology	Washington State Department of Ecology
ESA	Endangered Species Act
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
PE	Project Engineer
PS&E	Plans, Specifications, and Estimates
RCW	Revised Code of Washington
SEPA	State Environmental Policy Act
SPCC	Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures
TESC	Temporary Erosion and Sediment Control
TSD	Temporary Stream Diversion
WAC	Washington Administrative Code

600.09 Glossary

These definitions provide context to achieve environmental compliance.

Commitment – An obligation that WSDOT makes within an environmental document or agreement for the project; or an expectation imposed upon WSDOT by another agency through a permit or approval for the project. Commitments can be either the agency's or the contractor's responsibility to implement.

Commitment Status – The status of commitments (opened, closed, cancelled, etc.) in the WSDOT Commitment Tracking System (CTS).

Commitment Tracking System – The Commitment Tracking System (CTS) is a WSDOT web application that allows you to store commitments in a secure computer network server, plus manage the responsibility (WSDOT or contractor) and implementation method (guidance document or contract) for the commitment. It also allows you to store compliance records, document the status, and report details about commitments from their inception through project delivery and on to maintenance.