

Forest Practices Rules
Protecting
Unstable Slopes

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Washington Forest Practices Board**

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Forest Practices Rules **Protecting** **Unstable Slopes**

- **Class IV-special**
WAC 222-16-050 (1) (d)
- **SEPA Policies**
WAC 222-10-030

Class IV-special
WAC 222-16-050 (1) (d)

- **Timber harvest, or construction of roads, landings, gravel pits, rock quarries, or spoil disposal areas,**
- **On potentially unstable slopes or landforms**
- **With potential to deliver sediment/debris to a public resource or threaten public safety**
- **Field verified by the department**

SEPA Policies if Class IV-special **WAC 222-10-030**

- **Additional information from Applicant**
 - **Environmental Checklist**
 - **Qualified Expert Report on slope stability**
- **SEPA Threshold determination by DNR**

Applicant's Qualified Expert Report

- **Describe potentially unstable landforms in and around application site**
- **Analyze:**
 - (a) likelihood to cause or contribute to movement of the slope or landform**
 - (b) likelihood of delivery of sediment or debris to a public resource, or to threaten public safety**
 - (c) any possible mitigation for the identified hazards/risks**

SEPA Threshold Determination

DNR evaluates whether the proposed forest practices:

- (a) Are likely to increase probability of mass movement on or near the site**
- (b) Would deliver sediment or debris to public resource or in a manner that would threaten public safety**
- (c) Such movement and delivery are likely to cause significant adverse impacts.**

DNR Decision

If DNR determines that all 3 situations exist, this is a SEPA Determination of Significance, and an Environmental Impact Statement is required by applicant

- **DNR evaluates proposal and EIS using appropriate expertise, in consultation with other affected agencies and tribes**
- **DNR requires specific mitigation measures or conditions designed to avoid accelerating rates and magnitudes of mass wasting**

Class IV-special Exception for Watershed Analysis

- In a WAU with an approved watershed analysis**
- Proposal conforms to approved prescriptions**
- Prescription is specific to the site or situation (as opposed to calling for additional analysis)**