

Minimum Qualifications for Wetland Biologists

WSDOT wetland biologists and consultant biologists working on WSDOT projects must have qualifying wetland experience, training and education, as listed below.

Experience:

Two or more years conducting wetland field work and analysis in the Pacific Northwest including:

- Identifying plants in the field and using technical keys to identify plants to species.
- Identifying and evaluating hydric soils.
- Delineating wetland boundaries using the Corps delineation manual and regional supplements.
- Classifying and rating wetlands.
- Assessing wetland functions.
- Preparing wetland delineation reports.

AND

Training:

Successful completion of all the following classes:

- A 5-day wetland delineation class, including a field practicum.
- Wetland rating class taught by Washington Department of Ecology.
- A 2-day class on identifying hydric soils and field indicators, including a field practicum.

AND

Education (one of the following options):

1. A Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts, or equivalent degree in biology, botany, ecology, environmental studies, fisheries, soil science, wildlife, or related field, or
2. Certification as Professional Wetland Scientist from the Society of Wetland Scientists, or
3. Five additional years of wetland experience with progressively increasing responsibility.