



Local Technical  
Assistance  
Program

WSDOT's Environmental Services Office and  
Highways & Local Programs LTAP Center present:

# WSDOT Biological Assessment Author Re-Qualification Seminar

March 15-16, 2012 (#02082CN)  
Olympia

Thurston County Fairgrounds Expo Center  
3054 Carpenter Road SE, Olympia WA  
360-786-5453\*

(The phone number above may be used in case of emergency to contact a student in the class.)

Cost: \$65

Time: March 15, 2012 8:30 to 5:00 p.m.  
March 16, 2012 8:30 to 1:30 p.m. (Exam)

Class Size: 55

## Instructors

Mark Bakeman, WSDOT Senior Biologist  
Cindy L. Callahan, Environmental Specialist/Biologist, FHWA Washington Division  
Marion Carey, WSDOT Fish & Wildlife Program Manager  
Julie Hampden, Herrera Environmental Consultants  
Rick Huey, WSF Biologist  
Jim Laughlin, WSDOT Air / Acoustics / Energy Technical Manager  
Emily Teachout, US Fish and Wildlife Service

## Seminar Description

This one and a half day **Re-qualification Seminar** will focus on updates to technical topics or procedures that have changed or been modified since the 2010 requalification seminar. This information will complement the information presented in the Advanced Training Manual: Biological Assessment Preparation for Transportation Projects (BA Manual). The seminar will present new and up-to-date guidance for preparing Biological Assessments (BAs) for WSDOT projects. Topics covered include:

- Consultation hot topics: learn what the latest issues are in the consultation world
- Updates to the HI-RUN stormwater assessment model
- Updates to noise assessment procedures and thresholds
- New indirect stormwater effects analyses
- FHWA Templates and Expectations
- Re-Qualification test (i.e. case study) on March 16

## Target Audience

**Consultants:** The re-qualification seminar is required to maintain a qualified Senior or Junior WSDOT BA Author status. Attending this seminar and achieving a passing score on the exam are required every two years.



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

**Please Note:** The re-qualification seminar is for consultants who are already qualified as WSDOT BA authors. The re-qualification seminar will not count toward initial qualification.

**Local Agencies:** This seminar is recommended, but not required, for consultants or individuals who write BAs for local agencies.

**Please note that this seminar is intended only for individuals who actually write BA documents.**

## Information for WSDOT Consultants

On June 1, 2006, WSDOT implemented requirements for on-call environmental consultants who prepare BAs. If you have met the initial qualification requirements and are currently a Junior or Senior Biological Assessment Author, every two years you will need to take the re-qualification seminar and pass the exam with a score of at least 80 percent to remain qualified.

If you are currently qualified as a Junior BA Author and would like to change your status to Senior BA Author, you may do so by clearly providing proof of **two full years** of BA author experience and a detailed resume. For information on how to submit documentation of experience or general qualification requirements, see <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/Biology/BA/qualification.htm>. Documentation can be brought to the class.

## Information for Local Agencies

This re-qualification requirement is recommended, but not required, for local agencies that either prepare BAs or hire consultants to prepare BAs for FHWA-funded projects. The intent of the **Re-qualification Seminar** is to complement the information given in the *BA Manual* by presenting new and up-to-date guidance on writing BAs. Participants will learn technical updates and current best practices for improved consistency and quality to expedite consultation turnaround times at the Services.

## Exam

The exam will be offered on the last day of the class. This year the re-qualification exam will be open-book and based upon a realistic project in order to better assess participants' practical understanding of how to correctly prepare WSDOT BAs. Participants will be asked to download and bring specific information to class with them as part of the exam. Information on what to bring to the exam will be provided on the ftp site and the address will be sent to you by email several days prior to the class. Please be sure to provide your correct email address when you register. Individuals and consultants working for local agencies are not required to take the exam, but are encouraged to do so. On-call consultants writing BAs for WSDOT are required to take and pass this exam to remain a Senior or Junior BA Author.

The exam is not limited to information presented in the Re-qualification Seminar and may include anything in the current *Advanced Training Manual: Biological Assessment Preparation for Transportation Projects* (BA Manual), and on the WSDOT Fish and Wildlife Program Website that relates to writing BA's. **It is recommended that you review the BA Manual prior to the course to be successful on the exam.** You will only have 4 hours to complete the exam.

## BA Manual

We recommend that you print out a copy of the BA manual and bring it with you to the seminar as we are no longer able to provide course participants with a hard copy. Wait until the manual has

been updated (first week of March 2012) before printing, to insure that you have the correct version for the seminar. It will be available on-line on March 1<sup>st</sup> at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/Biology/BA/default.htm>.

## Seminar Registration

Please register on-line using this link: [Online Registration](#) or key this web address into your browser: <http://eefmapps.wsdot.wa.gov/fmi/xsl/LTAPTraining/default.xsl>

Fill in the requested information, select **WSDOT BA Author Re-qualification** from the drop-down menu, then press "Submit." You will receive an e-mail notification with driving directions to the training site when we process your request. If you do not receive this e-mail notification within a day or two, you may not be registered and should contact us by phone.

**Please do not prepay**, an invoice will be mailed to you after the class. Confirmation letters will be mailed three weeks prior to the class. If you are unable to attend, someone else from your agency may attend in your place.

## Questions?

Seminar information for WSDOT consultants' contact:

Marion Carey, [CareyM@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:CareyM@wsdot.wa.gov), or 360-705-7404.

Seminar information for local agencies contact:

Bill Leonard: [LeonardB@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:LeonardB@wsdot.wa.gov), or 360-705-7344.

For information on the WSDOT Consultant BA Qualification Program:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/Biology/BA/qualification.htm>

All other questions on this training, for registration assistance or cancellations contact:

Judy McDonald: [McdonJT@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:McdonJT@wsdot.wa.gov), or (360) 705-7809.

[Disability accommodations provided upon request.](#)

**Visit the  
Washington State LTAP Center's Web Page:**

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/localprograms/ltap/>

