

Island County Planning and Community Development Field Indicators Worksheet

The Field Indicators Worksheet will help you and the County determine if a wetland or wetland buffer is on your property. Applicants for permits for single family residential uses must either complete this Worksheet or, at their option, hire a wetland professional to complete a Wetland Report that includes the elements of the Worksheet. All other applicants (commercial or non-residential) must do the latter, if the County verifies that the development proposal is for land that contains or is affected by a wetland.

The comments section of this Worksheet may be used to record any particulars or information about your property. You may attach additional pages and photographs.

The County will verify the information provided in this Worksheet or related wetland report.

This Worksheet must be included with every application for development. Prospective purchasers may also ask the County to review the Worksheet to assist them in determining whether the property they are interested in purchasing contains wetlands.

Applicant Name (please print): _____

Date: _____

Parcel or Key Number: _____

Hydrology

The presence of water is the most obvious and common indicator of a wetland. There are several factors that must be considered in describing whether or not you have water on your property. Some wetlands have standing water all year long; others are soggy only during wetter months of the year; and, others appear wet only after storm events.

1. Is there ever standing water on the property?

- Yes No

If No, proceed to question #3

If Yes, is it:

- 4 weeks - 4 months 4 months - 8 months - Seasonally 8 months - Year Round
-

2. If you answered yes to question #1, are the surrounding adjacent areas:

Topographically higher Yes No

Topographically lower Yes No

Topographically the same elevation Yes No

3. When you dug the hole, did you observe any water within 10 inches of the ground surface?

- Yes No
-

4. Identify any features through which water flows onto your property (Check all that apply)

- Stream Culverts Ditches Roadside Ditch
 Storm Drains Ponds, lakes, estuaries Pumps Other _____
-

5. Identify any features through which water flows off of your property (Check all that apply)

- Stream Culverts Ditches Roadside Ditch
 Storm Drains Ponds, lakes, estuaries Pumps Other _____
-

6. Are there defined ditches/channels on, or near your property that have water?

Yes, there are ditches/channels that have occasional water flow (e.g. after storm events).

Yes, there are ditches/channels that have regular water flow during wet months.

Yes, there are ditches/channels that have water flow all year long.

No, there are no defined channels

If Yes, how wide is defined channel?

- Large (>2 ft across) Small (<2 ft across) Grass Lined Swale (dried up pond)

Comments:

Hydrology Map

Please refer to the *Hydrology Map Example* found in the *Wetland Identification Guide* for instructions

Draw a close approximation of the features you listed in questions 1-6 of the Hydrology section of the Field Indicators Worksheet. Please label the features and approximate dimensions. You may also include areas where wetland vegetation was observed and sites where you performed your soil samples. An organized and informative drawing will help make our site visit more efficient. For greater accuracy, you may obtain an aerial map of your parcel from the Island County Planning and Community Development offices, and use it as the base layer for your map. The Hydrology Map section of the *Island County Wetland Identification Guide* has further information.

Comments:

Vegetation

Only certain types of vegetation can survive in wetland conditions. In fact, some plants, trees and shrubs live nowhere else except in wetlands, e.g. skunk cabbage. Other types of vegetation are tolerant of both wet and drier conditions, e.g. salmonberry and alder. Most trees and plants look different depending upon the time of the year. This can make it difficult to identify exactly what's on your property. Numerous photographs of the more common types of wetland vegetation are shown during different seasons. **Please include these observations in your Hydrology Map.**

7. Are there any native wetland plants on the property that are identified in the Wetland Vegetation section of the Wetland Identification Guide? (Check all that apply)
- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slough Sedge | <input type="checkbox"/> Cooley's Hedge Nettle | <input type="checkbox"/> Crabapple | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Stemmed Dogwood |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Labrador Tea | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Parsley | <input type="checkbox"/> Skunk Cabbage | <input type="checkbox"/> American Speedwell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cat Tail | <input type="checkbox"/> Common Rush | <input type="checkbox"/> Willows | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Alder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Salmonberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Nootka Rose | <input type="checkbox"/> Bull Rush | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Red Cedar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pacific Silverweed | <input type="checkbox"/> Sitka Spruce | <input type="checkbox"/> Hardhack | <input type="checkbox"/> Grasses (other than lawn) |
-
8. Are there any non-native wetland plants on the property that are identified in the Wetland Vegetation section of the Wetland Identification Guide?
- | | | | |
|--|---|--------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creeping Buttercup | <input type="checkbox"/> Reed Canary Grass | <input type="checkbox"/> Yellow Iris | <input type="checkbox"/> Himalayan Blackberry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eurasian Milfoil | <input type="checkbox"/> Evergreen Blackberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Velvetgrass | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Thistle/
Bull Thistle | <input type="checkbox"/> Hairy Willow-herb | | |

Comments:

Soil

While water and vegetation can be identified by simply observing what is on your property, learning about your soils will take a little more work. Soil characteristics change as a result of the regular presence of water. Minerals in the soil will start to rust and organics are unable to decompose. By digging some holes you can see whether or not the area you are looking at is in fact a wetland. The Wetland Identification Guide's Soil section provides additional information that you may find useful in answering the following questions. You will need to dig a hole 12 inches deep in order to answer the following questions. **Please include the locations where you took your soil samples in your Hydrology Map.**

9. Indicate the color of the soil at the bottom of the 12 inch deep hole that you dug.
- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dark Black | <input type="checkbox"/> Grey w/rust spots | <input type="checkbox"/> Brown |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
-
10. Does the soil smell sulfuric? (like rotten eggs)
- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> At Times |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
-
11. If you take a tablespoon size sample of the soil and squeeze it, is it saturated with water?
- | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate/Soil is damp | <input type="checkbox"/> No. Soil is dry |
|------------------------------|--|--|

Comments: