

PART 501 – AUTHORIZATIONS

SUBPART A - REVIEW AND APPROVAL

WA501.0 General

- E. Overarching policy for all NRCS technical discipline Job Approval Authority (JAA) delegations is contained in WA 180-GM, Part 409.
- F. Washington NRCS Area Engineers are required to be licensed in Washington State. All other Washington NRCS engineers are encouraged to become registered as Professional Engineers in Washington State.

WA501.3 Compliance of Engineering Work with Laws and Regulations

- C. (4) Approving and sealing of engineering plans and specifications.
 - (i) NRCS shall not seal plans, unless required by a Local or State unit of government for the sole purpose of processing permit application(s) for a NRCS assisted project.
 - (ii) When NRCS seals the plans, all Washington State RCW's and WAC's pertaining to "The Practicing of Engineering" in Washington State shall be followed. The latest RCW's and WAC's governing the Engineering Practice Law and Regulations can be found at the following web link:
<http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/engineerslandsurveyors/laws.html>
 - a. For Area sealing of plans, the Area Engineer will be immediately notified by staff when the sealing of plans is anticipated. The Area Engineer shall provide all guidance regarding the technical and supervisory requirements necessary to seal the plans. If the Area engineer is not technically qualified to provide the engineering seal the SCE will be contacted as required in WA501.3.C.(4)b.
 - i. When technically qualified as described by Washington State Law, the Area Engineer will be responsible for sealing all plans within their job approval authority delegations. Field engineers are permitted to seal plans in lieu of the Area Engineer sealing plans.
 - ii. The engineer of record may seal each sheet for which they have provided the professional engineering services.
 - iii. The Area Engineer shall seal the cover sheet and all pages for which they are the engineer of record.

- b. For State level sealing of plans, the SCE will be immediately notified by Area Engineer when the sealing of plans is anticipated. The SCE shall provide all guidance regarding the technical and supervisory requirements necessary to seal the plans.
 - i. When technically qualified as described by Washington State Law, the SCE will be responsible for sealing all plans for projects that are above the job approval authority delegation or technical competency of the Area Engineer.
 - ii. The engineer of record may seal each sheet for which they have provided the professional engineering services.
 - iii. The SCE shall seal the cover sheet and all pages for which they are the engineer of record.
- (ii) All non-Federal Washington licensed engineers (e.g. Private Engineering Consults, Conservation District, Tribal and State Employed Professional Engineers) are required to seal their engineering plans according to Washington State Law for NRCS assisted projects.
- (iii) When required for permitting, all other Federal agencies (e.g. USACOE, USFWS, and NMFS) are required to Seal their engineering plans according to Washington State Law for NRCS assisted projects.

WA501.4 Engineering Job Approval Authority (JAA)

- B. (2) Washington Engineering JAA policy is contained in WA180-GM, Part 409.9.

WA501.5 Engineering Job Review

- A. Design Reviews:

- (3)(i) Design reviews will be performed as follows:

Classes I – V: In state review and approval shall be completed by an individual possessing the appropriate design JAA delegation.

All Classes: Engineering designs that originate at the Field or Area office that require approval by the State Conservation Engineer shall first be reviewed by the Area Engineer to verify that all of the information is complete and accurate.

B. Post Reviews:

- (i) WA engineering Quality Assurance Reviews “Spot Check” will be the process for fulfilling the Post Review policy for engineering practices that are Job Class I through VI.

WA501.7 Classification of Engineering Jobs

- E. Limiting factors for assignment of job class for all WA NRCS practices is maintained in the Washington Skills matrix database.