WAC 332-10-130 Records index for the department. (1) The department maintains the following methods to index its records:

(a) Automated Tract Book. An enterprise content management (ECM) software solution which organizes and stores digital documents and related indexed data for all significant land transactions since statehood concerning the acquisition, transfer, exchange, disposition and management encumbrance activities of state lands owned and managed by the department. It is searchable by legal description, i.e., section township - range, grantor name, lessor, lessee, file-contract number, etc. The Automated Tract Book is managed by the office of the chief lands recorder also known as the department's title and records office.

(b) Commissioner and department orders. Indexed from 1975 to present by year and order number. Commissioner and department orders contain and indicate subject and/or file jacket number.

(c) Board of natural resources meeting index and resolutions. Board meetings are tape recorded and written minutes prepared. These are indexed by date and are available for inspection through the public records officer in the commissioner's office.

(d) Administrative rule docket. The department has historically maintained an index of administrative rules adopted by the department. It is formatted by: Date, department rule number, subject, and contact person. Beginning in 1990 the format was expanded to conform with the requirements of RCW 34.05.315. This index is located in the office of the rules coordinator.

(e) To conform with RCW 42.56.070(5), the following indexes and files are maintained by the rules coordinator in the department's administrative office:

(i) All records issued before July 1, 1990, for which the department has maintained an index;

(ii) Final orders entered after June 30, 1990, that are issued in adjudicative proceedings as defined in RCW 34.05.010(1) and that contain an analysis or decision of substantial importance to the department in carrying out its duties;

(iii) Declaratory orders entered after June 30, 1990, that are issued pursuant to RCW 34.05.240 and that contain an analysis or decision of substantial importance to the department in carrying out its duties;

(iv) Interpretive statements as defined in RCW 34.05.010(8) that were entered after June 30, 1990; and

(v) Policy statements as defined in RCW 34.05.010(14) that were entered after June 30, 1990.

Copies of all indexes shall be available for public inspection and copying during business hours and in accordance with WAC 332-10-080. The indexes shall be kept current and updated annually. Selected final and declaratory orders that contain an analysis or decision of substantial importance to the agency in carrying out its duties, and interpretive and policy statements will be indexed chronologically by date, applicable program, hearing title, description of subject matter, citation to the law involved, or a selected combination of these, as appropriate.

(f) Rule-making file. To conform with RCW 34.05.370, the department maintains an official rule-making file for each rule that the department proposes by publication in the state register or adopts. Some rules apply to specific programs within the department, while others, such as those adopted under the State Environmental Policy Act and the Administrative Procedure Act, apply department-wide. The administrative offices of divisions that administer specific programs maintain the rule-making files that apply to those programs. The department rules coordinator maintains the rule-making files for rules that apply department-wide.

(g) Department policy and procedure library. The department maintains a comprehensive electronic policy and procedures library. The library includes policy statements and procedures used to implement the department's administrative functions and mandated responsibilities. It is organized by program activity, i.e., wildfire, timber sales, administrative functions, etc. Documents are available to all staff from the agency's internal web site.

(h) Bibliography of department publications. It is common practice for the department to publish important policy and management plans as well as reports on specific subjects regarding resource management. The bibliography can be obtained through the department's policy office.

(2) The department does not use a central filing system. Records are maintained in each of the regional offices spread throughout the state and in each of the divisions in the administrative office. Many of the land ownership and encumbrance records are located in the department's title and records office at agency headquarters and are typically identified by legal description such as section - township range or department file-contract number. Each organizational unit maintains a record system to meet its specific needs. The department can respond to requests for records, by the public describing the type of information they are seeking. General correspondence related to governmental and regulatory activities and internal services can usually be identified by subject and usually in the division responsible for that activity. Regulatory permits and licenses may be identified by legal description or application number. Correspondence and other data related to proprietary activities are identified by application number and can be cross-referenced by legal description.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 42.56.040, 42.56.070, 42.56.100, 42.56.120, 42.56.520, and 2017 c 304. WSR 18-03-001, § 332-10-130, filed 1/3/18, effective 2/3/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.220, 34.05.230 and 42.17.250. WSR 91-14-014 (Order 574), § 332-10-130, filed 6/24/91, effective 7/25/91; Order 262, § 332-10-130, filed 6/16/76.]