

NEW SECTION

WAC 232-36-060 Director or his/her designee is empowered to grant wildlife control operator certifications. For purposes of training individuals to assist landowners with employing non-lethal management techniques, or to harass, kill, trap, release, and dispatch animals that are causing damage to private property, the director or his/her designee may issue wildlife control operator (WCO) certifications.

(1) To qualify for WCO certification, applicants must:

(a) Be at least eighteen years of age;

(b) Take and complete the department's WCO certifications course;

(c) Be certified by the department and have the equipment, knowledge, and ability to control the wildlife species causing conflict or property damage;

(d) Be legally eligible to possess a firearm and without a felony or domestic violence conviction including, but not limited to, convictions under chapter 9.41 RCW, unless firearm possession rights have been restored;

(e) Not have a gross misdemeanor fish and wildlife conviction within the last five years; and

(f) Pay the enrollment fee for certification training/education. After July 1, 2010, this fee shall be fifty dollars (RCW 77.12.184).

(2) Once a person is granted WCO certification, he or she must apply for a permit pursuant to WAC 232-36-065 in order to harass, kill, trap, release, or dispatch animals causing damage to private property.