

## AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT (APE) MAP (Image/Word document)

RCO starts cultural resources review and consultation early in order to help keep projects on schedule. To do this RCO requires project applicants to provide a map showing the project's area of potential effect. This map should show the location of all proposed ground-disturbing activities, including access and staging areas. The map must include the RCO project number and title, applicant name, a polygon of the entire project area, and **must include section, township, and range information**. A U.S. Geological Survey quad map is the preferred base map, though the applicant may use an aerial base map, as long as section, township, and range information are included on the map. Section lines and numbers must be clearly visible in the map. Note that small-scale projects may need to attach more than one map—one zoomed out far enough to depict section lines and numbers, and another zoomed in close enough to clearly depict the boundaries of all proposed ground-disturbing activities. Applicants will be asked to revise maps if sufficient information is not provided for the purposes of cultural resources review. Attach multiple Area of Potential Effect maps, if needed. It may be necessary to provide multiple maps in order to provide the detail needed to understand the project location and proposed areas of disturbance.

Applicants who do not have mapping software to create the Area of Potential Effect map can use the Washington Department of Ecology's free [mapping tool](#), which allows users to draw polygons and create PDF maps. Users can turn on important features such as section, township, range, county, etc.

## EXAMPLE

RCO Project #XX-XXXX, Project Title  
Sponsor Name  
Section 32, Township 35 N, Range 2E

