

*City of Bainbridge Island*  
**DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**MEMORANDUM**



## **Bainbridge Island Municipal Code Sections related to Qualifications Required for Submittal of Environmental Reports for Building Permits**

The following Bainbridge Island Municipal Code Sections are referenced for the required qualifications identified for preparation and submittal of environmental reports from Fisheries biologist, Wetland specialist, Wildlife biologist, & Certified Arborist on behalf of all critical area, shoreline development FEMA habitat analysis, and similar development reports or monitoring documentation for Bainbridge Island building permits.

### **BIMC Section 16.12.080 Definitions.**

“Qualified professional or qualified consultant” means a person with experience and training with expertise appropriate for the relevant critical area subject in accordance with WAC 365-195-905(4). A qualified professional must possess the required education and experience stipulated for that profession pursuant to this program and/or BIMC 16.20.020 for the following:

1. Fisheries biologist (BIMC 16.20.030.A.17);
2. Geotechnical engineer (BIMC 16.20.030.A.21);
3. Hydrogeologist (BIMC 16.20.030.A.27);
4. Wetland specialist (BIMC 16.20.030.A.56);
5. Wildlife biologist (BIMC 16.20.030.A.57);
6. Professional archaeologist (RCW 27.53.030(11) or successor);
7. Certified arborist (Chapter 16.20 BIMC).

### **COBI Municipal Code Section 16.20.030 Definitions.**

17. “Fisheries biologist” means a person with experience and training in fisheries who is able to submit substantially correct reports on fish population surveys, stream surveys and other related data analyses of fisheries resources. “Substantially correct” means that technical or scientific errors, if any, are minor and do not delay or affect the site plan review process. Qualifications of a fisheries biologist include:

- a. Either:
  - i. Certification by the American Fisheries Society; or
  - ii. Bachelor of science degree in fisheries or the biological sciences from an accredited institution and five years of professional fisheries experience; and
- b. The prior successful completion of at least three habitat management plans; and
- c. The biologist is listed on a roster of qualified professionals prepared by the director.

**COBI Municipal Code Section 16.20.030 Definitions. (continued)**

21. "Geotechnical engineer" means a practicing geotechnical/civil engineer who has a valid Washington State engineering license and a valid certificate of registration in civil engineering, at least four years of professional employment as a geotechnical engineer with experience in landslide evaluation, and appropriate training and experience as specified in Chapter 18.43 RCW.

27. "Hydrogeologist" means a practicing hydrogeologist who has at least four years of professional employment as a hydrogeologist with experience in the specific subject area in which they are providing a report, and a Washington State specialty license in hydrogeology as specified in Chapter 18.220 RCW.

56. "Wetlands specialist" means a person with experience and training in wetland issues who is able to submit substantially correct reports on wetland delineations, classifications, functional assessments and mitigation plans. "Substantially correct" means that errors, if any, are minor and do not delay or affect the site plan review process. Qualifications of a wetlands specialist include:

- a. Either:
  - i. Certification as a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) or Wetland Professional in Training (WPIT) through the Society of Wetland Scientists; or
  - ii. Bachelor of science degree in the biological sciences from an accredited institution and five years of professional field experience; and
- b. The prior successful completion of at least three wetland reports; and
- c. The specialist is listed on a roster of qualified professionals prepared by the director.

57. "Wildlife biologist" means a person with experience and training in the principles of wildlife management and with practical knowledge in the habits, distribution and environmental management of wildlife. Qualifications include:

- a. Either:
  - i. Certification as a professional wildlife biologist through the Wildlife Society; or
  - ii. Bachelor of science or bachelor of arts degree in wildlife management, wildlife biology, ecology, zoology, or a related field, from an accredited institution and five years of professional field experience; and
- b. The prior successful completion of at least three habitat management plans; and
- c. The biologist is listed on a roster of qualified professionals prepared by the director.

**BIMC Section 18.15.010 Landscaping, screening, and tree retention, protection and replacement.**

Subsection 4. Protection During Construction and Development, b. Requirements.

- viii. Wherever this subsection C.4 allows or requires the involvement of a consulting arborist, that individual shall be selected from the city's list of current arborists certified by the American Society of Consulting Arborists and his or her services shall be paid for by the applicant.