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# Construction Stormwater General Permit

Clearing, grading and/or excavation that results in the disturbance of one or more acres and discharges stormwater to surface waters of the State.



**Gibbletoons** By Dan Gibson



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Any size construction activity discharging stormwater to waters of the State that the Washington State Department of Ecology:

Determines to be a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the State of Washington.



# Save the river



Reasonably expects to cause a violation of any water quality standard.

**SOMETIMES I DRINK A GLASS  
OF WATER**

**JUST TO SURPRISE MY LIVER**

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# DISCHARGES TO 303(d) OR TMDL WATERBODIES



# Limits on Coverage for New Discharges to TMDL or 303(d)-listed Waters

DO:



Operators of construction sites that discharge to a TMDL or 303(d)-listed waterbody are not eligible for coverage under this permit *unless* the operator:

DON'T:



1. Prevents exposing stormwater to pollutants for which the waterbody is impaired, and retains documentation in the SWPPP that details procedures taken to prevent exposure on site; *or*

DO:



2. Documents that the pollutants for which the waterbody is impaired are not present at the site, and retains documentation of this finding within the SWPPP; *or*

DON'T



3. Provides Ecology with data indicating the discharge is not expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of a water quality standard, and retains such data on site with the SWPPP.

DO:



a. For discharges to waters without an EPA-approved or-established TMDL, that the discharge of the pollutant for which the water is impaired will meet instream water quality criteria at the point of discharge to the waterbody; or

DON'T



b. For discharges to waters with an EPA-approved or -established TMDL, that there is sufficient remaining wasteload allocation in the TMDL to allow construction stormwater discharge and that existing dischargers to the waterbody are subject to compliance schedules designed to bring the waterbody into attainment with water quality standards.

DO:



Operators of construction sites are eligible for coverage under this permit if Ecology issues permit coverage based upon an affirmative determination that the discharge will not cause or contribute to the existing impairment.

# DON'T:



## Turbidity, Fine Sediment, Phosphorous & pH Sampling and Limits for 303(d)- Listed Waters

<u>Parameter identified in 303 (d) listing</u>	<u>Parameter Sampled</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Analytical Method</u>	<u>Sampling Frequency</u>	<u>Numeric Effluent Limit</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Turbidity</li> <li>• Fine Sediment</li> <li>• Phosphorous</li> </ul>	Turbidity	NTU	SM2130	Weekly, if discharging	25 NTUs, at point of discharge from site; OR In compliance with surface water standard for turbidity (S8.C.2.a.- upstream or outside area of influence)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High pH</li> </ul>	pH	Standard Units	pH meter	Weekly, if discharging	In the range of 6.5- 8.5

# Sites Discharging to Waters Covered by a TMDL or other Pollution Control Plan

1. Discharges to a waterbody that is subject to a TMDL for turbidity, fine sediment, high pH, or phosphorous must be consistent with the TMDL
2. Applicable TMDL means a TMDL for turbidity, sediment, high pH or phosphorous that is completed and approved by EPA before January 1, 2016, or before the date the operator's complete permit application is received by Ecology, whichever is later.



DON'T



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DO: Enjoy your efforts preserving water quality and protecting habitat!