



Washington State
Water Quality Plan to Control
Nonpoint Source Pollution Update

History

- Section 319 added to the CWA in 1987—State Nonpoint source management programs.
- April 2000-Current version of plan was first published.
- June 2005-Last update was published.

Why are we updating now?

- EPA Guidance-Review and update plans every five years.
- Federal interest in nonpoint pollution.
- EPA recently issued new guidance.
- EPA set the goal of having all states update their NPS management programs.

What is EPA looking for with these updates?

- Explicit short and long-term goals, objectives and strategies.
- Focus on Implementation.
- Strengthening Partnerships.
- Better coordinate state programs
 - Alignment of TMDL program with nonpoint efforts
 - Other programs—i.e. CZARA/CWSRF/Groundwater protection/point sources
- Review and evaluate NPS management program and update every five years.

Why should you care?

- State plan addresses all kinds of nonpoint pollution
- Provides the overall framework for what we can fund

Update Process

- Plan must be submitted to EPA by June 30, 2015
- Public Participation:
 - Webinar-end of 2014 (December)
 - Draft Plan-spring 2015
 - Public meetings-spring 2015
 - Public Comment period-spring 2015

Section 319(b) requirements:

(A) An identification of the best management practices and measures which will be undertaken to address nonpoint sources.

Section 319(b) requirements:

(B) An identification of programs (including, as appropriate, nonregulatory or regulatory programs for enforcement, technical assistance, financial assistance, education, training, technology transfer, and demonstration projects) to achieve implementation of the best management practices.

Section 319(b) requirements:

- (C) A schedule containing annual milestones ...
- (D) A certification of the attorney general of the State that the laws of the State provide adequate authority to implement a nonpoint program
- (E) Sources of Federal and other assistance and funding...
- (F) An identification of Federal financial assistance programs and Federal development projects for which the State will review individual assistance applications or development projects for their effect on water quality ...

Anticipated Priorities for Ecology

- Continue to align our nonpoint and TMDL programs
- Focus on cleaning up watersheds
- Ensure new EPA guidance is incorporated into our plan

Questions?

Ben Rau

ben.rau@ecy.wa.gov

360-407-6551

See Also:

- *Section 319 Program Guidance: Key Components of an Effective State Nonpoint Source Management Program (November 2012).*
- *Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories (April 2013)*