

# Stormwater Working Group – Roads and Highway Subgroup (RHS)

## Draft Recommendations to the SWG – June 12, 2013

### Task 11: Define Monitoring Needs Related to Roads and Highways (from SWG ‘13-‘14 Work Plan)

Take a holistic approach to defining monitoring needs related to roads and highways across the full spectrum of urban to rural roads in Puget Sound<sup>1</sup>, and to make specific recommendations as to how WSDOT’s permit-required monitoring should address a subset of those needs. The big picture of monitoring needs should include status and trends monitoring, effectiveness studies, and source control.

#### Draft Deliverables:

- Stormwater management monitoring strategy for roads and highways including, but not limited to:
  - Priority BMP effectiveness studies
    - ✓ *Stormwater Treatment Performance of Modified Vegetated Filter Strips* (see Attachment A)
    - ✓ Will be merging the following two proposals into one:  
*Roadside Ditch SW BMP Studies* (Attachment B) & *Effectiveness of Ditch Water-Quality Enhancements for Pollutant Removal from Rural Roads* (Attachment C)
    - ✓ Will be merging the following two proposals into one:  
*WQ Benefits of Porous Asphalt on Roadside Shoulders and Gutters* (Attachment D) & *Optimizing Porous Pavement Shoulders through Operations and Maintenance* (Attachment E)
  - Priority source identification and diagnostic studies
    - ✓ Exploring the possibility of transforming the following research proposal into one that aims to identify key road runoff “pollutant hotspots”:  
*Monitoring to Address Temporal Variability of Road Runoff* (Attachment F)
    - ✓ While there was quite a bit of discussion surrounding the following proposal, no definitive decision has been reached as to whether it will be included in the RHS’s finalized package of recommendations:  
*Testing of PCBs in motor oil and fuels* (Attachment G)
  - Priority characterization studies
    - ✓ To date, no priorities identified in this area.
  - Additional monitoring needs, if any, specific to the Puget Sound basin (e.g., do any other road and highway-related parameters need to be included for analysis at Puget Sound status and trends sites?)
    - ✓ To date, no additional needs identified specific to the Puget Sound basin.
  - Other Recommendations:
    - ✓ Hold an annual reoccurring daylong workshop regarding roads & highways-related research and monitoring. The Washington Stormwater Center was mentioned as a possible organizer/venue for this reoccurring event. This idea was communicated to Tanyalee Erwin at the Washington Stormwater Center who said she was intrigued by this idea as it is a category of work they have

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<sup>1</sup> The Roads and Highways Subgroup has taken upon itself to define monitoring needs related to roads and highways for other areas the state as well.

not yet addresses and therefore would be very open to seeing how they could help address this very large need that has a significant impact to stormwater management.

- ✓ Sunset the RHS in September once the final recommendations have been forwarded to the SWG and Ecology.
- Recommendations for monitoring requirements to consider for inclusion in:
  - The 2014 reissued WSDOT municipal stormwater permit
    - ✓ Share issues emerging from Ecology/WSDOT discussions regarding monitoring requirements (beginning later in June) with the RHS.
    - ✓ Ecology's permit administrator will prepare and circulate WSDOT's draft permit monitoring requirements to the RHS and SWG for review and comment.
  - Future reissuance of other stormwater permits
    - ✓ To date, no specific recommendations identified. However, the RHS's priority research proposals might be considered in the future.
  - At Puget Sound status and trends monitoring sites
    - ✓ While there have been deliberations on this, to date, the RHS has not landed on recommendations in this area. While more work remains, given the dialog thus far, the possibility exists that the RHS may not have any recommendations to put forth in this area.

#### Next Steps:

June 12, 2013: Subgroup presents draft recommendations to the SWG.

June 25, 2013: Ecology and WSDOT begin conversations regarding monitoring requirements for the reissued WSDOT municipal stormwater permit in 2014; issues emerging from these discussions shared with subgroup.

Mid-June to Mid-September: SWG feedback on draft recommendations shared with the subgroup. Subgroup further develops and refines recommendations. Once prepared, Ecology will circulate WSDOT's preliminary draft permit monitoring requirements for review and comment. [Note: RHS meetings have already been scheduled for July 16 & August 27, but additional work will occur outside these group meetings.]

Early September: WSDOT share draft WSDOT water year 2011 monitoring report with subgroup.

September 18, 2013: Anticipated SWG approval of subgroup recommendations.

Fall 2013: SWG submits recommendations to Ecology.