

Stormwater Work Group Reporter

December 2015

Key news and information you need to stay current on the Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP) and the strategic approach to stormwater monitoring and assessment to reduce stormwater impacts to Puget Sound

Mussel contaminant monitoring is underway

Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife's staff and volunteers installed mussel cages at 40 RSMP sites inside Urban Growth Areas and 33 additional sites along the Puget Sound marine shoreline at the end of October. The mussels will spend more than 3 months at these locations and the cages will be retrieved in February 2016. The mussel tissue will be analyzed for stormwater-relevant chemicals including metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/status.html>;
<http://www.bellinghamherald.com/news/local/article39553173.html>

Bioretention performance study to be conducted at ten sites

The City of Bellingham completed the study design for a RSMP Effectiveness Study to evaluate the hydrologic performance of real-world bioretention facilities. Existing bioretention facilities in more than 20 jurisdictions were evaluated for inclusion in the study. Ten facilities around Puget Sound have been selected. Monitoring will begin in 2016.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/effective.html>

New effectiveness studies will be identified next year

Approximately \$1.5 million is available for a second round of RSMP studies. A request for letters of interest will go out via the SWG Reporter in spring 2016. Study proponents will be asked to describe how the project will provide information that is useful to local governments in implementing permit-required stormwater management programs.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/effective.html>

Preliminary IDDE data compilation and evaluation completed

As part of the RSMP Source Identification Information Repository (SIDIR) a consultant for the City of Lakewood is compiling the illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) incident tracking data reported in Ecology's Permit and Reporting Information System (PARIS). The purpose of the analysis is to identify patterns in illicit discharges and permittees' responses to inform methods and approaches and prioritize IDDE and source control effectiveness studies.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/source.html>

SWG considering recommendations for monitoring requirements in next permit cycle

The various caucuses and subgroups of the Stormwater Work Group are considering recommendations for the Special Condition S8 Monitoring and Assessment requirements in the next permit cycle anticipated to begin in August 2018. The SWG has been discussing these recommendations since last summer and will finalize them in upcoming meetings.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/mtgsummaries.html>

Seventh RSMP quarterly budget report coming soon

RSMP project deliverables are posted on the RSMP web page. Ecology gives regular budget and progress reports as part of the RSMP oversight process. The report for the last quarter of 2015 will be posted in late January with previous reports.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/rsmp.html>

Join our effort!

Our subgroups and caucuses are discussing ways we might improve RSMP implementation. We need more representation of tribes and local, state, federal, business, and environmental caucuses on the work group and in our subcommittees. Our meetings are open to all interested parties. Contact [Karen Dinicola](#) to be added to a list.

More information: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html

About the Stormwater Work Group

The Stormwater Work Group (SWG) is part of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP). The SWG is a coalition of representatives of local, state, and federal governments, environmental and business organizations, tribes, and agriculture. The SWG formed in 2008 to develop a strategic, coordinated, and integrated approach to quantifying the stormwater problem in Puget Sound that will help us efficiently and effectively manage stormwater to reduce harm to the ecosystem. The SWG's many technical subgroups actively support implementation of the Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP) implemented through the municipal stormwater permits.

More information: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html

Prior issues available for download

This is the twenty fifth issue of the SWG Reporter. Previous issues are available for download at our website.

More information: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/reporter.html>