PUGET SOUND ECOSYSTEM MONITORING PROGRAM

**Stormwater Work Group**

Note to SWG members: please read the first two pages of this document in preparation for our discussion

# 2015-2016 WORK PLAN

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS EXPECTED IN 2015

Continue to implement our formal recommendations, and update others on our progress:

- Get regular updates from our Pooled Resources Oversight Committee (PRO-Committee) and provide Ecology with the input needed to successfully implement the Regional Stormwater Monitoring (RSMP)
  - Review quarterly reports from Ecology
  - ~~Help d~~Develop ~~Ecology~~ annual reports on the RSMP
- Coordinate implementation plan for RSMP status and trends
  - Oversee small streams status and trends sampling in 2015
  - Finalize marine nearshore sediment and mussel sampling QAPPs and begin to confirm sites for sampling in 2015-2016
  - Complete data management, analysis, and public reporting plans for each RSMP status and trends component
    - Connect analysis and interpretation of our work to other monitoring efforts in Puget Sound
    - Ensure we will make recommendations for future RSMP data collection efforts
    - Envision 2-page summaries of findings of each of our effectiveness studies
    - Connect our effectiveness studies to broader work
      - Get regular reports on LID monitoring activities, consider recommending priorities for future work
    - Engage in WSDOT implementation of their permit requirements for effectiveness studies
- Oversee implementation of ten RSMP effectiveness studies ~~and d~~
  - Develop recommendations for doing a gap analysis in anticipation ~~of~~
  - Propose approach for identifying a second round of studies
- Evaluate implementation of SIDIR to date and make recommendations for moving both sides and priority objectives forward
  - ~~Help~~ Decide whether to help Ecology improve the voluntary permittee Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) incident tracking report form or to determine a different approach
  - Make recommendations about how to analyze IDDE incident data for 2014 submitted via the online form and via annual reports
- Make recommendations for establishing an online methods library for IDDE and source control
  - Who should house the library and how should it function?
  - What are the methods and approaches that need to be developed?
- ~~o~~

Formatted

Continue to develop, improve, and expand our regional stormwater monitoring strategy and gather support:

- Send out SWG Reporter issues at least 4 times each calendar year
- Improve coordination and effectiveness of current monitoring efforts
  - Revisit our *2010 Strategy* and investigate our role in and capacity to involved in and understand other stormwater monitoring and research activities in the context of each component of the RSMP
    - Discuss what priorities envisioned in the 2010 Strategy are and are not being implemented and consider what new initiatives we should undertake

        - Consider having technical presentations as a standing item on our agendas
    - Hear regular updates about the work and decisions of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) Steering Committee
    - Stay apprised of related work by other PSEMP workgroups
    - Keep other PSEMP workgroups apprised of our work and findings
    - Hear regular updates from the APWA stormwater coordination meetings on discussions related to our work
- Develop an implementation plan and approve collective recommendations for monitoring agricultural runoff
- Set priority topic areas for additional work group effort or incremental improvements

## Purpose and Objectives

In 2010, the Stormwater Work Group (SWG) recommended a scientific framework, priorities, and specific steps to implement a broad, comprehensive regional stormwater monitoring and assessment strategy for Puget Sound. The strategy is focused on enabling us to know whether or not our management actions are successfully reducing harm caused to Puget Sound by stormwater from developed and developing lands. This document is intended to guide the SWG's near-term role in implementing the strategy and further expansion of the monitoring program.

The SWG's goals for 2015 and 2016 are:

1. Continue to implement the 2010 Strategy, our October 2010 *Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring*, and subsequent formal recommendations submitted to Ecology. Specifically:
    - Coordinate implementation of RSMP status and trends monitoring
    - Implement a process and criteria for soliciting proposals and selecting effectiveness studies that will be conducted by the RSMP.
    - Recommend specific next steps for both the Methods/Approaches and Results/Findings sides of SIDIR.
    - Oversee the creation and administration of the pooled resources approach.
        - Be briefed regularly by Ecology as to the status of creating and implementing the pooled resources approach, and particularly in making contracting decisions to conduct monitoring and assessment activities.
    - Develop recommendations for implementing regional monitoring of runoff from agricultural areas.
    - Oversee the implementation of SWAMPPS.
        - Advise Ecology and PSP on tasks conducted in advance of permittee pay-in to the regional stormwater monitoring program (RSMP) and SWAMPPS activities conducted outside the permit-required RSMP.
        - Advise Ecology in selecting entities to implement RSMP tasks using pooled resources.
        - Hear from experts on implementation of our recommendations.
2. Communicate and coordinate with policy makers, monitoring groups and other interested parties in Puget Sound.
    - Educate elected officials, agency, city and county staff, and others about our recommendations and findings.
        - Send out a "SWG Reporter" issue following each work group meeting.
    - Participate in PSEMP as a topical work group.
    - Hear from other topical work groups at regular SWG meetings.
    - Engage more interested parties in our subgroups.

3. Continue to discuss strategic expansions of the 2010 Strategy to other water bodies, types of NPDES-permitted activities, land uses, or geographic areas of Puget Sound.
    - Review and set priorities for status and trends monitoring, effectiveness studies, source identification monitoring, and studies/research.

This work plan lays out the proposed tasks that need to be completed, their timelines, and the roles and responsibilities of various parties in completing the work. This work plan is meant to be a starting point for work planning discussions of the SWG and will be modified based upon their input and progress toward completing the identified tasks.

## Proposed Meeting Dates

The Stormwater Work Group will meet five or six times per year depending upon the issues we need to discuss and decisions we need to make. All dates are Wednesdays beginning at 9:00am and continuing to 12:00pm or later as needed. We may occasionally extend the meeting time so work group members should have their calendars clear until 3:00pm. At least one month's notice will be given for an extended meeting time.

- In 2015: January 14, March 11, June 3, September 16, and November 18
- In 2016: January __, March __, June __, September __, and November __

Subgroup meeting dates will be scheduled as needed by subgroup chairs and SWG staff.

## Work Tasks and Subgroups

Work tasks: The following eleven tasks are proposed to be accomplished during 2015-2016:

Task 1: Support, manage, staff, and lead implementation of the Stormwater Assessment and Monitoring Program for Puget Sound (SWAMPPS)
Task 2: Oversee ten effectiveness studies and implement a well-defined process and criteria for selecting additional 5-8 effectiveness studies to be conducted in the next five or more years
Task 3: Oversee administration of the pooled resources fund account and Ecology's administration of the RSMP
Task 4: Oversee implementation of small streams status and trends monitoring in coordination with the PSEMP Freshwater Work Group
Task 5: Oversee implementation of marine nearshore status and trends monitoring
Task 6: Communicate with policy makers and other interested parties in Puget Sound
Task 7: Participate fully in PSEMP, and communicate and coordinate with other monitoring groups in Puget Sound
Task 8: Discuss and set priorities for further expansions of SWAMPPS
Task 9: Approve recommendations for regional monitoring related to runoff from agricultural lands
Task 10: Oversee the implementation of a source identification information repository (SIDIR)
Task 11: Continue to explore monitoring needs related to roads and highways

SWG Subgroups (as of the date of this work plan adoption):

- Agricultural Runoff ?
- Communication
- Effectiveness
- ~~Marine Nearshore~~
- Pooled Resources Oversight
- ~~Roads and Highways~~
- ~~Small Streams~~
- Source Identification
- Work Plan

PSEMP Workgroups – how we coordinate with these groups; what we may need from them

- Freshwater
- Marine Nearshore
- Marine Water Quality
- Toxics

**Task 1: Support, manage, staff, and lead implementation of the Stormwater Assessment and Monitoring Program for Puget Sound (SWAMPPS)**

A broad, diverse membership has been used since 2008 to engage regional stakeholders in the process of developing a regional stormwater monitoring program. The SWG will continue to use their perspectives to implement SWAMPPS and demonstrate its success as a functional, meaningful, and cost-effective regional program. Ecology has assigned staff to support the work group. Participating entities and caucuses also provide support, expertise, and services.

The terms of service of the SWG chair and vice chair that were selected in February 2013 will end in February 2015. A chair and vice chair for 2015-2017 will be selected before the current terms expire. The chair executes the duties described in the SWG's bylaws.

This work plan update will be officially adopted by the SWG and submitted to Ecology, the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP) Steering Committee, and the Partnership in January 2014. The SWG will continue to evaluate its progress and adapt this work plan as needed.

To implement this work plan, and full set of the SWG's October 2010 recommendations, the SWG staff and members will pursue opportunities for additional funding and resources to implement SWAMPPS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Subgroup: | Work Plan, and chairs of all other SWG subgroups<br>SWG staff to coordinate and assist as needed |
| Deliverables: | Annual work plan updates<br>SWG work plans for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016<br>Products as described in Tasks 2 through 11 below<br>Grant proposals, interagency agreements, etc.<br>SWG Chair and Vice Chair nominated in November in even years and selected in January in odd years, two year terms begin in February in odd years |
| Timeline: | |
| Jan 2014 | Adopt the SWG work plan update for 2014-2015 |
| Nov 2014 | Subgroups propose 2015-2016 work plan updates<br>SWG discuss updates<br>Nominate candidates for chair/vice-chair for two year term (Feb 2015-Feb 2017) |
| Jan 2015 | Adopt work plan updates for 2015-2016<br>Vote on candidates for chair/vice chair |
| Nov 2015 | Subgroups propose 2016-2017 work plan updates<br>SWG discuss updates |
| Ongoing | Pursue funding/leveraging opportunities as they become known/available |

**Task 2: Implement a well-defined process and criteria for selecting effectiveness studies to be conducted in the next five or more years**

In October 2010 the SWG tasked a subgroup to define and clarify the criteria and process for selecting effectiveness studies that will be conducted during the next NPDES municipal stormwater permit term and beyond using the pooled resources of permittees and others. The SWG approved a prioritized list of effectiveness study topics and questions and submitted them to Ecology in September 2011; the list was included in the formal draft NPDES permits out for comment from October 19, 2011 through February 3, 2012 and was referenced in the fact sheet but not included in the final permits issued August 1, 2012. A literature review was completed in early 2012 and in 2012-2013 the subgroup oversaw the scope of work and selection of contractors for a synthesis of the findings of the literature review. The subgroup evaluated and updated the list of proposed studies using the syntheses of the findings of the literature review. The subgroup then recommended a transparent process for soliciting, evaluating, and selecting proposals for design and implementation of studies that rank high on the list.

The subgroup is now working to transition from the list of studies the SWG recommended to Ecology in June 2013 to proposals and study designs. To do this, we are planning a workshop and communication strategy for 2014 to get folks with similar interests sharing ideas and working together on pre-proposals. Studies will be implemented through IAAs between Ecology and local governments. We encourage partnerships with consultants and academics to effectively use the full capacity of the region to answer our most important questions. The total budget for this permit cycle is just under $6M for four years, less 5% overhead for Ecology's contract administration. In 2015, the subgroup will help Ecology oversee the studies and review products. A data management discussion and recommendations will accompany the process of identifying and describing the first studies.

In October 2013 the subgroup agreed on a five-step process between now and August 2014 when the first payments come in, a couple-few contracts would be in place, and work on studies (i.e., writing QAPPs and purchasing equipment) can start. Outreach and communication would take place at key points between the steps.

Subgroup: Effectiveness

Timeline and deliverables:

| | |
|---|---|
| Jan 2014 | Template for submitting ideas connected to June 2013 list specific questions<br>SWG Reporter describing the workshop concept and announcing webinar<br>Conversations at APWA, permit coordinator mtgs, etc.<br>Website with all relevant information well organized |
| Jan 28, 2014 | Webinar to set the context and sideboards, and to get folks up to speed and willing to share ideas and work together. Give folks the history (how we got here, to this list). Give them a common format and clear guidelines. Remind them we want to gather information to evaluate practices, not sites. (Regional relevance and feasibility.) No funding available for capital construction costs. Not doing research. Share intent to dovetail with or complement other scientific work in the region via TAP-E, research, statewide LID work, STORM. Get folks talking. Encourage folks to submit ideas following 1-2pp template. We'll use these to design the first workshop. |
| Feb-Mar 2014 | First workshop– a structured conversation, mix of presentations and open discussion. "Sprint" style meet and greet, organic, self-organizing. Leave forum open for new ideas, give folks opportunities to participate in discussion on multiple topics. Who is interested in each question? Who is willing to work together? What sites are feasible? About how much would it cost? Outcome is |

| | |
|---|---|
| | advisory level input, and folks "assigned" to work together on 6-10 page pre-proposals with more details about what data would be collected when and where. Input on criteria and approach for making decisions on which studies will move ahead first. |
| April 2014 | Share results of first workshop. Assigned teams work on pre-proposals to present at the second workshop. SWG discuss process and approval of criteria and approach for making decisions. |
| May 2014 | Second workshop. Presentations of expanded study designs for discussion, evaluation, and refinement. Assign teams to develop full proposals. Forward recommendations to SWG for approval. Outreach: share outcome of process, what studies are being pursued, how will inform permittees' stormwater management programs and activities. |
| June 2014 | SWG approve recommendations. Ecology initiate contracting process with local government project sponsors on priority (or first-in-sequence) proposals. Teams develop full proposals, roles and responsibilities, budgets, and scopes of work for contracts. |
| August 2014 | Money comes in August 15, 2014 from permittees and work can begin writing QAPPs and purchasing equipment as needed. Ecology should have folks teed up to provide reasonably fast turn-around on QAPP review and approval. |

### Task 3: Oversee administration of the pooled resources approach

The SWG recommended that Ecology serve as the administrative entity for pooling NPDES municipal stormwater permittees in Puget Sound. The SWG also recommended that the SWG have an oversight role and approved a pooled resources oversight committee charter in 2012. Ecology will regularly brief the SWG as to the status of creating and implementing the pooled resources approach, and particularly in making contracting decisions to conduct monitoring and assessment activities.

The SWG will provide Ecology with feedback as to our committee's overall assessment of their proposed approach to implementing our recommendations and consider whether additional recommendations from our committee might be necessary or helpful. (This subgroup will also evaluate and recommend other options for administering the funds for the subsequent permit as they become available, although this task is not envisioned to be conducted during the time period covered by this SWG work plan.)

Subgroup: Pooled Resources Oversight

Deliverables and Timeline:

| | |
|---|---|
| Jan 2014 | Committee formed |
| Early-mid 2014 | Ecology reports to committee begin |
| late 2015 | Begin to discuss/evaluate administrative entity options |

### Task 4: Oversee implementation of SWAMPPS small streams status and trends components

The SWG in prior recommendations outlined a number of ramp-up tasks necessary prior to implementation of regional monitoring activities. Some of these are envisioned to be conducted

with federal and/or state funding in advance of permittees pooling their resources. Others will be implemented through the pooled resources approach. The SWG has a role in overseeing all SWAMPPS "ramp-up" and implementation activities. Implementation of any or all of these tasks will be opportunistic, and backed by strategic planning. This list is not considered to be all-inclusive, and it is focused on activities needed to move forward with status and trends monitoring. See the *Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring* for more specifics.

- Coordination: In 2012 the subgroup convened with the PSEMP Salmon Recovery Workgroup's Habitat Monitoring Subgroup and the PSEMP Freshwater Workgroup to discuss overlap and coordination of RSMP monitoring with salmon recovery monitoring and other freshwater monitoring.
- Budget: The confirmed budget for all RSMP streams and nearshore status and trends monitoring is just under $3.5M. The final number of sites and parameter lists for each status and trends program component needs to be confirmed in early 2014.
- QAPP and site selection for status and trends monitoring: First and revised drafts were reviewed by the subgroup. Ecology has promised a final QAPP for the "opt-out" permittees by February 2014. The final RSMP QAPP will be finalized soon afterward. Site confirmation should begin in early 2014.
- Second phase streamflow network analysis and recommended next steps: USEPA funded USGS to do the preliminary analysis, which was published June 2012. The subgroup will meet to discuss how much of the lowlands needs to be gaged, the importance of trying to estimate streamflow (or streamflow statistics) in ungaged areas, and the acceptable level of accuracy/uncertainty. Subcommittee agreement on guidance/standards is needed to proceed with stream gaging recommendations.
- By the end of 2015 the subgroup will recommend stream gauging locations and a stream gauging program design to support SWAMPPs.

The SWG should also provide and pursue ongoing opportunities to hear from experts on implementation of our recommendations.

| | |
|---|---|
| Subgroup: | Small Streams |
| Deliverables: | Continue meeting jointly with PSEMP freshwater and salmon habitat workgroups<br>Confirm the final number of sites and parameter lists<br>Briefings by lead implementers at SWG meetings<br>QAPP, SOPs, site selection<br>Data management plan and recommendations<br>Oversight of ramp-up and implementation tasks |
| Timeline: | |
| Early 2014 | Final QAPP, including number of sites and scope; begin site confirmation<br>Coordination and preparation for monitoring in 2015 |
| Ongoing | Meetings and discussions with PSEMP Freshwater and Salmon Habitat WGs |
| TBD | More briefings |

### Task 5: Oversee implementation of SWAMPPS Marine Nearshore Status and Trends components

The SWG in prior recommendations outlined monitoring activities in the marine nearshore. See the *Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring* for more specifics. Ecology's permit "opt-out" requirements included detailed scopes of work for each status and trends monitoring component. Ecology has promised final "opt-out" QAPPs by February 2014. The final RSMP QAPP will be finalized soon afterward. The confirmed budget for all RSMP streams and nearshore status and trends monitoring is just under $3.5M. The final number of sites and parameter lists for each program component needs to be confirmed. Site confirmation can begin in summer 2014. The SWG has a role in overseeing all RSMP implementation activities. Specific needs in 2014-2015 include:

- Confirm number of sites to be sampled per the final RSMP budget amount
- Coordinated implementation plan for each component
- Final QAPPs for sediment, mussels, and bacteria
- Coordination of data management for all SWAMPPS components

The SWG should also provide and pursue ongoing opportunities to hear from experts on implementation of our recommendations.

Subgroup(s): Marine Nearshore Subgroup committees specific to each component

Deliverables: Decision as to final number of sites and priority sampling activities
Recommendation as to whether to use caged or wild mussels in the RSMP
QAPPs and data management recommendations
Briefings at SWG meetings by lead implementers

Timeline:

| | |
|---|---|
| Jan 2014 | SWG confirm mussel sampling approach |
| Spring 2014 | Finals QAPP, including numbers of sites and scope<br>Additional needs for data management identified |
| TBD | Briefings |

### Task 6: Communicate and coordinate with policy makers and other interested parties in Puget Sound

The SWG released its recommendations for SWAMPPS in October 2010, and has successfully used the caucuses to communicate our key decisions, and the reasons behind them, to staff members at a large number of organizations and entities across Puget Sound. A generic PowerPoint presentation is currently available and will be maintained as the basis of briefing others on our recommendations. To augment the communication and outreach that takes place through the caucuses represented by SWG members, the SWG has a standing Communication Subgroup that will develop draft presentation and briefing materials, and continue to develop and implement a communication strategy for other audiences.

Outreach to Elected Officials: The subgroup will continue to develop draft presentation and briefing materials and implement a communication strategy targeted to local elected officials.

"SWG Reporter": The subgroup has also delivered regular updates through "SWG Reporter" editions delivered by email to hundreds of individuals. The SWG will continue to send out SWG Reporters following each work group meeting. All editions are archived on the SWG's webpage.

Workshops: Before writing the draft scientific framework for SWAMPPS in 2009, the SWG hosted a "sprint" workshop of technical experts to inform priority-setting for a regional monitoring program. The SWG also hosted three successful public workshops in 2009-2010 to discuss development of the regional stormwater monitoring and assessment program. The SWG may use either of these formats again as specific needs are identified and resources become available and will have at least two regional workshops in 2014 (to develop effectiveness studies, see Task 2). The SWG needs more resources to successfully host future workshops to update interested parties on the status of SWAMPPS implementation.

Subgroup: Communication

Deliverables: SWG Reporters and archives
Workshops
Other briefings

Timeline:
Following each SWG meeting: SWG Reporters
Quarterly: SWG webpages updated
As needed: Outreach to elected officials as needed
TBD: Workshops; other briefings

### Task 7: Participate in PSEMP and communicate and coordinate with other monitoring groups in Puget Sound

The SWG is one of many topical work groups that have been formally commissioned by the Steering Committee for PSEMP. The SWG will deliver regular briefings to the steering committee. In early 2012, the SWG designated an official spokesperson to deliver briefings to the steering committee, and the chair and staff continue to coordinate with the other technical groups. The SWG may identify official delegates to these workgroups as needed.

The SWG and other work groups have been asked to:

- Take "ownership" of relevant dashboard indicators/targets,
- Identify/inventory the main monitoring efforts relevant to stormwater,
- Identify cross work-group and other sorts of questions beyond the dashboard,
- Identify monitoring gaps and priorities for ecosystem condition, effectiveness, and research, and
- Make recommendations for improving data-sharing, including what data streams need to be developed to make dashboard reporting easier.

The SWG will continue to coordinate with other work groups, particularly freshwater, toxics, salmon habitat, and marine waters as those groups develop new recommendations.

Subgroups: Rely on chair, vice chair, staff, and official delegates and alternates as liaisons to PSEMP Steering Committee and other workgroups. All are expected to provide the SWG with opportunities to comment on presentation materials.

Deliverables: Presentations and briefing materials
Participation in the ecosystem monitoring program as a topical work group
Exchange of information with related work groups
Regular updates from Steering Committee

Timeline: Standing agenda item for regular SWG meetings
Other briefings TBD

### Task 8: Discuss and set priorities for further expansions of SWAMPPS

The *2010 Strategy* described a comprehensive regional framework and set priorities for early implementation. The October 2010 *Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring* further narrowed down what monitoring activities to implement when and where in Puget Sound. In the draft scientific framework and in our communications to others, we specifically stated the need to expand this framework and priorities to other water bodies (*i.e.*, lakes, groundwater, wetlands, open marine, rivers), land uses (*i.e.*, industrial, forested), permit types (*i.e.*, WSDOT, industrial, construction), combined sewers, and geographic areas in Puget Sound. The status and trends monitoring that will be implemented via the NPDES municipal stormwater permit monitoring requirements addresses all land uses in two strata: inside and outside the Urban Growth Area boundaries.

The SWG needs to devote most of a meeting to an expansion priorities/capacity discussion in early 2012. Other permits, combined sewers, additional water bodies, more parameters are all possible expansions of the *2010 Strategy*. The work plan subgroup will tee up this discussion and invite interested parties to champion their issues. The SWG will set priorities for the next 12-24 months.

It is most important to successfully implement our 2010 recommendations in advance of expanding program implementation, but parallel processes can be launched using additional capacity. The SWG should recommend specific next steps to PSP and Ecology before the end of this work planning period. The recommendations need to include funding and implementation strategies.

The SWG should consider what topics are being addressed by other PSEMP work groups and discuss how we can best support those efforts to expand SWAMPPS.

Subgroup: Work Plan; also PSEMP Steering Committee Liaison, SWG staff, and interested work group members

Deliverables: Updated description of implementation of SWAMPPS strategy components and articulation of components of strategy not being implemented
Priorities for SWAMPPS expansion

Timeline:
Feb 2014 Implementation summary
Sept 2014 New priorities submitted to SWG
Nov 2014 New priorities approved

**Task 9: Approve recommendations for regional monitoring related to runoff from agricultural lands**

Stormwater runoff from agricultural lands is partly addressed by the prior recommendations of the work group, but new recommendations are needed to address agricultural runoff issues in a broader, more comprehensive way. The SWG commissioned a subgroup in early 2011 to propose expanding the *2010 Strategy* and building upon the *Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring* and other efforts to address agricultural issues. This subgroup is supported by Washington State Conservation Commission staff. The subgroup presented several sets of draft recommendations to the SWG in 2011-2013. The subgroup will meet approximately bimonthly to respond to work group feedback and assemble a final package of recommendations, including an implementation and funding plan. The subgroup's materials, draft reports, and meeting agendas and summaries will be posted on the SWG webpages.

Subgroup: Agricultural Runoff

Deliverables: Monitoring strategy for potential stormwater impacts from agricultural activities
Scientific framework, implementation plan, and funding approach
Recommendations to PSP, WCCC, WSDA, and Ecology

Timeline:

| | |
|---|---|
| March 2014 | Cropland nutrient/sediment runoff recommendations approved<br>Effectiveness monitoring recommendations approved |
| June 2014 | Data management discussion and prioritized list of data gaps for agricultural runoff submitted to SWG |
| Sept 2014 | prioritized list of data gaps approved |
| Nov 2014 | Overall strategy including implementation and funding recommendations to SWG |
| Jan 2015 | Overall strategy for agricultural runoff monitoring approved |

**Task 10: Oversee implementation of source identification information repository (SIDIR)**

SWG oversight will be helpful for defining and implementing the process for developing the information repository described in our October 2010 recommendations. In February 2012 the SWG approved a scoping memo that defined the Source Identification Information Repository (SIDIR) as having two main components: Methods and Approaches (an online library that is kept up to date), and Results and Findings (a permittee-populated database that is periodically analyzed). The memo also envisions a peer network for sharing information.

In January 2013 a report was delivered to Ecology with further recommendations for building and launching SIDIR. The subgroup will continue to make recommendations to the SWG about developing the format and content of SIDIR. These new recommendations will provide a foundation for the implementation of SIDIR in 2015.

- The January 2013 report provides a useful starting point for creating the methods library in a way that will be most useful to field staff. Subgroup members agree that the library is most appropriately housed on the Ecology webpage as a permittee resource. A workshop or other conversations with field staff may help inform next steps. A long-term management approach is needed to ensure the library contents are kept up to date.

- The Field Screening Manual developed by King County/Herrera will be a key entry in the methods library and a helpful starting point for identifying new guidance documents that need to be included or developed. Case studies should be included in the library. Other existing and evolving resources will continue to be reviewed and considered as well.

The current NPDES permits include a requirement that permittees submit IDDE findings with their annual reports. The SIDIR subgroup advised Ecology on a voluntary reporting form for permittees to use in 2014 for their 2015 annual reports. The form defines the basic types of information that are needed for SIDIR Results/Findings analyses.

- The form still needs to be converted to a web-based format that populates an electronic IDDE results database. Permittees will need to know how to find the online form and that using it will help us review this data more quickly, learn from the findings, and apply them to management programs and policy initiatives.

| | |
|---|---|
| Subgroup: | Source Identification/SIDIR |
| Deliverables: | Communication piece to describe SIDIR components and benefits to permittees<br>Final online version of IDDE tracking form<br>Discussions about building on IDDE Field Screening Manual<br>Recommend additional information to build the Methods/Approaches library<br>Recommend library format that it will be most useful to field staff<br>Recommend long-term management approach to ensure library is kept up to date<br>Assess IDDE tracking data in 2015 |

Timeline:

| | |
|---|---|
| Jan 2014 | Electronic IDDE tracking form available for permittee use<br>Communication piece ready |
| Early 2014 | Long-term Methods/Approaches library management defined<br>Begin conversations about library content needs and priorities<br>Assess use of tracking form after a few months<br>More outreach |
| 2014-2015 | Ongoing coordination with SWG and Ecology staff to develop and build the methods library |
| Late 2014 | Review tracking form after about one year of use |
| Early 2015 | Additional methods/approaches recommended for GROSS grants |
| Mid 2015 | Assessment of IDDE tracking data (begin with electronic data in January) |

### Task 11: Continue to Discuss Monitoring Needs Related to Roads and Highways

In May 2012, the SWG launched the Roads and Highways Subgroup and directed it to 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, and to make specific recommendations as to how permit-required monitoring by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) should address a subset of those needs. The big picture of monitoring needs for roads and highways includes status and trends monitoring, effectiveness studies, and source control.

In September 2013 the SWG approved a set of five recommendations for stormwater monitoring associated with Puget Sound roads and highways. The first three recommendations concerned broad monitoring needs for roads and highways and the last two applied to the role that WSDOT

should play in implementing regional monitoring via effectiveness studies and participation in Puget Sound status and trends monitoring.

Understanding the need for the SWG to continue to hear from professionals engaged in roads and highways-related stormwater monitoring, the subgroup proposed the following two recommendations to the SWG:

- Hold an annual reoccurring daylong workshop regarding roads and highways-related research and monitoring. The workshop would provide an opportunity to share research findings, facilitate dialog, and foster collaborative partnerships. Planning discussions have already been initiated with the Washington Stormwater Center for such a reoccurring event. The SWG approved this recommendation. Funding for this workshop has yet to be procured.
- Sunset the RHS. Upon delivery of the subgroup's final recommendations to the SWG and Ecology, the RHS completed its assigned task. RHS members see the annual reoccurring daylong workshop as a venue for future dialog, direction, and the development of collaborative partnerships on roads and highways stormwater-related monitoring and research efforts. The SWG did not approve this recommendation but does not otherwise plan to reconvene the subgroup in 2014.

In November 2013 Ecology issued a draft permit for WSDOT that followed the work group recommendation that WSDOT continue and complete current permit-required studies, apply findings to their stormwater management program, and include the SWG in the process of identifying future permit-required studies. It also included three alternative means by which WSDOT will participate in status and trends monitoring in Puget Sound as part of the RSMP.

In 2014-2015 the Roads and Highways Subgroup should review WSDOT's monitoring reports and advise the work group as to more detailed and specific recommendations for effectiveness monitoring.

Subgroup: Roads and Highways, would need new leadership and perhaps recruitment

Deliverables:
Statewide workshop on roads and highways monitoring
Recommendations for WSDOT effectiveness studies

Timeline:

| | |
|---|---|
| Early 2014: | Review latest WSDOT monitoring report |
| April 5, 2014: | Anticipated effective date of WSDOT permit |
| June-Oct 2014: | WSDOT decision as to how to participate in RSMP |
| 2015: | Statewide workshop and recommended WSDOT effectiveness studies |