



Draft Agenda

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
USGS Columbia Conference Room, 934 Broadway, Tacoma 98402

directions are provided on the last page of this agenda

THE MEETING'S GOALS:

1. Learn results of RSMP marine nearshore bacteria data compilation and analysis;
2. Discuss the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee (PRO-C) evaluation of Ecology as RSMP administrator;
3. Hear updates on Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP) implementation and administration;
4. Hear a status update on the RSMP nearshore mussel monitoring;
5. Hear about progress toward identifying a second round of RSMP effectiveness studies;
6. Hear an update on the Agricultural Runoff Monitoring Strategy implementation planning;
7. Hear from our subgroups about progress implementing our work plan for 2016-2017;
8. Decide on messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter; and
9. Hear other updates related to our work.

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9:00 Welcome, introductions, and review of the meeting's agenda and goals

9:10 Hear findings of RSMP marine nearshore bacteria compilation and analysis

- *Debby Sargent of Ecology/WDOH BEACH program will share the extent of available marine nearshore bacteria data and the findings of her analysis.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

9:35 PRO-Committee Evaluation of Ecology as RSMP service provider

- *The PRO-C recently finalized a "report card" on Ecology's service as the RSMP administrative entity and also on the PRO-C itself in its oversight role. Both of these evaluations were specified in the PRO-C charter and are based on expectations set out in the PRO-C charter.*
- *Do work group members have any questions about the "report card"? What are our next steps for sharing it?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

10:00 RSMP implementation briefing by the PRO-Committee Chair and RSMP Coordinator

- *The PRO-C will next meet in October. Here are updates on RSMP implementation, contracting, and budget items:*
 - *Communication: At our last work group meeting we discussed a proposed project to provide support for sharing RSMP study findings.*
 - *The PRO-C approved a scope of work and the RSMP Coordinator and Association of Washington Cities are in the contracting process for this project. The project will begin soon, proportionately funded from the 3 RSMP accounts.*
 - *Subgroup members and SWG local caucus representatives have been asked to participate on an advisory committee for this project.*
 - *Effectiveness: All of our first round effectiveness studies are underway (or completed) and the second round will be starting next year.*
 - *The Small Business Inspection Source Control survey went out in August.*
 - *Discussion of the next round of studies is the first agenda item after our scheduled break, below.*
 - *Status and trends monitoring:*
 - *The nearshore sediment QAPP was approved and monitoring began in August.*
 - *Work group members will hear about the mussel monitoring in our next agenda item.*
 - *Initial findings from the stream data analysis team will be shared at our November meeting.*



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html>

- *Source identification: The SWG Source ID subgroup will meet September 27 to discuss the draft final report on the IDDE incident tracking data analysis and recommendations for future data fields. The invitation to this meeting has been broadly distributed and we expect a sizeable number of people.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? Do work group members wish to provide further direction to the PRO-Committee and RSMP Coordinator?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

10:20 Hear a progress report on the nearshore status and trends monitoring mussel component

- *Jennifer Lanksbury of WDFW will provide a brief update on the status of the mussel contaminant data collection and analysis project today. We will hear findings next spring.*

10:30 Break

10:45 Discuss progress on identifying projects for a second round of RSMP effectiveness studies

- *Twenty-two Letters of Interest (LOIs) were submitted in July for a second round of RSMP effectiveness studies; one was later amended and another was recalled. Attached to this agenda is a spreadsheet with brief information about each of the 21 LOIs under consideration; they are all posted at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/effective.html>.*
- *The SWG Effectiveness Studies Subgroup had three members review each LOI independently and then met on September 12 to review and discuss all of the LOIs. The subgroup noted that for the next (third) round of studies we should ask for more specific information about the data gap being filled and methods/sites to be used.*
- *At today's meeting we will learn about the range of topics. The subgroup recommends that any of the LOIs could move forward to develop a full proposal, but that there are particular concerns for a few that the project proponents should weigh before putting time into a full proposal.*
- *Following today's meeting, each project proponent will hear from the RSMP Coordinator about their LOI and, if it is moving forward, feedback for a successful full proposal. We have no idea of the costs for the new proposals, but it is likely that we be able to fund 4-5 studies at most in this second round.*
- *Do work group members have any comments or questions? Does the work group have further direction for the SWG Effectiveness Studies Subgroup or RSMP Coordinator?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:10 Hear progress toward completing our agricultural runoff monitoring strategy

- *A report on the SWG Agricultural Runoff Monitoring Subgroup's progress toward completing this implementation strategy will be shared today.*
- *The strategy will be discussed further at our November meeting, where we will also hear presentations on current effectiveness monitoring programs.*
- *Do work group members have any comments or questions? Does the work group have further direction for the SWG Agricultural Runoff Subgroup?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:30 Other work plan implementation updates

- *Our subgroups continue to make progress toward achieving the goals established in our 2016-17 work plan. In addition to the updates provided in prior agenda topics, here are some specific additional updates:*
 - *Communication: The most recent issue of the SWG Reporter went out on August 31. Possible topics for the next issue include:*
 - *Results of nearshore bacteria data compilation and analysis shared*
 - *Agricultural runoff monitoring strategy nearing completion*



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- *Process continues to select a second round of RSMP Effectiveness Studies*
- *Ecology's performance evaluated as RSMP administrative entity*
- *AWC to help with communication of RSMP findings*
- *SWG receives recognition letter from EPA Regional Administrator*
- *Join our effort! Participate in developing our 2017-2018 work plan*
 - *Work Plan: The subgroup will meet again this fall to discuss next year's work plan updates.*
- *Do other subgroup chairs or members have additional updates to share?*
- *Do work group members wish to provide additional direction for our subgroups?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:35 Updates on other efforts related to our work

- *Todd Hunsdorfer will give a brief update on the "ad hoc" group discussions of permit reissuance topics.*
- *Abby Barnes will give a brief update on the WDNR outfall mapping project.*
- *Are there any comments or additional updates from work group members or non-work group members?*

11:50 PSEMP and Action Agenda coordination – any questions on the written update below?

- *The PSEMP Steering Committee (SC) continues to discuss its future role, purpose, and capacity given the reduced staff support from the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP). The SC work plan, includes an annual cross-workgroup-topic-based meeting or workshop. At its last meeting on September 13, the committee discussed effectiveness monitoring and heard a report on how the RSMP will inform stormwater management actions.*
- *PSP needs plans for how to achieve their vital sign targets. Effectiveness assessments for Implementation Strategies are underway. Puget Sound Institute (PSI) is developing products: factsheets, background summaries, synthesis papers (generalizations supported by evidence), alternatives analysis, and monitoring plan. PSP/PSI may come to us and/or the Freshwater and Toxics workgroups for advice on the implementation strategies for stormwater actions related to the B-IBI and Toxics in Fish vital sign indicator targets.*
- *What are the other workgroups (WGs) discussing and what are our related plans, needs and interests? Most WGs are still defining their goals and audiences. PSEMP staff met on September 6 and shared these updates:*
 - *Toxics WG is developing a "Toxics Synthesis Report" for Puget Sound; they are reviewing ~40 submittals including RSMP data. They are also advising the RSMP Puget Lowland stream assessment team on relevant benchmarks for the toxics data collected last year.*
 - *Nearshore WG just completed summer volunteer monitoring of armoring and eelgrass.*
 - *Freshwater WG will be reviewing/discussing the analysis of the RSMP Puget Lowland stream monitoring and is the "owner" of the B-IBI vital sign indicator (among others).*
 - *Tristan Peter-Contesse is the new staffer for the Salmonid WG which is responsible for taking over some of the disbanded RITT's functions. A new, higher-level salmon advisory group is also providing feedback on non-monitoring questions. The two groups might be combined.*
 - *Marine Waters WG is working on the next Marine Waters Report.*
 - *Marine Birds WG is working to better understand estuary restoration impacts. They are on coordinating response to mass bird die-offs. Volunteer bird summer monitoring was coordinated with Nearshore WG.*
 - *Forage Fish WG is trying to get a better handle on surf smelt and sand lance populations and doing related water quality sampling.*
 - *Rockfish WG is doing kelp habitat research and will have a workshop this fall.*
 - *Effectiveness WG has discussed nearshore studies (info now on-line) and will be talking about floodplain restoration for salmonids in the context of the Implementation Strategies.*
 - *Disease WG is still in the formative stage and gathering current knowledge.*
 - *Terrestrial WG and Modeling WG staffers were not present; no updates given.*
- *"Evolution of the [Vital Sign] Indicators" report by Sandie O'Neill and Scott Redman that was written in response to the Washington Academy of Sciences audit comments is under scientific peer review.*
- *New fact sheet on Puget Sound Ecosystem Recovery Targets and vital sign website coming soon. Gearing up for next State of Sound report. PSEMP will guide decisions about what are the "key findings" to highlight.*



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- Efforts are underway to define more cross-boundary science interpretation and roll up of current knowledge.
- Quarterly “PSEMP Newsletter” will be reconvened.

11:55 Recap of today’s meeting and hear other updates or announcements

- Summarize decisions, action items, and next steps from today’s meeting.

12:00 Adjourn

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

Wednesday, November 9, 2016 from 9am to 12pm at the USGS Office in Tacoma, with possible extended hours as needed. Expected agenda topics include:

- Hear presentations related to the implementation plan for agricultural runoff monitoring;
- Hear findings of the IDDE data analysis, and recommended data fields for future source identification analysis;
- Hear initial findings of the Puget Lowland stream data analysis;
- Hear an update on the strategy for communicating RSMP findings to key audiences;
- Hear updates on RSMP implementation and administration;
- Hear from our subgroups about progress implementing our work plan for 2016-2017;
 - Identifying a second round of RSMP effectiveness studies
 - Tee up work plan updates for 2017-2018
- Remind work group members that nominations for chair and vice chair will be made at our January meeting;
- Decide on messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter; and
- Hear other updates related to our work.

The meeting schedule for 2017 is: January 18, March 15, June 7, September 13, November 15.

DIRECTIONS TO THE USGS OFFICE IN DOWNTOWN TACOMA

A map is available at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/directions.html>

Public transportation: Take express buses from Olympia or Seattle to the last stop at 10th and Commerce in downtown Tacoma. Walk up the ramp in the middle of the block on Commerce (to the left of the Pierce Transit bus shop and along the fountains) to Broadway Plaza and across the street to at 934 Broadway. [If your express bus drops you at the Tacoma Dome Station, take the Link train to the last stop, walk back on Commerce to 9th and up the hill to Broadway. Turn left and walk to 934 Broadway.] The entrance to the USGS office is via elevator at the end of the lobby on the right. Go to the 3rd floor and sign in with the receptionist.

Driving directions: Northbound or Southbound on I-5, take exit 133 City Center to I-705 and exit A Street. Turn left on S 11th Street and go uphill to Market Street. Turn right on Market Street. The entrance to the Rhodes Center’s parking garage is on your left under the skybridge. Park on the upper floors for \$1.50/hour (up to \$8/day); clearly marked State vehicles park for free. Cross the skybridge to the Market Building of the Rhodes Center. Walk through the Market Building and across another skybridge to the Broadway Building. There is a bank of elevators near the atrium on the left. Take the elevator to the first floor, exit the building to Broadway, and walk a few doors to the left to 934 Broadway. The entrance to the USGS office is via elevator at the end of the lobby on the right. Go to the 3rd floor and sign in with the receptionist.