

Stormwater Work Group Reporter

November 2011

Key news and information you need to stay current on the effort to create a regional stormwater monitoring and assessment strategy for Puget Sound

Formal draft permit language is out for public comment

Ecology released formal draft municipal stormwater NPDES permits in October for a three month public comment period. The permits include monitoring requirements. The portions of the permits in Special Condition S8 that describe options for participating in a regional stormwater monitoring program (RSMP) are largely based on the Stormwater Work Group's (SWG) [Recommendations for Municipal Stormwater Permit Monitoring](#). The portions of the permits in Special Condition S8 that describe options for individual monitoring are not based on SWG recommendations. The SWG encourages all interested parties to submit comments to Ecology on the draft permit language. The comment deadline is February 3, 2012. Ecology is expected to issue final permits in July 2012.

More information (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/2012Reissuance.html>)

List of topics for regional effectiveness studies is out for public comment

In September the Stormwater Work Group (SWG) recommended a prioritized list of effectiveness study topics and questions to Ecology. The list of topics is included in the formal draft municipal NPDES stormwater permits as an attachment to Ecology's proposed cost-sharing agreement (Appendix 10 in the Phase II permit; Appendix 12 in the Phase I permit). The types of studies recommended are varied: some are extensive studies that involve environmental sampling, some are relatively simple "paper exercises", and all will answer questions that are intended to improve many local governments' stormwater management programs. The proposed list will be updated following completion of a literature review and consideration of feedback received during Ecology's public comment period on the formal draft permits. The SWG encourages all interested parties to submit comments to Ecology on the recommended list of effectiveness studies.

More information (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/2012Reissuance.html>;
<https://sites.google.com/site/pugetsoundstormwaterworkgroup/home/selection-of-effectiveness-studies>)

Pooled funds oversight proposal is out for public comment

The Stormwater Work Group (SWG) invites your comments on a revised oversight proposal for the pooled fund for regional stormwater monitoring. The SWG proposes this process to complement Ecology's draft municipal stormwater permit monitoring requirements and formal cost-sharing agreements. The purpose of the proposed committee is to provide project management oversight of Ecology's implementation of the permittee-funded monitoring activities.

More information (<https://sites.google.com/site/pugetsoundstormwaterworkgroup/home/pooled-resources-oversight/revised-draft-oversight-committee-charter>)

Source identification literature review is underway

The Stormwater Work Group (SWG) is continuing its work on the Source Identification and Diagnostic Monitoring Information Repository component of the regional stormwater monitoring strategy. The Washington Stormwater Center is writing a scoping document for the SWG that will include a literature review of published information, interviews of inspectors and other local government staff working on source control and the elimination of illicit discharges from storm sewer systems, and recommended next steps for creating the information repository.

More information (<http://sites.google.com/site/pugetsoundstormwaterworkgroup/home/source-identification-information-repository>)

Stormwater Work Group formally recognized by ecosystem monitoring program

The Stormwater Work Group was the first "topical work group" to be formally recognized by the Puget Sound Coordinated Ecosystem Monitoring and Assessment Program. The Steering Committee has commissioned a total of five initial topical work groups including stormwater, toxics, salmon, marine water quality, and food webs & forage fish.

More information (http://www.psp.wa.gov/MP_monitoring_program.php)

About the Stormwater Work Group

The Stormwater Work Group is a coalition of federal, tribal, state and local government, business, environmental, agriculture and research interests working to develop a Stormwater Monitoring and Assessment Strategy for Puget Sound at the request of the Puget Sound Partnership and Department of Ecology. The strategy is intended to provide a coordinated, integrated approach to quantifying the stormwater problem in Puget Sound and to help us efficiently and effectively manage stormwater to reduce harm to the ecosystem.

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