

From: [arthur.nowell](#)
To: [SW Permit Comments](#)
Subject: LIDs and the Need for balanced investment
Date: Wednesday, February 01, 2012 7:01:07 PM

I write to urge you to re-think several of the requirements and to consider that many statements made by groups who extol, undefined terms such as native vegetation are imposing an out of date concept that has no place in a rapidly changing world. Native vegetation is a passing assemblage: in 100 years time, in 1000 years time or 1000 years ago there were different groups of plants growing here.

Such requirements imposed on a landscape are imperialistic and anachronistic. They indicate a mentality that "Momma knows best" where Momma is some group that has no long-term understanding of climatic change that occurs in this region.

More importantly, Ecology must prioritize expenditures and alleviate imposition on the public. It is well documented that the greatest impact on Puget Sound comes from existing storm water systems in Seattle and surrounding existing communities. To make any difference Ecology must stop playing at the margins and imposing marginal new regulations on small developments and confront the serious and significant problems of storm water from public roads in existing developed areas.

In addition, Ecology should reduce the burden of its costs by eliminating the imposed costs of ecological mismanagement by quasi-government groups such as the Puget Sound Partnership which have costs tens of millions to state tax payers, cost nearly \$100 million to federal tax payers and have not made any quantifiable improvement in any indicators.

Ecology is an expensive government unit that has not taken its responsibilities to assist the citizens balance long term and short term interests. The LID changes are examples of regulatory overload which plays at the margin of effect and costs more than it benefits.

I urge Ecology to address cost benefit analysis and place this in the large context of what is the 800 lb gorilla in dealing with water quality in Puget Sound?

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Citizen.