

# Seattle Critical Areas Monitoring and Adaptive Management Workshop – 2/27/2018

## Breakout Notes

### Challenges of Critical Areas Monitoring

*Below are the potential challenges of critical areas monitoring that were generated by participants in addition to those identified in earlier workshops (see slide #9 of Critical Areas Monitoring Overview presentation)*

- Staff turnover – transfer of knowledge
- Public's lack of understanding of what we are monitoring
- Blend of quantity and quality
- Need to identify indicators/performance standards – what are you measuring?
- Don't want to know errors, liabilities due to political vulnerability

### What questions would you like to answer by monitoring critical areas?

- Overall effectiveness of mitigation sequencing and compensatory mitigation
- Some functions are better protected – imbalances over time?
- Consultant time/developer budget?
- How does the critical area function after monitoring ends?
- Are the results something that can be acted upon?
- How do you bin the metrics – poor, fair, good?
- With a statewide variance of buffers, how do you do effectiveness monitoring?

### Existing Monitoring Efforts

| Levels of Monitoring                       |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Permit Implementation Monitoring           | Permit Effectiveness Monitoring   | Ecological Validation Monitoring                               |
| <b>Kitsap County</b> – project monitoring  | <b>King County</b> – 5-year study/trends of environmental response – 6 treatment and 3 control watersheds | <b>Seattle</b> – Seattle Public Utility – Stream water quality |
| <b>Seattle</b> – 5 year project monitoring | <b>Bellevue</b> – 5 years of monitoring & inspection  | <b>Bellevue</b> – Stream monitoring                            |
| <b>Mercer Island</b> – 5 year monitoring   |   |  |
| <b>Monroe</b> – 5 year monitoring          |   |  |
| <b>Bremerton</b> – 5 year monitoring       |   |  |
| <b>Tukwila</b> – Project monitoring        |   |  |

### Final Breakout – Further Challenges

- In the application process, it is hard to enforce avoidance of impacts due to political pressures
- Challenging to choose the right indicators
- Lack of coordination with master builders and others – lack of understanding
- Goal of net gain versus regulatory no net loss - sens