

Prioritization Criteria for receiving areas/mitigation areas
 Revised Discussion Questions
 1-27-14

1. What is the policy basis/goal for prioritization and where should the local government have it memorialized? Comprehensive land use plan?

See operating assumptions based on December 11, 2014, meeting.

2. What are the right data/criteria for prioritization of receiving watersheds? (Reorganized previous questions 4 – 8 from 12/11/14). How does a local government determine the appropriate data or criteria? Does one flow from the other, or should/can they be developed together?

Data	Criteria
Watershed characterization/Other watershed frameworks	Restoration potential
Minimum data sets a local government will need	Environmental justice/Social equity
	Multiple community benefits (i.e. economic development, etc.)
<p>Suggested data from Ecology guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing hydrology • Water Quality • Habitat conditions • Presence of sensitive species • Land use 	<p>Ecology-recommended criteria to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give higher priority to watersheds with low to moderate levels of impairment and are expected to respond more quickly to rehabilitation efforts and provide more immediate water quality benefit. • Give higher priority to watersheds with a high amount of municipality influence (most of the watershed is within the jurisdiction) • Prioritize watersheds with regional attention – certain watersheds identified through other planning processes: Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) plans, Salmon Recovery Plans, Endangered Species listings, and critical habitat. • Consult with federal, tribal, and state natural resource agencies – these agencies may have data or informed opinions pertinent to the prioritization process

