



# 2025 Nonpoint Plan Update

October 11, 2024

# What we'll cover today...

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Brief overview of Nonpoint Plan

**2**

EPA's updated guidance

**3**

ECY's process to update the Nonpoint Plan

**4**

Next steps





# Nonpoint Plan overview



# Nonpoint Plan Overview

- Nonpoint Plan discusses:
  - Overview of nonpoint pollution in WA
  - WA's regulatory framework
  - Strategies for addressing NP pollution
    - Ecology's nonpoint and TMDL programs
    - Best Management Practices
    - Financial incentive programs
    - Non-Ecology programs
    - Monitoring
  - Water Quality partnerships
- Plan ensures funding eligibility



## Washington's Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Sources of Pollution

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Water Quality Program

Washington State Department of Ecology  
Olympia, Washington

December 2022, Publication 22-10-025

# Voluntary Clean Water Guidance

- Scientifically-based guidance provides BMPs for agricultural producers to support compliance with state water quality laws.
- 5 Chapters submitted to EPA:
  - Livestock (pasture and rangeland BMPs), livestock (manure Storage and heavy use area BMPs), riparian areas and surface water protection, tillage and residue management and sediment basins
- Remaining 8 chapters due with 2025 Nonpoint Plan:
  - Cropping methods, vegetative sediment capture, nutrient management, pesticide management, water management (stormwater BMPs, irrigation and drainage)





# Updated guidance from EPA



# Updated guidance from EPA

- On May 4, 2024, EPA published an update to their “Nonpoint Source Program and Grants Guidelines for States and Territories.” This guidance includes:
  - NPS program goals and national priorities
  - Components of an effective NPS management program
  - Watershed-based planning
  - Grant award mechanics
  - Funding uses, general eligibilities, requirements, and limitations
  - Reporting and tracking
  - Relationship to other federal programs

# Updated guidance from EPA

Important changes for this update of the Nonpoint Plan include:

- Expanded expectations require the inclusion of:
  - Climate resilience
  - Environmental justice
  - Protection considerations
- National priorities include nutrients
- Goals and milestones table to incorporate SMART goals





# Our process to update Washington's Nonpoint Plan



# Process to update the Nonpoint Plan

- Coordinate internally with other ECY programs and externally with state partners to complete updates

Internal Ecology Programs		State Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECY Funding programs</li> <li>• No Discharge Zone</li> <li>• Groundwater Monitoring</li> <li>• Forestry</li> <li>• Shorelines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program Water Quality Permits</li> <li>• Water Quality Assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WSDA- Dairy Nutrient Management Program, Pesticides</li> <li>• DOH- septic, groundwater, shellfish</li> <li>• WSCC- CDs and funding</li> <li>• DNR- forestry</li> </ul>

# Process to update the Nonpoint Plan

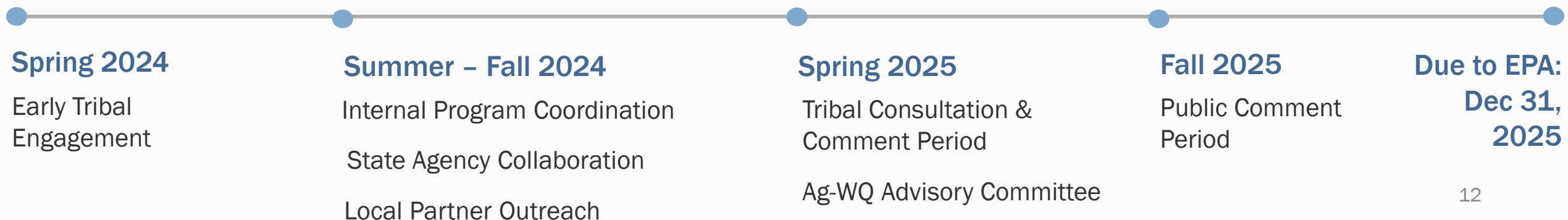
Updating the existing Nonpoint Plan that was submitted to EPA in 2022

- Identify topics for expanded discussion, for example
  - Work process of regional staff- compliance and technical assistance, outreach/education
  - Strategy of protection and restoration
  - Focus on temperature, climate change, riparian buffers as a holistic tool to address many pollutants
  - Environmental justice
  - Goals and milestones table



# 2025 Plan update timeline

- Plan update & CWG chapters due Dec. 31, 2025
- To update we are:
  - Responding to changing conditions, addressing emerging challenges, and adapting strategies
  - Incorporating lessons learned from previous Plans
  - Engaging early with Tribes and Tribal organizations
  - Listening to partners engaged in this work





# Thank you

Email [nonpoint@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:nonpoint@ecy.wa.gov) to connect around the 2025 Nonpoint Plan

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