

Ecology's Work in Watersheds 2019

Agriculture and Water Quality Advisory Committee

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Program Manager, Water Quality





2019 Work in Watersheds

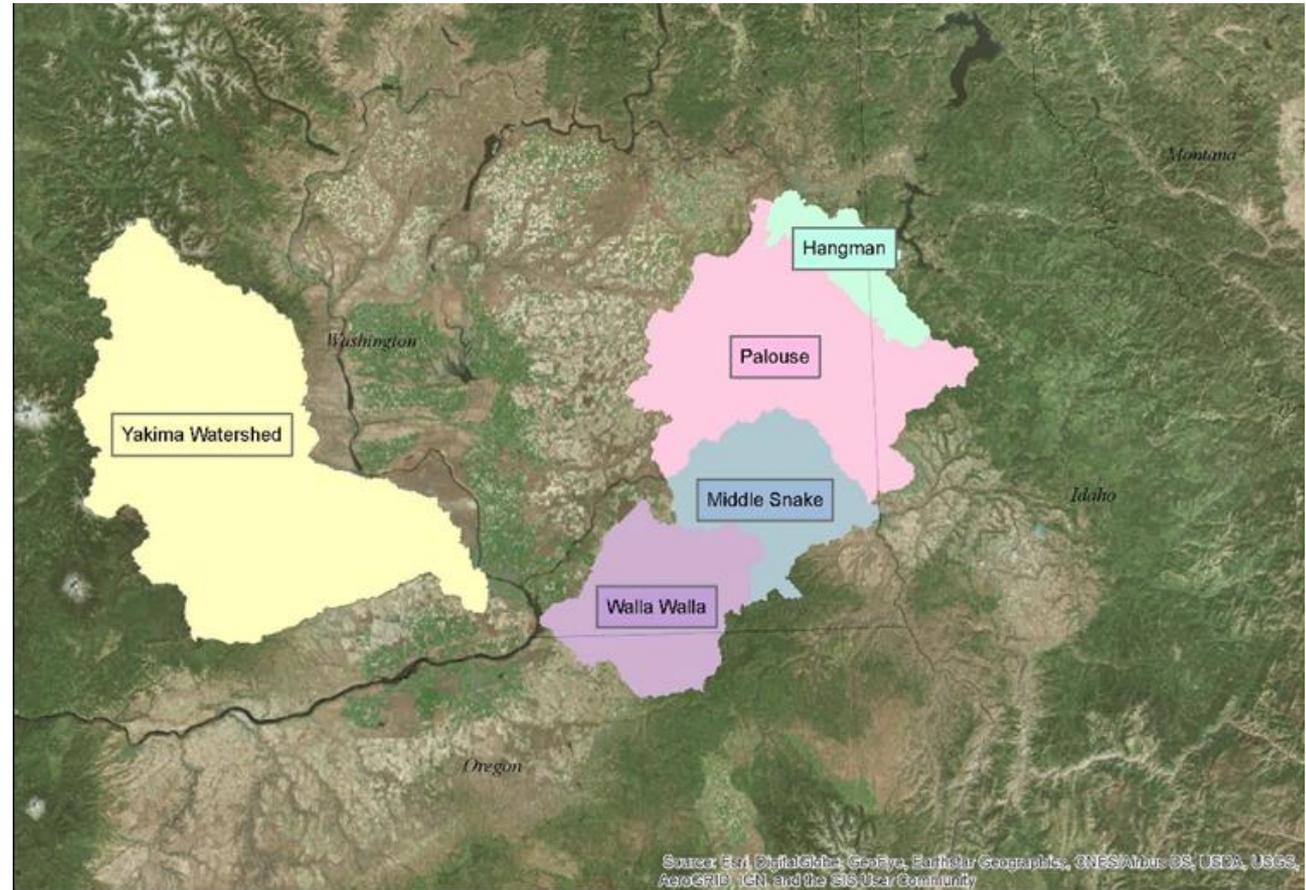
Western WA Watersheds

- Samish
- Nooksack
- South Skagit Bay
- Drayton Harbor
- Portage Bay
- Padilla Bay
- Puyallup River tributaries
- Henderson and Eld Inlets
- Key Peninsula
- East Fork Lewis River
- Newaukum River
- Chehalis River tributaries



Eastern WA Watersheds

- Hangman Creek
- Palouse River
- Blue Mountain
- Whitman County
- Walla Walla River
- Yakima River Basin
- Snake River direct tributaries



Today's Topics

- Outreach & Community Engagement
- Technical Assistance & Site Visits
- Outcomes
- Looking forward to 2020

Community Events & Outreach



Outreach Materials and Mailers



THIS FALL

DON'T LET YOUR MANURE GET CARRIED AWAY

Prevent manure runoff by becoming saturated. Manure runoff can pollute waterways and harm wildlife.

Keep your pasture healthy through winter and keep clean water clean.

Here is how:

- Remove animals from fields before they become saturated
- Collect manure from heavily used areas and cover manure piles
- Use seasonal fencing to keep animals out of saturated areas to avoid making mud

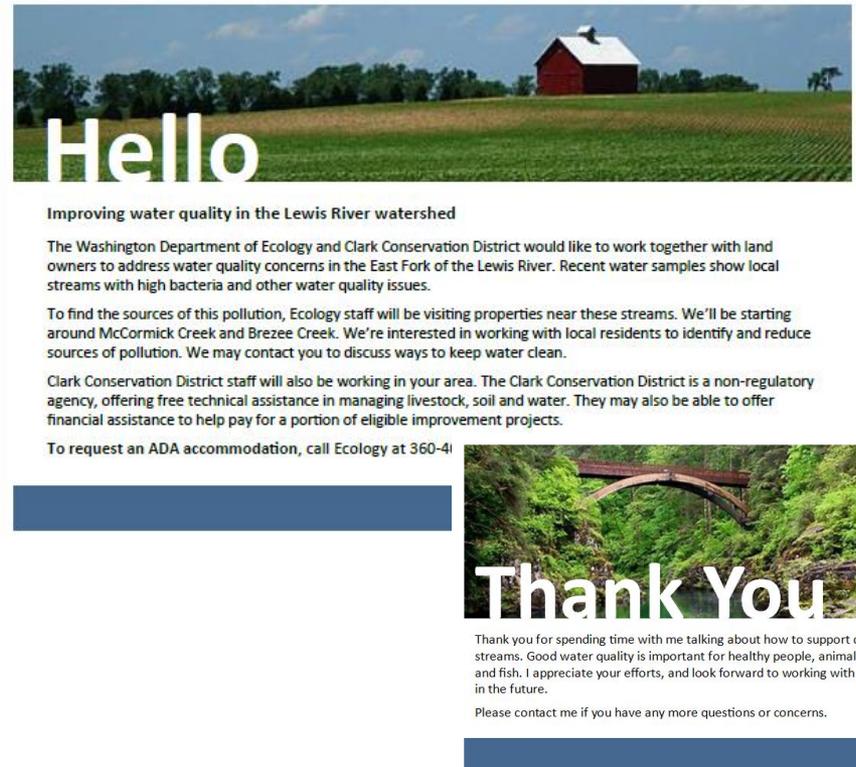
More resources are available to help you manage your manure! Visit ecy.wa.gov/AgRunoff for information on water quality and manure management. Contact Ecology's Bellingham Field Office at 360-255-4400 to speak with a water quality specialist.

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington
Bellingham Field Office
913 Squelicum Way #101
Bellingham WA 98225

To request an ADA accommodation, call Ecology at 360-407-6790 Relay Service 711 or TTY 877-833-8341.

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Seasonal postcard campaigns in Whatcom and Skagit County



Hello

Improving water quality in the Lewis River watershed

The Washington Department of Ecology and Clark Conservation District would like to work together with land owners to address water quality concerns in the East Fork of the Lewis River. Recent water samples show local streams with high bacteria and other water quality issues.

To find the sources of this pollution, Ecology staff will be visiting properties near these streams. We'll be starting around McCormick Creek and Brezee Creek. We're interested in working with local residents to identify and reduce sources of pollution. We may contact you to discuss ways to keep water clean.

Clark Conservation District staff will also be working in your area. The Clark Conservation District is a non-regulatory agency, offering free technical assistance in managing livestock, soil and water. They may also be able to offer financial assistance to help pay for a portion of eligible improvement projects.

To request an ADA accommodation, call Ecology at 360-407-6790.

Thank You

Thank you for spending time with me talking about how to support clean streams. Good water quality is important for healthy people, animals and fish. I appreciate your efforts, and look forward to working with you in the future.

Please contact me if you have any more questions or concerns.

Flyers and postcards to alert land owners in Lewis River watershed when we are working in the area

Technical Assistance Letters and Site Visits

- Northwest watersheds (mostly in Whatcom and Skagit Counties): 11 letters, 6 site visits
- Southwest watersheds (mostly in East Fork Lewis River watershed): 24 letters, 30 site visits
- Eastern Watersheds (mostly Hangman Creek): 23 letters, 16 site visits
- Central Watersheds (mostly in Yakima River watershed): 6 site visits



Outcomes-Getting to clean water

Hangman Watershed Assessment Prioritized Site Status

Year	Sites Contacted	Actively Working on Plan with Ecology	Water Quality Issue Resolved	Not yet Working on Plan
2018	15	11	1	3
2019	15	6	0	9



Outcomes-Getting to clean water

- California Creek-Livestock Site
 - First contacted in 2018
 - Project Plan Completed and Grant Funds Identified
 - 2.5 acres of riparian planting
 - 2800' of fencing
 - Off-stream watering facility
- Spangle Creek Tributary Livestock Site
 - First contacted in 2019
 - Project Plan Completed and Grant Funds Identified
 - 2 acres riparian planting
 - 2400' of fencing
- Hangman Riparian Restoration-Tillage site
 - First contacted in 2018
 - Project Plan and Grant Funds Identified
 - 4-10 acres riparian planting
 - 200-400' bank stabilization
- Little Hangman Riparian Restoration-Tillage Site
 - First contacted in 2018
 - Project Plan and partial Grant Funds Identified (additional grant funds being pursued)
 - 20 acres riparian planting
 - 4200' of riparian area protected and bank stabilization work



Outcomes-Getting to clean water

Steptoe Creek

Administrative Order-December 2018

- 2019 Developed Plan
 - Approx. 3 miles of livestock fencing installed in 2019
- Additional BMPs will be implemented in 2020
 - 3 livestock watering facilities
 - Heavy use area and corral relocation

Downstream Efforts

- Fish barrier culvert replaced by bridge
- Large Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program riparian planting and livestock exclusion fencing (approximately 3 miles)
- Streambank and instream work including installation of post assisted log structures and beaver dam analogues





Looking Forward to 2020

Plans for 2020

- Continue work in 2019 watersheds
- New Watersheds
- Expand outreach efforts
- Expand the use of “Thank You” postcards
- Follow up on technical assistance, warning letters, and site visits



Questions and Discussion