

## Western Washington Nonpoint Overview and Project Highlights

#### Gabe Raso and Jay Fennell

Ecology Nonpoint Unit Supervisors 10/11/2024



# **Presentation Outline**

NWRO Overview

SWRO Overview

Nonpoint Workflows 101

Project Highlights

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# NWRO - Nonpoint

Supervisor: Jay Fennell

#### **Nonpoint Specialists: 4 FTE (Vacant)**

Group 1: Whatcom, San Juan, Island, and Skagit Counties

Group 2: Snohomish, King, Kitsap

**Recruitment Goals:** 

- 1 staff for each group in Nov 2024
- 2 staff for each group in Q1 2025





### Grasping the fundamentals

### Building Connections, Bridging Silos

# Back to Basics

### Learning from the past



# Looking Ahead

# • Tie-up old work, check-in on complaints

#### Plug in to focus areas

Potential enforcement

# SWRO - Nonpoint

#### Supervisor: Gabe Raso

#### **Nonpoint Specialist: 4 FTE**

Molly Paige – Key Peninsula, Oakland Bay & Johns Creek, Skokomish Vally & Annas Bay

<u>Emily Davis</u> - Enumclaw Plateau- Boise, Pussyfoot, and Second Creeks (King County), Deschutes River (Thurston County

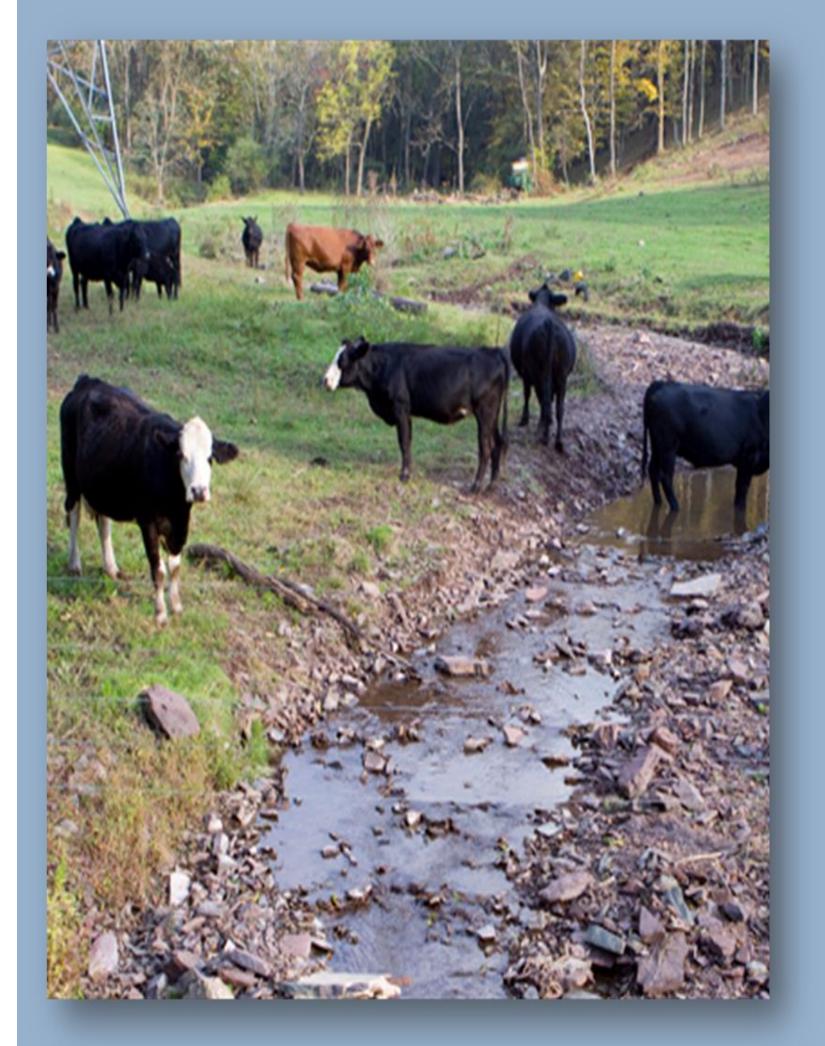
Jason Pietroski – East Fork Lewis (Clark County), Lacamas Creek (Clark County)

Vacant

Education and Outreach Specialist: 1 FTE

Chloe Steffes





## What are we doing? Nonpoint workflows: Proactive & Reactive

- Proactive
- Reactive Work

• Focal Watersheds - a specific geographic area within a larger watershed system that has been prioritized for targeted interventions and management efforts

• Response to complaints (ERTS)



# Proactive Work: Focal Watersheds

- Planning & Strategizing
  - Desktop Evolutions
  - Partner Identification/Collaboration
  - Targeted outreach campaign
- Watershed Evaluation
- Follow-up







# Complaint Response: ERTS (Environmental Report Tracking System)

#### Common Complaints we Handle

- Livestock with access to waters of the state
- Streamside vegetation disturbances
- Improper Manure application
- Junk cars near bodies of water
- Household garbage dumping
- Pet waste
- Other discharges that not covered under a permit



# Nonpoint workflow

Complaint confirmed or Watershed assessment

Site of concern identified

Consult and coordinate with partners

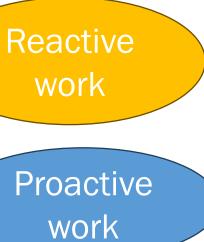
Gather data

Connect landowners with resources

Landowners do not make changes voluntarily

Changes in management practices

Clean water



**Formal Enforcement** 





# Questions?

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Jay Fennell, NWRO Watershed Protection Unit Supervisor 425-240-4234, jay.fennell@ecy.wa.gov



# Nonpoint Project Highlights

- 1. Anderson Dairy BMPs
- 2. King County Community Based Social Marketing Campaign
- 3. Clallam Conservation District: Technical Assistance and Outreach



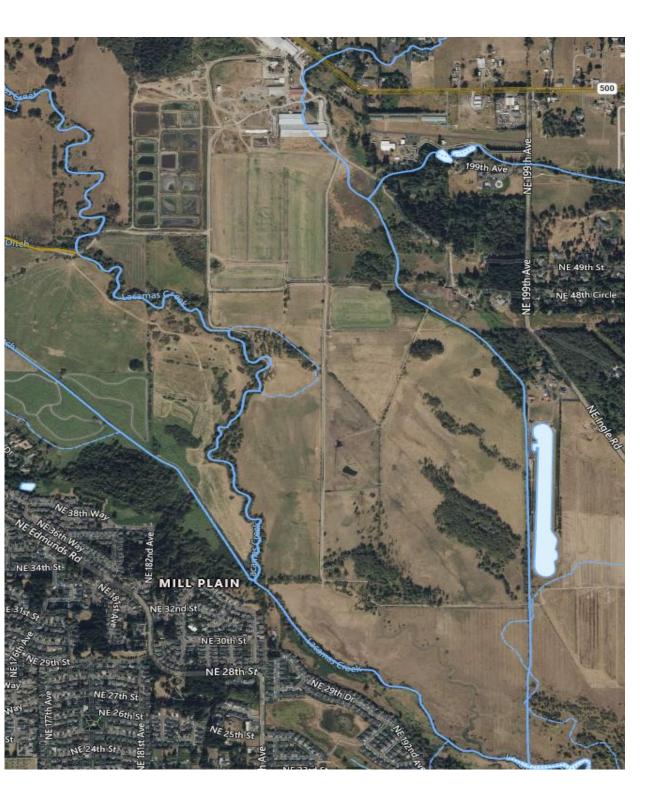
# Anderson dairy

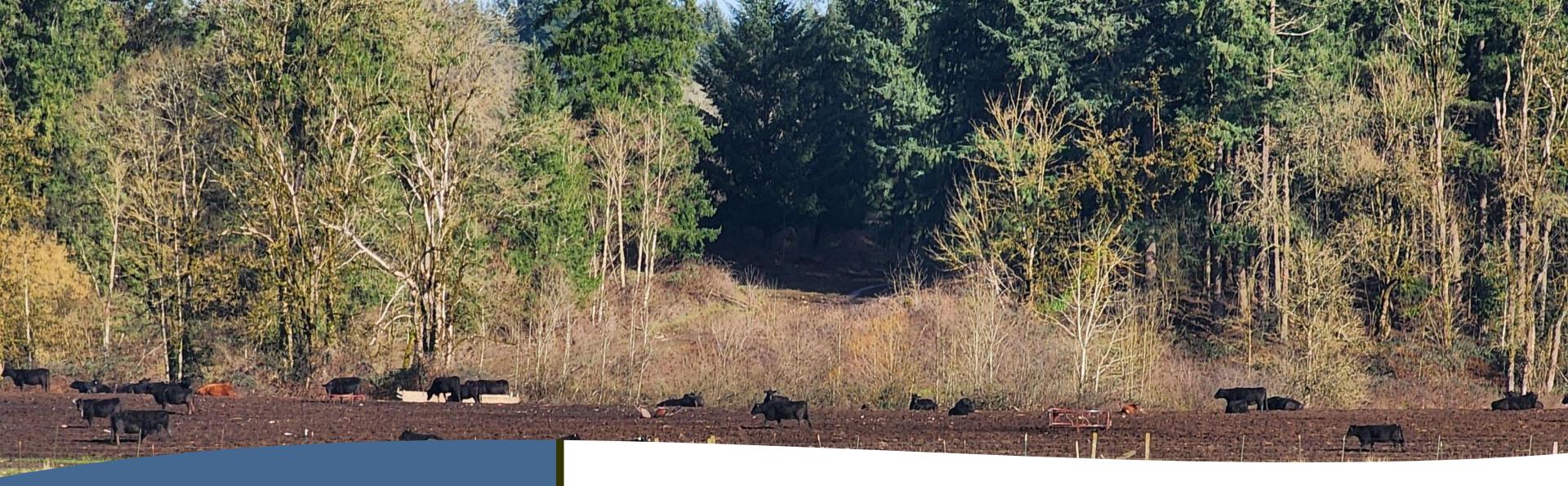
#### Project Overview

 Location: Lacamas Creek watershed which is listed as impaired for temperature, bacteria, and dissolved oxygen (DO). The watershed spans 67 square miles with mixed land uses (forest, agricultural, residential, industrial).

**Project goal:** create riparian forests along Lacamas Creek and its tributaries, using vegetated buffers across the 400-acre site, with an estimated 60 acres of riparian areas to be protected and restored through native plantings

 Budget & Funding Source: Total Project Estimate: \$1,030,000, \$297,000 secured through ECY Direct Implementation Funding (DIF)





## Anderson Dairy: Project Tasks

**Exclusion fencing**: Protect riparian areas from livestock. forest.

Watering facility & Heavy Use Area Protection (HUAP): Support for livestock, preventing contamination.

- **Conservation planning**: Work with landowners to determine BMPs.
- Site preparation and planting: Native trees and shrubs to restore riparian





Provide	Provide shade to reduce w	vat
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Increase dissolved oxygen levels in streams. Increase

**Stabilize** Stabilize streambanks, preventing erosion.

Reduce Reduce bacteria by filtering livestock runoff.

iter temperatures.



King County - Water and Land Resources Division Community Based Social Marketing Riparian Restoration Campaign

#### **Total Cost**: \$196,058.00

**Project Goal**: Utilize community-based social marketing (CBSM) to promote voluntary riparian buffer installations on properties in three White River sub-basins:

• Boise Creek, Pussyfoot Creek, Second Creek

#### **Key Activities:**

- Identify barriers, motivators, and incentives for landowners.
- Understand why current assistance programs are underutilized.
- Promote riparian restoration practices using CBSM techniques.

#### **Outcome:**

 Increase landowner participation in riparian buffer programs to improve water quality and ecosystem health.

Clallam Conservation District Title: Improving & Protecting Water Quality on Horse & Livestock Operations

#### **Total Cost:** \$206,164.71

**Project Goal:** to provide technical assistance and outreach activities to support the implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) to improve surface water quality, with a focus on areas in WRIA 18, particularly the Sequim Bay-Dungeness Watershed.

#### **Key Activities:**

- Conduct 80 site visits to assist with BMP implementation.
- Host 18 workshops on topics like manure and pasture management.
- Publish 36 educational articles covering BMPs and water protection.
- Develop farm conservation plans, promote riparian restoration, and alternative stock watering systems.