



Draft Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit Puget Sound Nutrient Forum

June 24, 2025

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Outline

- 1** Permit Reissuance Schedule
- 2** Permit History
- 3** Proposed Permit Changes
- 4** Questions

PERMIT REISSUANCE SCHEDULE

- June 18 – July 25, 2025:
 - Draft PSNGP - Public Comment Period
- July 1, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.:
 - Draft PSNGP Webinar - Public Information Session
- July 22, 2025, at 5:30 p.m.:
 - Draft PSNGP Webinar - Public Information Session & Hearing

PERMIT REISSUANCE SCHEDULE, CONT'D

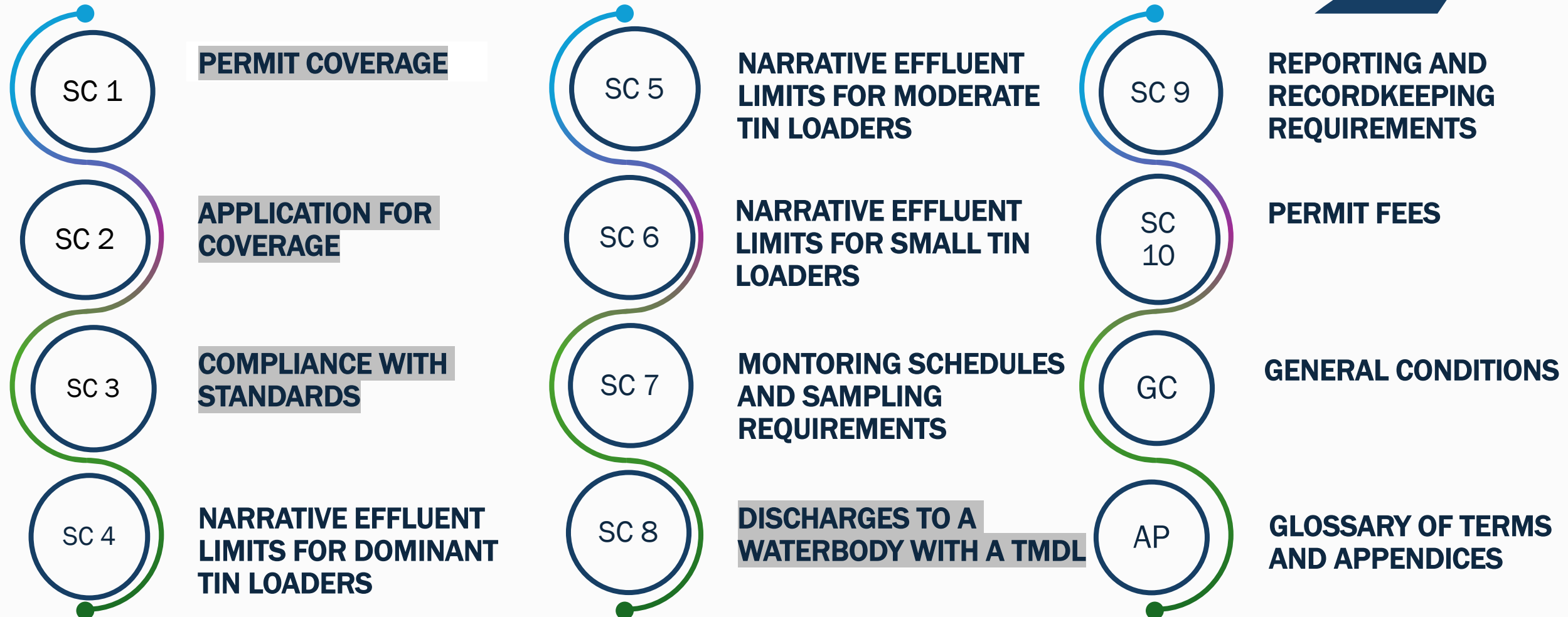
- Fall/Winter 2025:
 - Issue Final PSNGP, goes into effect 30 days after issuance date
- Winter 2025:
 - Permit Application process begins
 - Notice of Intent (NOI) submittal deadline 45 days after effective date

PSNGP HISTORY



- On December 1, 2021, the first iteration of the PSNGP was issued.
- Several appeals were filed at the Washington State Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) in December 2021.
- On February 28, 2025, the PCHB invalidated the PSNGP “insofar as it is mandatory.”
- On April 3, 2025, Ecology sent a letter to former PSNGP permittees informing them that their mandatory permit coverage was terminated.

PUGET SOUND NUTRIENT GENERAL PERMIT ROADMAP



PERMIT COVERAGE

SC 1

APPLICATION FOR COVERAGE

SC 2

COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS

SC 3

NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITS FOR DOMINANT TIN LOADERS

SC 4

SC 5

NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITS FOR MODERATE TIN LOADERS

SC 6

NARRATIVE EFFLUENT LIMITS FOR SMALL TIN LOADERS

SC 7

MONITORING SCHEDULES AND SAMPLING REQUIREMENTS

SC 8

DISCHARGES TO A WATERBODY WITH A TMDL

SC 9

REPORTING AND RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

SC 10

PERMIT FEES

GC

GENERAL CONDITIONS

AP

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND APPENDICES

SC = SPECIAL CONDITION

Proposed changes for Draft Permit

- **Permit Coverage**
 - Allowing former PSNGP permittees to decide whether to apply to “OPT IN” for permit coverage under the Reissued PSNGP.
- **Application for Coverage**
 - Allowing potential Permittees to apply to “OPT-IN” for permit coverage by submitting a Notice of Intent:
 - Permit coverage becomes effective upon Ecology issuing a permit coverage letter.

Proposed changes (continued)

- Compliance with Standards
 - Removing “end-result” requirements:
 - ~~“Discharges shall not cause or contribute to violations of surface water quality standards...”~~
 - Consistent with *City and County of San Francisco, California v. U.S.E.P.A.*
 - (U.S. Supreme Court, March 2025)

New Submission Due Date



- Nitrogen Optimization Report for Dominant Loaders
 - Nutrient Reduction Evaluation for Dominant Loaders
 - Nitrogen Optimization Report for Moderate Loaders
 - Nutrient Reduction Evaluation for Moderate Loaders
 - Nitrogen Optimization Report for Small Loaders
 - AKART Evaluation for Small Loaders
-
- Due Date: June 30, 2026

**Proposed
changes
(continued)**

Proposed changes (continued)

- Anticipated Expiration Date
 - Winter of 2027

Proposed changes (continued)

Discharges to a waterbody with a TMDL

- Permittees must comply with effluent limits that are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of wasteload allocations from a US EPA-approved dissolved oxygen Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). Ecology will address permit requirements, including narrative and/or numeric effluent limits associated with any such TMDL, in the General Permit coverage letter for a Permittee's facility.

Proposed changes (continued)

- Since the February 2025 PCHB Order was issued, all terms and conditions of the entire Draft PSNGP are open for public comment and appeal.

Ways to Comment on Draft General Permit



- Submit PSNGP comments online (preferred):
ecology.wa.gov/nutrientpermit

- Send via U.S. mail
(postmarked by July 25, 2025)

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- Testify at our public hearing



Questions?

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