

# Letter of intent (LOI)

Interested parties should submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) on or before February 28, 2023 for each individual proposal. Letter of intent should include applicant contact information and seven questions about proposed study. More details about SAM study selection process, eligibility and funding availability can be found in SAM REF guidelines in SAM Effectiveness webpage.

The respondent's email ([melissa.petrich@piercecountywa.gov](mailto:melissa.petrich@piercecountywa.gov)) was recorded on submission of this form.

## Applicant contact information

Applicant Full Name \*

Melissa Petrich

Organization \*

Pierce County

Phone number \*

(253) 247-5419

## Proposed Study Information

1. Proposed Study Title \*

Heatmap of Emerging Pollutants in Stormwater, Pierce County, WA

## 2. Which topic(s) from the SWG's priority list do you propose to address? \*

The proposed study topic should be in the SWG's priority list

#16 Regional stormwater discharge monitoring study (Appendix 9, WWA Permit) to characterize emerging pollutants in stormwater, e.g 6-PPD/q, PFAS/PFOS, micro- and nano-plastic contamination in stormwater.

## 3. Select type of project being proposed \*

- Survey
- Literature Review & Synthesis
- Environmental Sampling Study
- Other

## 4. Short Description of the Proposed Study \*

250 word limit: describe how results will assess effectiveness and advance regional understanding and permittees' implementation of specific stormwater management approaches

Pierce County is proposing to conduct a baselevel study providing insight into the presence and quantity of emerging pollutants within the permitted MS4. Pierce County will focus on stormwater pollutants including PFAS and PCBs. The data will be used to create a heatmap showing hotspots of emerging pollutants and will allow for the County as well as other groups to follow up with additional source tracing studies, prioritize BMPs and BMP locations, education and outreach efforts, and implement restoration projects. This baseline knowledge of the current presence and quantity of pollutants within the MS4 will allow for compliance with the NPDES Permit, provide an assessment of emerging pollutants from a variety of land uses, as well as help to promote healthy water for communities within and surrounding Pierce County.

Site sampling locations will be decided based on land use, with the goal of establishing connections between land use and emerging pollutant concentrations. Pierce County has the unique opportunity of having land use ranging from areas with minimal development near the Nisqually glacier to areas of high development near the city of Tacoma. This information can be useful to municipalities and groups throughout the Salish Sea Region and can be used to create models of emerging pollutants.

5. What type information will be collected or analyzed for this proposed study? \*

If existing permittees' data are needed, specify the type, and the expected timing of a request for existing information from Permittees.

Quantitative data from within Pierce County's MS4

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6. What are the anticipated measurable outcomes and key deliverables that will be produced by the proposed study, and how will they be used by Permittees and the Washington State Department of Ecology? \*

- Heatmap of emerging pollutants within Pierce County which will allow for a greater understanding and analysis of pollutants for source tracing within Pierce County. The heatmap will also help identify where the County and other groups will focus on BMP implementation, outreach and education, as well as potential restoration projects.

- Create baseline knowledge for current pollutant presence and quantity in Pierce County's MS4

- Analysis of pollutant presence and quantity in relation to land use, population, and surrounding infrastructure will allow greater understanding of pollutant existence and persistence surrounding various types of land use.

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7. Permittees or agencies you are proposing to coordinate with (provide staff names and contact information, if known) \*

Enter "NA" if not applicable.

- Open and interested in working with surrounding permittees and municipalities especially City of Tacoma, City of Puyallup, City of Gig Harbor, City of Lakewood, City of University Place, etc.

- Partnerships and contracts will need to be made with laboratories and agencies with facilities to process samples.

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