Meet Adriane Borgias

- New program lead in Spokane
- Passionate about water quality and building partnerships
- Looking to bring a fresh approach to tackling our water quality goals
- Five years with Ecology
- Previously worked with tribes, in private consulting, and as the Environmental Supervisor for TransCanada Pipelines

New Eastern Region Manager
General permits update

Permits

• Municipal stormwater
• Aquatic plants
Update: Process to Develop Voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Nonpoint Sources
Produce voluntary clean water guidance for agriculture
**Timeline**

**Stakeholder Outreach**
- 2016

**Draft Process**
- January 2017

**Comment Period**
- Process design and response to comments completed
  - May 2017

Assemble advisory group
- July 2017

First meeting of advisory group
- August 2017
What did we hear?

- Structure and role of the advisory group
- Workgroup members
- Suites of practices
What did we hear?

- Better define what we mean by “effective”
- Timelines and schedule
- NRCS practices
Next Step: Solicit Advisory Group

- Goal is to have updated website with finalized process and response to comments online this week.
- This will include our solicitation for people to serve on the Advisory Group.
- Asking for people with relevant experience to submit a letter of interest.
Next Step: Identify Advisory Group

- Seek nominations/recommendations.
- Diverse perspectives and balanced representation.
- Research and technical scientists as well as on the ground implementation experience.
Kick off meeting of the Advisory Group
August 2017

• Compile list of practices.
• Conduct literature review and synthesize information.
• Set workgroup schedule, 2-4 meetings during year.
• Have set of practices finalized by Fall 2018.

Start work
Questions and discussion

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Water Quality Assessment for Washington Policy 1-11 Updates
What is the Water Quality Assessment for Washington?

• It’s a comprehensive assessment of the quality of Washington’s waters based on available data.
• It gives the ability to better track when waters are getting cleaner or dirtier.
• It allows us to set priorities for protecting and improving water quality used for swimming, fishing, fish habitat, and drinking water.
• It meets requirements in the Clean Water Act by providing an “Integrated Report” on Water Quality to EPA.
Current Status of Washington’s WQ Assessment

- Conducted a scoping process in Spring 2016 for Listing Policy 1-11 to identify areas for revision before beginning next Assessment
- Held a series of public meetings between to discuss key issues identified through scoping.
- Last public meeting was March 30, 2017
A series of “public dialogue” meetings were held between November and March to discuss the following 5 key topics:

• How data is used: QA/QC, transparency
• Revised sediment management standards
• Bioassessment data
• Toxic chemical data for human health
• Prioritization of TMDLs
What’s the status?

• Ecology staff are revising Policy 1-11 based on feedback received from public dialogue meetings.

• A public review of Policy 1-11 revisions will be held in summer 2017.

• After Policy 1-11 is finalized, technical assessment of data will begin.

• We will do another call for data.
Schedule for Policy 1-11 Revisions

• **Nov. - Mar. 2017**: Public Dialogue Meetings

• **April - July. 2017**: Work on Revisions

• **August 2017**: 30-day Public Review & another call for data

• **Fall 2017**: Finalize Policy 1-11 and begin technical assessment
Request for meetings on key topics
Regular Issue-Specific Meetings

• Interagency Team (entities with municipal stormwater permits and DOT) requested routine meetings to discuss key topics involving the Assessment and TMDL Programs.

• We propose to wrap that idea into meetings that will follow the WQ Partnership meetings.

• Only one topic will be covered at each meeting, to allow time for discussion.
Future topics?