

Water Quality Partnership

Dec. 7, 2023



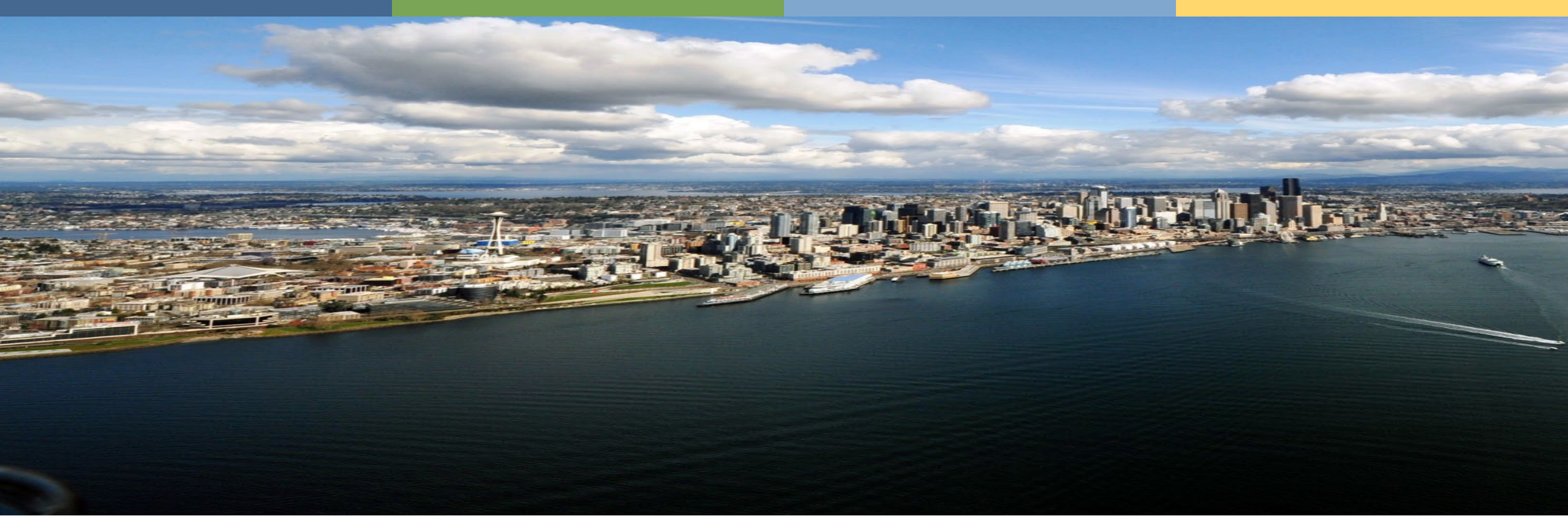
Welcome & Program Updates	Colleen Keltz	10:00 – 10:10
HEAL Act	Courtney Cecale	10:10 – 10:30
General Permit updates	Lucienne Banning	10:30 – 10:55
Grant and Loan updates	Jessica Schwing, Sarah Ponte	10:55 – 11:20
Watershed Management Updates	Marla Koberstein, Ben Rau	11:20 – 11:45
Roundtable	All	11:45 – 11:55
Wrap up	Colleen Keltz	11:55 – 12:00



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State of Washington

Welcome and Updates

Colleen Keltz



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Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act

Courtney Cecale, Office of Equity and Environmental Justice



Updates: Washington's Environmental Justice Law



Courtney Cecale, Ph.D.

Environmental Justice Senior Policy Advisor

Office of Equity and Environmental Justice, WA Department of Ecology

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Historically and today, people who are disproportionately exposed to environmental harms and are disproportionately denied access to environmental benefits largely include Tribes, indigenous communities, communities of color, and low-income populations.

- **Environmental harms** include things like exposure to hazards, contamination of traditional foods, loss or damage to culturally important sites and species.
- **Environmental benefits** may include things like clean water, access to nutritious foods.

This exposure contributes to higher risks for adverse health outcomes for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

What is the HEAL Act?



Go Back to Topic Selection

Environmental Health Disparities V 2.0

Environmental Exposures

Environmental Effects

Socioeconomic Factors

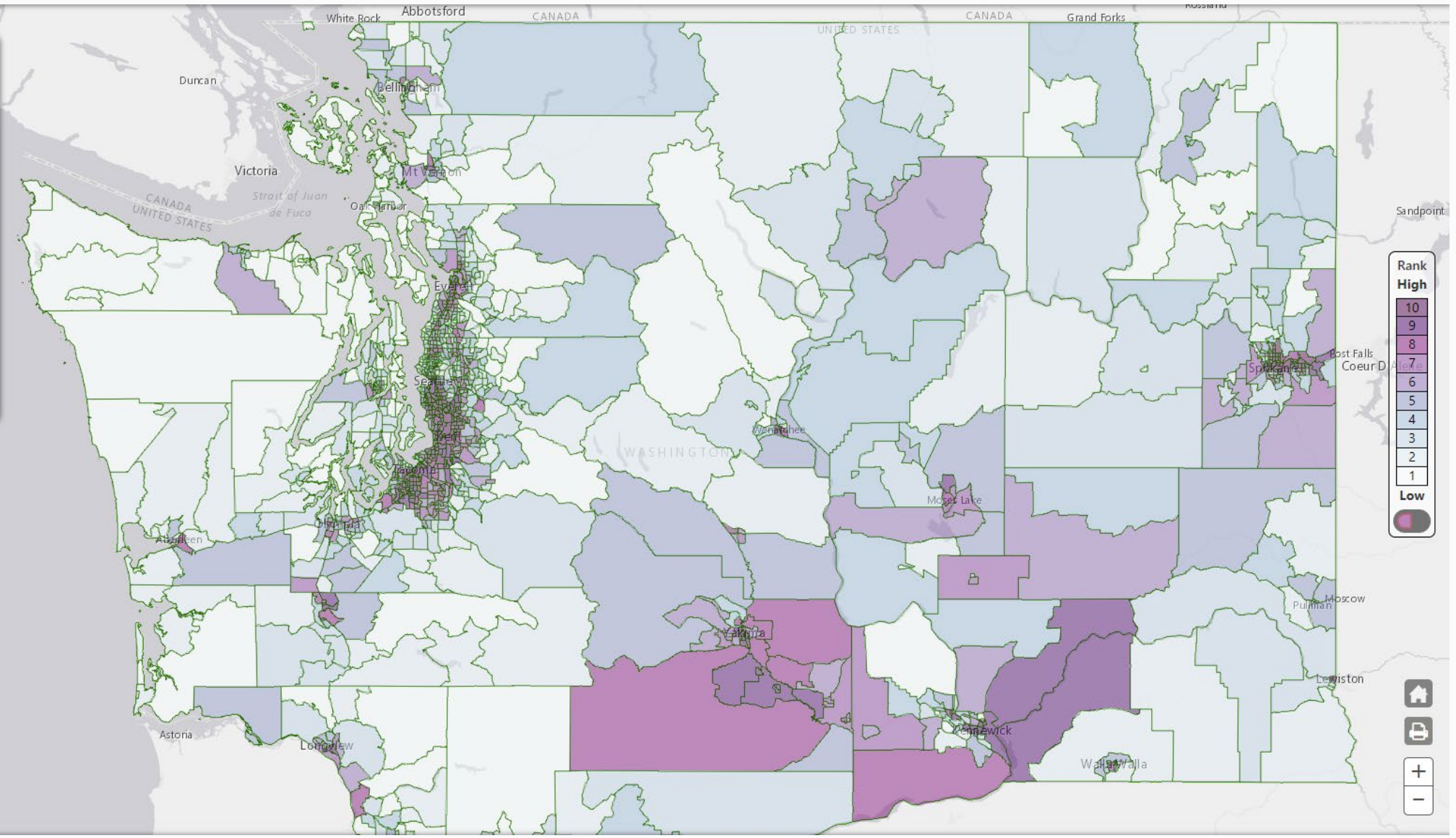
Sensitive Populations

Copy Map URL To Clipboard

Earth Map



0 15 30mi



What is the HEAL Act?

- The Healthy Environment for All Act, or the HEAL Act, passed in 2021.
- It instructs agencies to consider, plan for, and address environmental justice issues of environmental and health disparities in a wide scope of agency activities – collaboratively!

More outreach and invitations from:

Agencies Required to Implement HEAL

Ecology

Transportation

Commerce

Puget Sound Partnership

Health

Natural Resources

Agriculture

Broader Collaboration

Environmental Justice Council

Community Groups

Tribal Consultation

Agencies Opting In

Attorney General's Office

Joined in a "Listen & Learn" Capacity

Recreation and Conservation Office

Fish and Wildlife

State Board of Health

The Pollution Liability Insurance Agency

County Road Administration

Key Mandates



Adopt Tribal consultation framework and community engagement plan



Incorporate EJ into agency strategic plans



Budget Equity



Conduct Environmental Justice Assessments of significant agency actions



Develop EJ metrics for tracking & reporting

Key Mandates



Adopt Tribal
consultation
framework and
community
engagement plan



Incorporate EJ into
agency strategic
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Budget Equity



Conduct
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Covered agencies must take the following actions:

- Focus applicable expenditures on **creating benefits** for OBC/VP
- Create opportunities for OBC/VP to **meaningfully participate** in expenditure decisions.
- Articulate environmental justice financial **goals and performance metrics**
- Establish a goal of directing **40 percent of grants, loans, contracts, and expenditures** that create environmental benefits to OBCVP



Downstream effects:

- Prioritization of projects where we have discretion
- Greater emphasis on meaningful influence, collaboration, and co-development
- Likely increased resources for overburdened communities, vulnerable populations and Tribes
- Greater transparency on where our money goes

This will all take time.

Key Mandates



Adopt Tribal
consultation
framework and
community
engagement plan



Incorporate EJ into
agency strategic
plans



Budget Equity



Conduct
Environmental
Justice
Assessments of
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Develop EJ
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reporting



The following actions will require an environmental justice assessment:

1. Significant legislative rules
2. New grant or loan program
3. A new capital project, grant, or loan (at least \$12,000,000)
4. Agency request legislation

**Additional significant agency actions will be identified for 2025*

Key Mandates



Adopt Tribal consultation framework and community engagement plan



Incorporate EJ into agency strategic plans



Budget Equity



Conduct Environmental Justice Assessments of significant agency actions



Develop EJ metrics for tracking & reporting





“By September 1st of each year beginning in 2024, each covered agency must publish or update a dashboard report, in a uniform dashboard format on the office of financial management's website, describing the agency's progress on:

- (i) Incorporating environmental justice in its strategic plan;
- (ii) The obligations of agencies relating to budgets and funding under RCW 70A.02.080; and
- (iii) Its environmental justice assessments of proposed significant agency actions, including logistical metrics related to covered agency completion of environmental justice assessments.”

This is due September 1, 2024.



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Thank you and don't be a stranger! (Q & A to follow)

Courtney Cecale, Ph.D.

Environmental Justice Senior Policy Advisor

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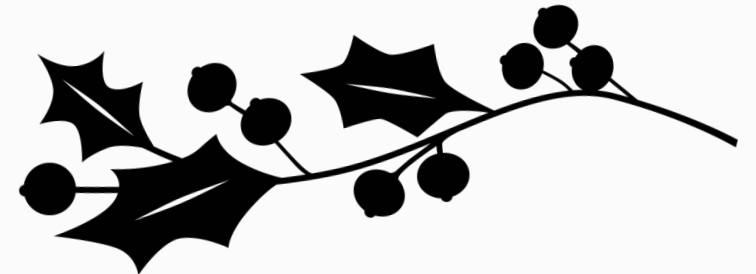


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General Permit Update

Water Quality Partnership Meeting

Thursday, December 7, 2023

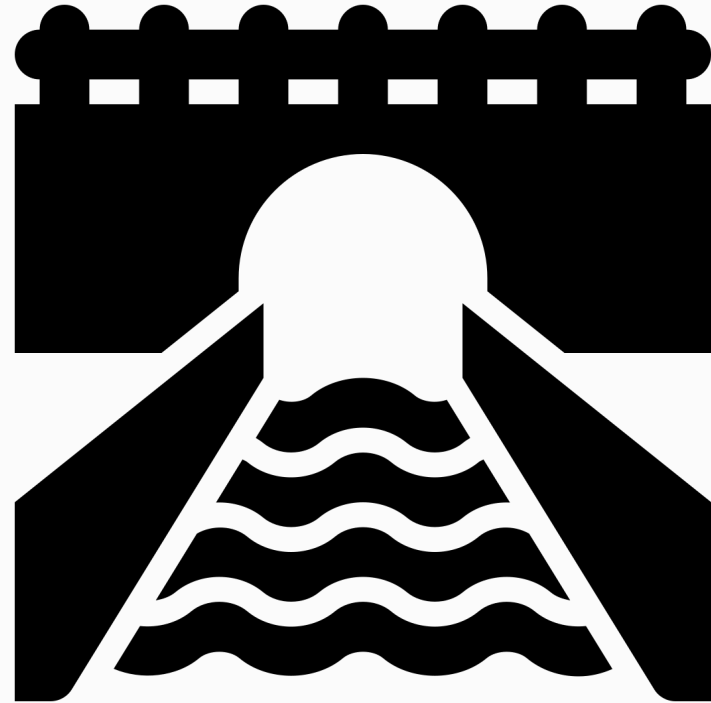


Activities

Fourth Quarter

2023

Irrigation System
Aquatic Weed Control
General Permit



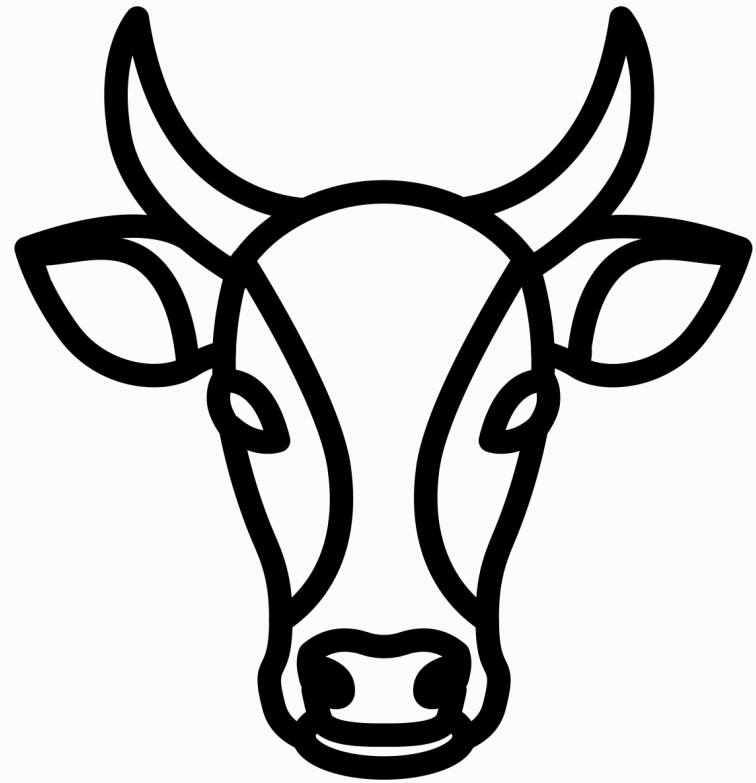
Activities Fourth Quarter 2023

Vessel Deconstruction
General Permit



GENERAL UPDATE

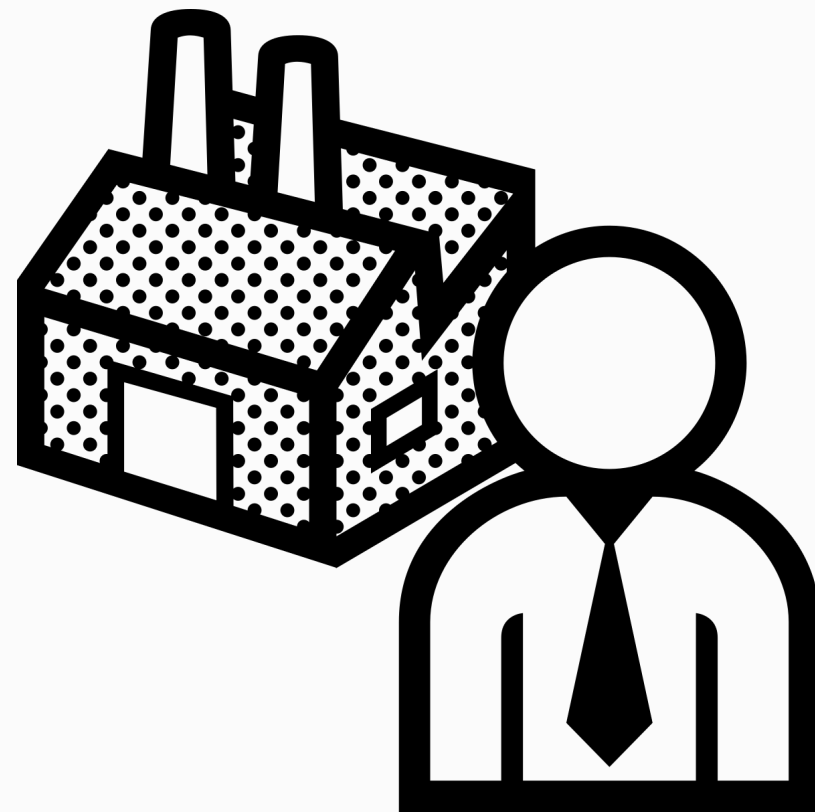
CAFO
General Permit



Ongoing Activities

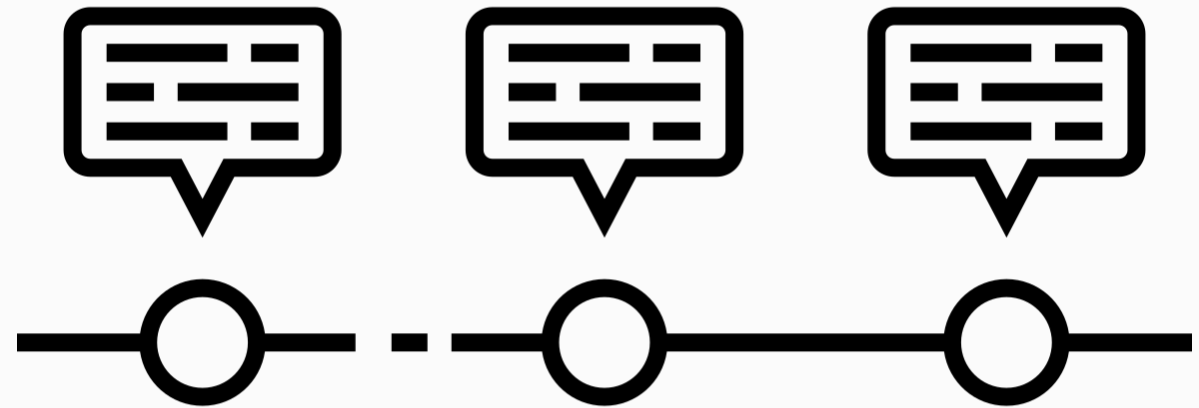
Industrial Stormwater
General Permit

Reissuance and Listening
Sessions



Ongoing GP Activities – Cont'd

- Mosquito
- Noxious Weed
- Municipal
- Stormwater
Puget Sound Nutrient



Additional Excitement (2024)

- Winery
- Water Treatment Plants





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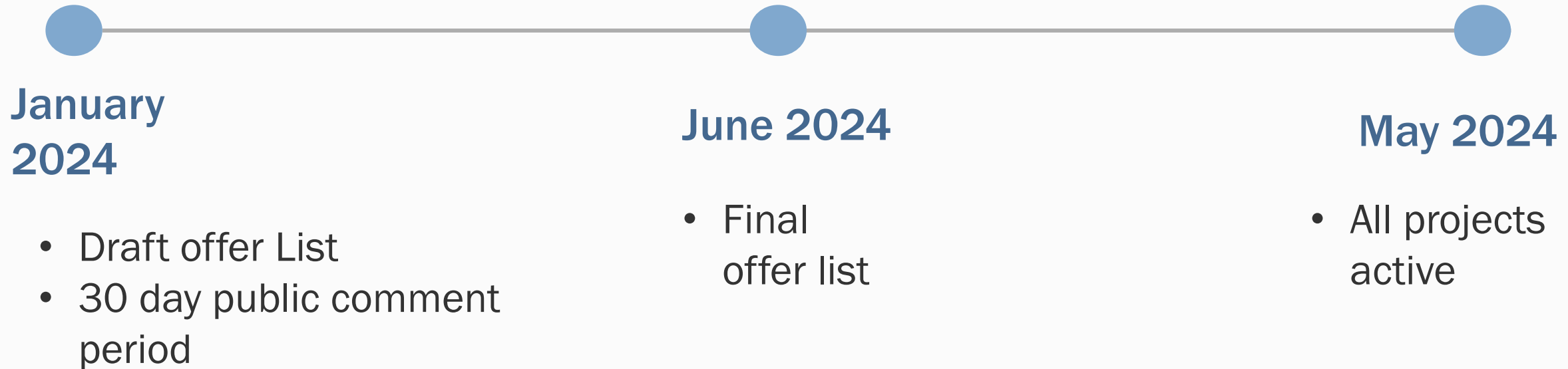
Water Quality Combined Funding Grant and Loan Updates

Water Quality Partnership

Jessica Schwing and Sarah Ponte

12/07/2023

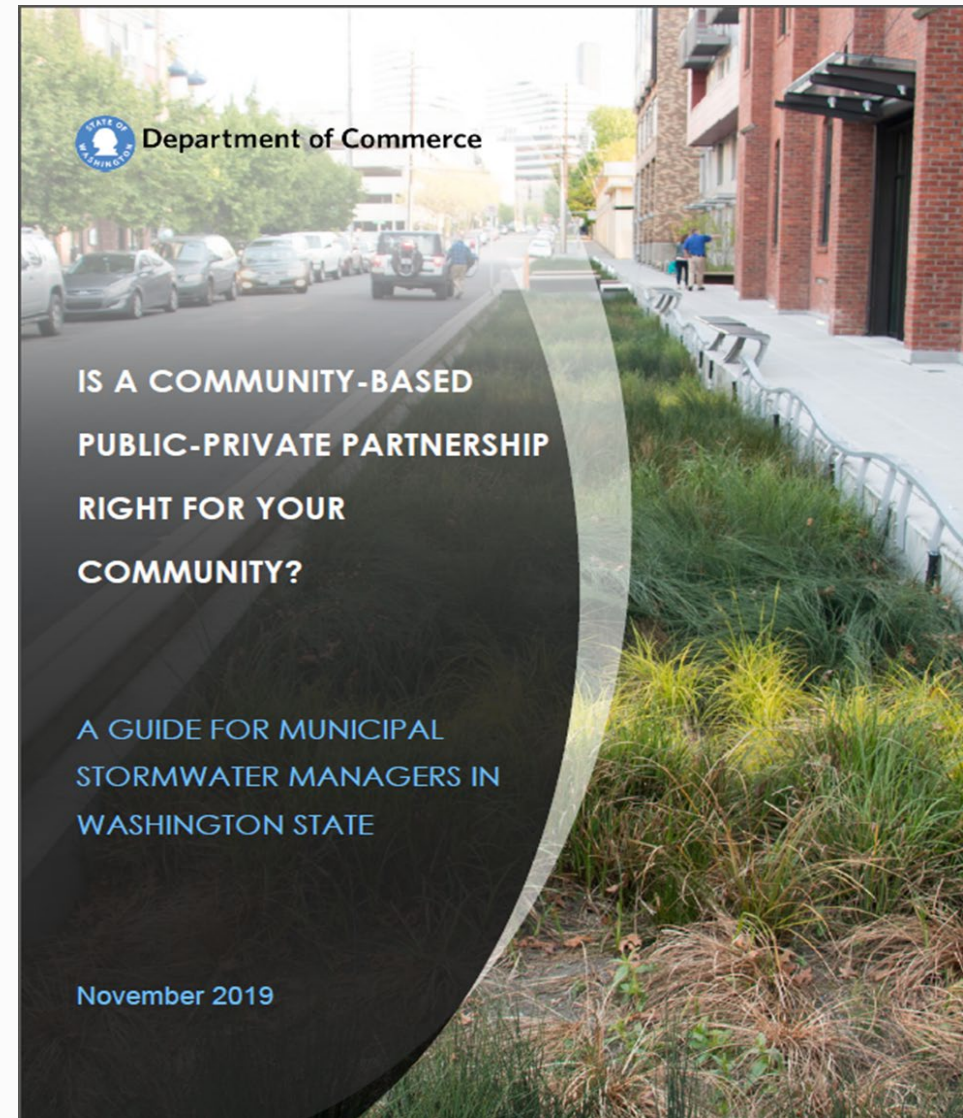
SFY25 Funding Cycle and Application Updates



To receive updates about the WQC program:
[Washington Department of Ecology \(govdelivery.com\)](https://www.govdelivery.com)

Community-Based Public-Private Partnership (CBP3) Funding Program

SFY26 will include new funding for stormwater CBP3 and other alternative procurement projects through the Water Quality Combined Funding Program



Source: [CBP3 Guidebook for WA State](#)

Draft Stormwater Community-Based Public-Private Partnership (CBP3) Funding Program Timeline

Sept 2023

We hired a consultant firm, Environmental Incentives

April 2024

Developing Grant Program Guidelines

Aug 2024 – Dec 2024

Solicitation, Identification, and Ranking of Projects

July 2025

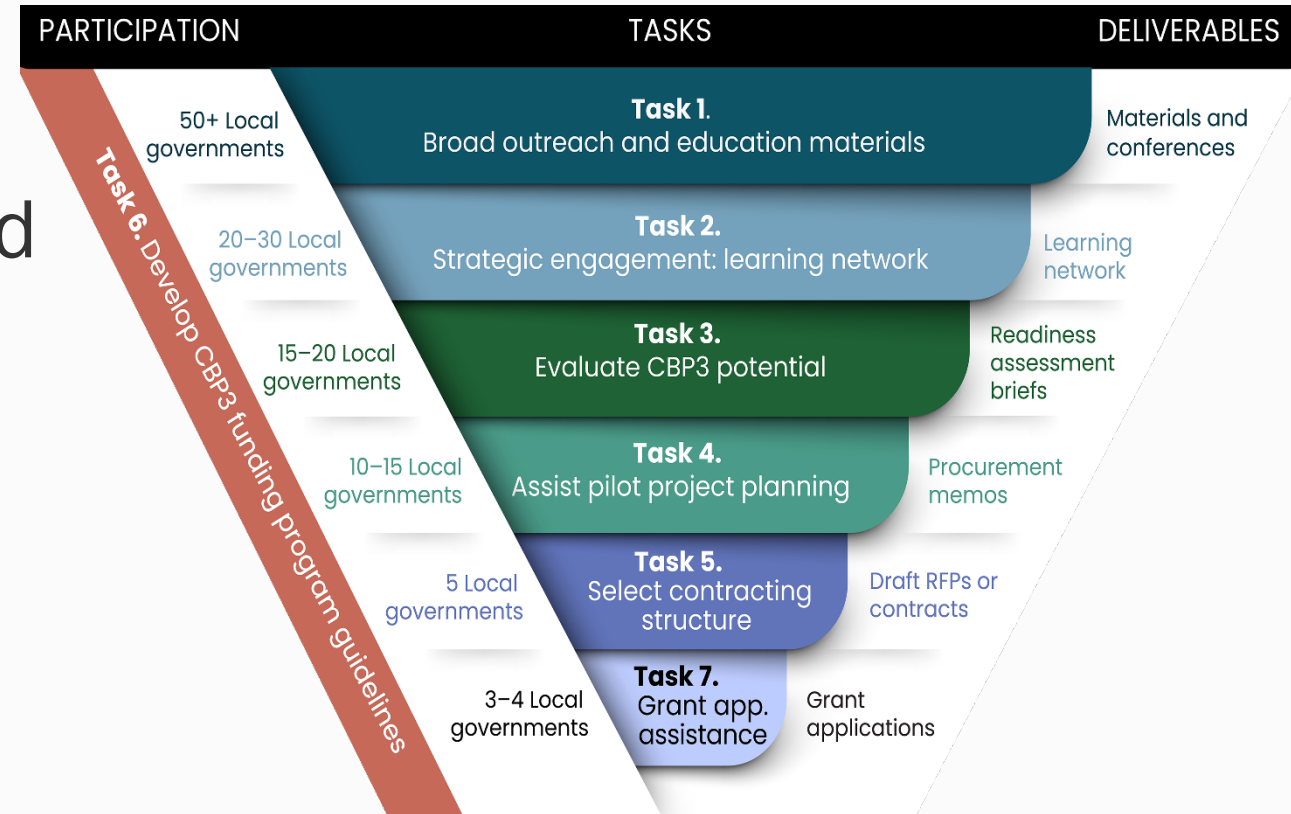
Up to \$3 million is available for CBP3 project grants to cities and counties

July 2025 – July 2029

Pilot Projects Implementation

Phase I: Outreach and Technical Assistance Services to Local Governments

This project provides technical assistance to Washington state local governments to identify and advance stormwater projects using alternative procurement mechanisms, including community-based public-private partnerships (CBP3) and performance contracts.



Thank you!

Jessica Schwing

Stormwater Financial Assistance Unit
Supervisor

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Sarah Ponte

Stormwater Public-Private Partnership
Planner

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Watershed Management Updates

Ben Rau and Marla Koberstein

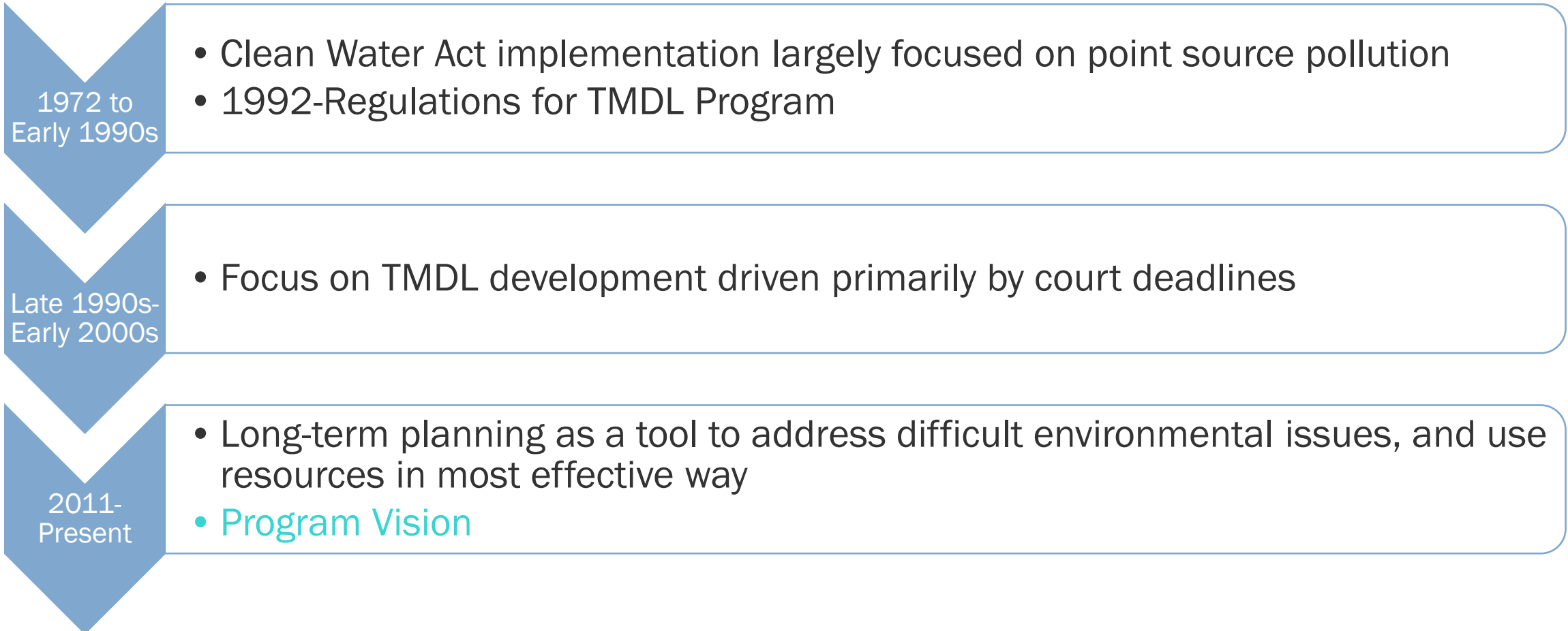


Prioritization Framework

December 2023

Ben Rau ben.rau@ecy.wa.gov

TMDL Program History-National



EPA National Vision for the Clean Water Act 303(d) Program (2022-2032)

The Clean Water Act Section 303(d) program strives to strategically plan and prioritize activities, engage partners, and analyze and utilize data to develop water quality assessments, plans, and implementation approaches to restore, and protect the Nation's aquatic resources.

<https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/Vision>

What is the Vision?



- The Vision outlines a framework to organize program activities; it does not constitute regulation, policy, or new mandates.
- The Vision identifies opportunities to manage effectively CWA section 303(d) program activities to achieve water quality goals for the Nation's aquatic resources such as streams, rivers, lakes, estuaries and wetlands.
- The purpose of the 2022 Vision memo is to articulate a renewal of the initial [2013 long-term Vision](#) and associated Goals, as well as to introduce new Focus Areas for the CWA section 303(d) program.

2022-2032 CWA 303(d) Program Vision

The CWA Section 303(d) Program strives to strategically plan and prioritize activities, engage partners, and analyze and utilize data to develop water quality assessments, plans, and implementation approaches to restore and protect the Nation's aquatic resources



Planning and Prioritization Goal



States, territories, and tribes develop a holistic strategy for implementation of Vision Goals, systematically prioritize waters or watersheds for TMDL and other plan development (restoration and/or protection), and report on the progress towards development of plans for priority waters.

2022 Vision Prioritization Frameworks

- Part of **Planning and Prioritization Goal**
- Completed and shared with EPA by April 1, 2024 (may be updated during the FY25-FY32 period if needed)
- The Prioritization Framework is a planning document that serves two key purposes:
 1. to describe long-term Vision priorities and a rationale for selecting those Vision priorities; and
 2. to outline a general strategy for implementing the Goals of the 2022-2032 Vision

How to provide feedback on priorities?

- Annual webinar (November)
- Contact with your regional office:
 - Danielle Gallatin (NWRO) danielle.devoe@ecy.wa.gov
 - Chad Atkins (ERO) chad.atkins@ecy.wa.gov
 - Mark Peterschmidt (CRO) mark.peterschmidt@ecy.wa.gov
 - Lawrence Sullivan (SWRO) lawrence.sullivan@ecy.wa.gov
 - Lara Henderson TMDL Program Planner lara.henderson@ecy.wa.gov
- [Policy 1-11](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1810035.html)
(<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/1810035.html>)
 - Criteria to prioritize TMDLs as higher priority include the following:
 - Severity of the pollution problem
 - Risks to public health
 - Risks to threatened and endangered species
 - Vulnerability of water bodies to degradation
 - Waterbodies where a new or more stringent permit limit is needed for point sources
 - Local support and interest in a watershed
 - Additionally, Ecology will include environmental justice (EJ) considerations when prioritizing TMDLs, including the utilization of EJ screening tools to better understand and address potential impacts of the TMDL prioritization process on low-income, minority, and tribal populations.

Questions?





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Rulemaking updates

Marla Koberstein

Updates to the surface water quality standards

- **Outstanding Resource Waters** Decision on rule adoption this month
- **Aquatic Life Toxics updates** Public comment period on rule proposal early 2024
- **Natural Conditions provisions** Public comment period on rule proposal spring 2024





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Roundtable



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Wrap up

Colleen Keltz



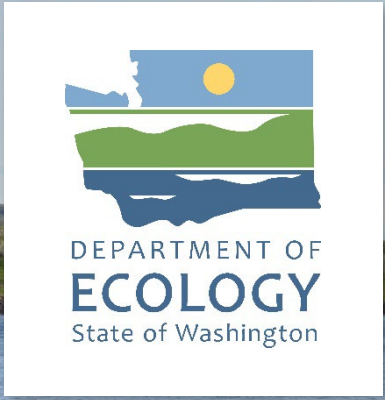
Next year's dates

March 21

June 13

Sept 19

Dec 12



Thank you