

Burnt Bridge Creek Kickoff Meeting

Draft priorities and actions for implementation

July 19, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.



Meeting Summary – July 19, 2021

The second full Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership meeting was held on July 19, 2021. The purpose of this meeting was to review draft priorities and implementation actions to improve water quality in Burnt Bridge Creek. The [agenda](#), [PowerPoint presentation](#), and [presentation notes](#) are available on the [Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership webpage](#).

What is the Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership & TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan?

The Burnt Bridge Creek watershed is on Washington State's polluted waters list (303d list) for warm water temperatures, bacteria, dissolved oxygen, and pH pollution problems, which drives the need to develop a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) study for the watershed. Ecology has chosen to develop a TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan for the watershed in advance of a TMDL, with the goal to identify best management practices (BMPs) that need to be implemented to improve water quality in the creek.

To support development of the Alternative Restoration Plan, the [Burnt Bridge Creek Source Assessment Report](#) was published to identify critical areas for water quality improvement and determine how much pollution needs to be reduced to meet water quality standards. The Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership kicked off in February 2021 to develop the TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan, which is focused on implementation. The agenda, presentations, and [meeting summary](#) from the February 2021 kickoff meeting are available online.

Burnt Bridge Creek Implementation Workgroups

After the kickoff meeting, Ecology worked with the City of Vancouver to establish implementation workgroups to discuss different implementation priorities in the watershed. The workgroups included [Sewer Connection and Septic Systems](#), [Urban Forestry and Greenways](#), [Stormwater and Capital Improvements](#), [Operations and Maintenance](#), and [Public Education and Outreach](#). These workgroups met in April and May of 2021. Meeting summaries were sent to each of the workgroups for review. Ecology is currently incorporating comments and feedback from City of Vancouver staff into the final meeting summaries, which will ultimately become chapters in the Burnt Bridge Creek TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan.

Where are we headed?

The Burnt Bridge Creek TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan needs to achieve the Environmental Protection Agencies "8 elements" for TMDL Alternatives. These include identifying impaired waters and analyzing the pollution reductions needed to achieve water quality standards. These two elements were achieved with the publication of the Burnt Bridge Creek Source Assessment. Next steps include finalizing the implementation plan, which explains how to address pollution sources. This implementation plan must include milestones, targets, and timelines for implementation, as well as criteria to measure progress. Additionally, cost estimates for implementation will be developed, including a funding strategy to support implementation. Furthermore, Ecology will work with Vancouver to develop a monitoring plan to evaluate effectiveness of implementation, as well as, an adaptive management process.

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Timeline

The goal is to complete an internal draft of the full Burnt Bridge Creek TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan by January 2022. To achieve this goal, the Burnt Bridge Creek Implementation Workgroups will reconvene in fall of 2021 to provide input on elements of the plan that still need to be developed. Additionally, an external partnership meeting to engage additional stakeholders with jurisdiction and involvement in the watershed will be held before the end of the year. A public webinar will be hosted before the plan is finalized.

Next steps

The [Burnt Bridge Creek Partnership](#) webpage was created to provide updates throughout the planning process. The webpage will be updated regularly with all meeting agendas, presentations, and meeting summaries.

The Department of Ecology will work with the City of Vancouver through the end of 2021 to gather information relevant to the TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan. Other jurisdictions that will be engaged through this process are Clark County and Washington Department of Transportation. The goal is to publish a final Burnt Bridge Creek TMDL Alternative Restoration Plan by the end of 2022.

If you have questions regarding the project, please contact [Devan Rostorfer](#), Water Quality Specialist and TMDL Lead with the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Devan Rostorfer - Water Quality Implementation Specialist - TMDL Lead

Washington State Department of Ecology | Southwest Regional Office | Water Quality Program
Vancouver Field Office - 12121 NE 99TH Street, Suite 2100, Vancouver, WA. 98682

Mobile: 360-409-6693 | **Email:** devan.rostorfer@ecy.wa.gov

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