

Puyallup River Watershed Partnership

Quarterly Data Sharing Meeting

January 10, 2022 from 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.



Molly Gleason, Ecology

- See [Ecology October-December Quarterly Update](#)

Cameron Chapman, King County Stormwater Services:

- This is the start of monitoring the stormwater systems during the wet season and attempt to detect failing septic systems.
- King County is working to build a dataset in the Second Creek subwatershed in addition to Ecology's monitoring dataset. Cameron brought up concerns of collecting representative sites at several Second Creek sites. He has observed stratification of deep ditches, backflow and low conditions that might cause sampling of sediment (particularly at the upstream Second Creek site Second_I6). He also expressed concern about the difference in Ecology and King County bacteria results, which may be from difference in methods or judgement of site conditions.
- **Molly Gleason:** Ecology agrees with King County's assessment of Second Creek site conditions and of the difficulty of finding appropriate sampling locations in this subwatershed. Both partners' efforts have shown it is not possible to sample a full wet season at several locations due to poor conditions. For example, Ecology only sampled for 1 ½ months at an upstream site (Second_I6) in 2020 due to the concern of not being able to collect representative samples. These sites were established by Ecology not as full-season monitoring locations, but as implementation sites to attempt to target discharges that are periodically flowing.
 - Ecology staff have documented in field notes the conditions noted by King County in Second and Pussyfoot Creek subwatersheds (i.e. stratification of deep ditches, backflow, ponding). Staff have used best judgement to choose to not sample under those conditions and have verified there is one-directional flow and deep enough surfacewater levels to collect representative samples.
 - The purpose of the Effectiveness Monitoring study is to depict the average conditions of the subwatershed. Sampling is scheduled in advance rather than planned to target storm events. This may explain for the difference between the study's bacteria results and targeted runoff sampling.
- **Michael Isensee:** Whatcom CD did work on creating a eDNA data library with Exact Scientific in Ferndale, WA
https://www.whatcomcd.org/sites/default/files/research/WSCC_DNAProject_FinalReport_071119_FINAL_Posted.pdf
- **Jeanne Dorn/ Cameron Chapman:** Whatcom County used next generation whole genome analyses, which is more involved than qPCR alone; King County has ran tests with Exact Scientific at Ferndale and generally not found usefulness from this genome analysis procedure as of yet but may in the future.

Darren Chromey, City of Enumclaw:

- Darren shared a video of runoff of properties that borders Warner Ave. His video displayed more runoff flowing to the City's stormwater system than has been previously documented. Darren confirmed that Boise Creek to the south of the properties was not flowing over the bank and contributing to this runoff.
- Darren posed the question of "what can be done to mitigate the problems associated with these large runoff events?"
- One solution is to encourage property owners to bring cattle inside "several days" or some estimated time before large rain events. There could be a communal property to jointly house cattle from different properties (**Michael Isensee**). There may be issues with biosecurity and cost.
- **Rick Reinlasoder:** There is an economic impact (i.e. cost of barn/covered area) associated with this solution. For example, permitting for the construction of a small barn could be expensive and may exceed \$2000.
- **Lauren Redmond:** There is also an emotional aspect about using utilizing HUAs during the wet season. Property owners and cooperators feel their animals need to be out and about to thrive.