



DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

2026 Supplemental Operating Budget

Washington State Department of Ecology
Olympia, Washington

September 11, 2025

ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6985 or email at chrystal.witham@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website for more information.

Department of Ecology's Regional Offices

Map of Counties Served



Southwest Region
360-407-6300

Northwest Region
206-594-0000

Central Region
509-575-2490

Eastern Region
509-329-3400

Region	Counties served	Mailing Address	Phone
Southwest	Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum	P.O. Box 47775 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6300
Northwest	Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom	P.O. Box 330316 Shoreline, WA 98133	206-594-0000
Central	Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima	1250 West Alder Street Union Gap, WA 98903	509-575-2490
Eastern	Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman	4601 North Monroe Spokane, WA 99205	509-329-3400
Headquarters	Statewide	P.O. Box 46700 Olympia, WA 98504	360-407-6000

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

September 11, 2025

TO: K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management

FROM: Casey D. Sixkiller, Director 

SUBJECT: Ecology's 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget Request

As the state's lead environmental agency, Ecology's mission is to protect and preserve the environment for current and future generations, while valuing and supporting Washington's economic success. We're tackling challenges that are unique to our times and require us to take a broad and holistic approach to our work that focuses on not only *what* we do, but also *how* we do it.

Ecology's strategic goals are to:

1. Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees.
2. Reduce and prepare for climate change impacts.
3. Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.
4. Protect and manage our state's waters.

Our agency's deep commitment to environmental justice is tied to each of our strategic goals and guides the way we work to accomplish those goals.

Attached is Ecology's \$1.66 million 2026 supplemental operating budget request. It recognizes the challenges of the state's current budget situation and continuing uncertainty around federal funding. Our request includes just two official decision packages needed to:

- Ensure Ecology can effectively support the audit and accreditation requirements of environmental and drinking water laboratories that operate in or do business with the state of Washington.
- Fully fund new positions that were created through the 2025-27 operating budget but did not include appropriation authority to support their general wage and/or targeted job class increases.

Proposed Federal Funding Reductions and Other Changes Impacting Environmental Protection

The President's budget recommendations for federal fiscal year (FFY) 2026, which were released on May 2, 2025, would result in severe reductions to, or the complete elimination of, core federal funding programs that Ecology and our partners across the state rely on each year to provide environmental protection and public health resources. At this time, it is still unclear what U.S. Congress will fund in their final budgets for FFY 2026. If those enacted budgets include

significant reductions to our core federal funding, Ecology will need to submit a decision package requesting backfill funding for a priority set of these lost resources.

Ecology recognizes the demand to backfill federal funding losses across our state may be very high and that there is very limited state funding available to support those needs. Therefore, we are taking a thoughtful and strategic approach to analyzing our federally funded activities and will plan to seek backfill funds for only those programs and functions that are critical to our state and support the environmental and public health work done by our agency and partners.

With the support from our OFM Budget Advisors, Ecology is working to finalize a decision package for submittal prior to November 1, 2025. This will provide additional time for us to monitor the developing congressional budgets for FFY 2026. Once Congress makes a decision, we can quickly assess our programs' shortfalls and determine which to prioritize in our state budget request.

Thank you for considering Ecology's 2026 supplemental operating budget request. We will work with our assigned OFM operating budget advisors as they review this request in detail. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Attachment

Distribution to:

Carrie Session, Governmental Affairs Director, Department of Ecology
Dan Jones, Fiscal Analyst, House Appropriations/Natural Resources Committee
Dawn Eychaner, Senior Fiscal Analyst, House Capital Budget Committee
Debbie Driver, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
Garret Ward, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Ecology
Jed Herman, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Jennifer Masterson, Senior Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Jim Cahill, Senior Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Kate Brouns, Senior Policy Advisor, Climate/Energy, Office of the Governor
Kenneth Martin, Deputy Policy Director, Environment, Transportation & Infrastructure, Office of the Governor
Lisa Borkowski, Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Matthew Hunter, Senior Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Owen Rowe, Senior Policy Advisor, Natural Resources, Office of the Governor
Robyn Williams, Budget Director, OFM
Shelly Willhoite, Capital Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Sheri Sawyer, Legislative Liaison, Legal and Legislative Affairs, OFM
Wendy Brown, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Senate Ways & Means Committee



**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab A	Agency Overview.....	9
	1. Executive Management Organization Chart.....	11
	2. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan	13
	3. Agency Activity Inventory Report	39
	4. Performance Measure Incremental Estimates Report	51
	5. Activity Inventory – Indirect Cost Allocation 2026 Supplemental.....	53
Tab B	Recommendation Summary.....	55
	1. Recommendation Summary 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget	57
Tab C	Decision Packages	59
	1. Ecology 2026 Operating Budget Request Summary.....	61
	2. OFM Decision Package Summary Report	63
	3. Decision Package Prioritization.....	65
Tab C-1	Maintenance Level	67
	1. ML MC Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	69
	2. Other Planned OFM Adjustments	77
Tab C-2	Prevent and Reduce Toxic Threats and Pollution	81
	1. PL PB Laboratory Accreditation.....	83
Tab D	Other Reports.....	101
	1. 2026 Supplemental Summarized Revenues by Account and Source	103
	2. 2026 Supplemental Proposed Fee Changes.....	105

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

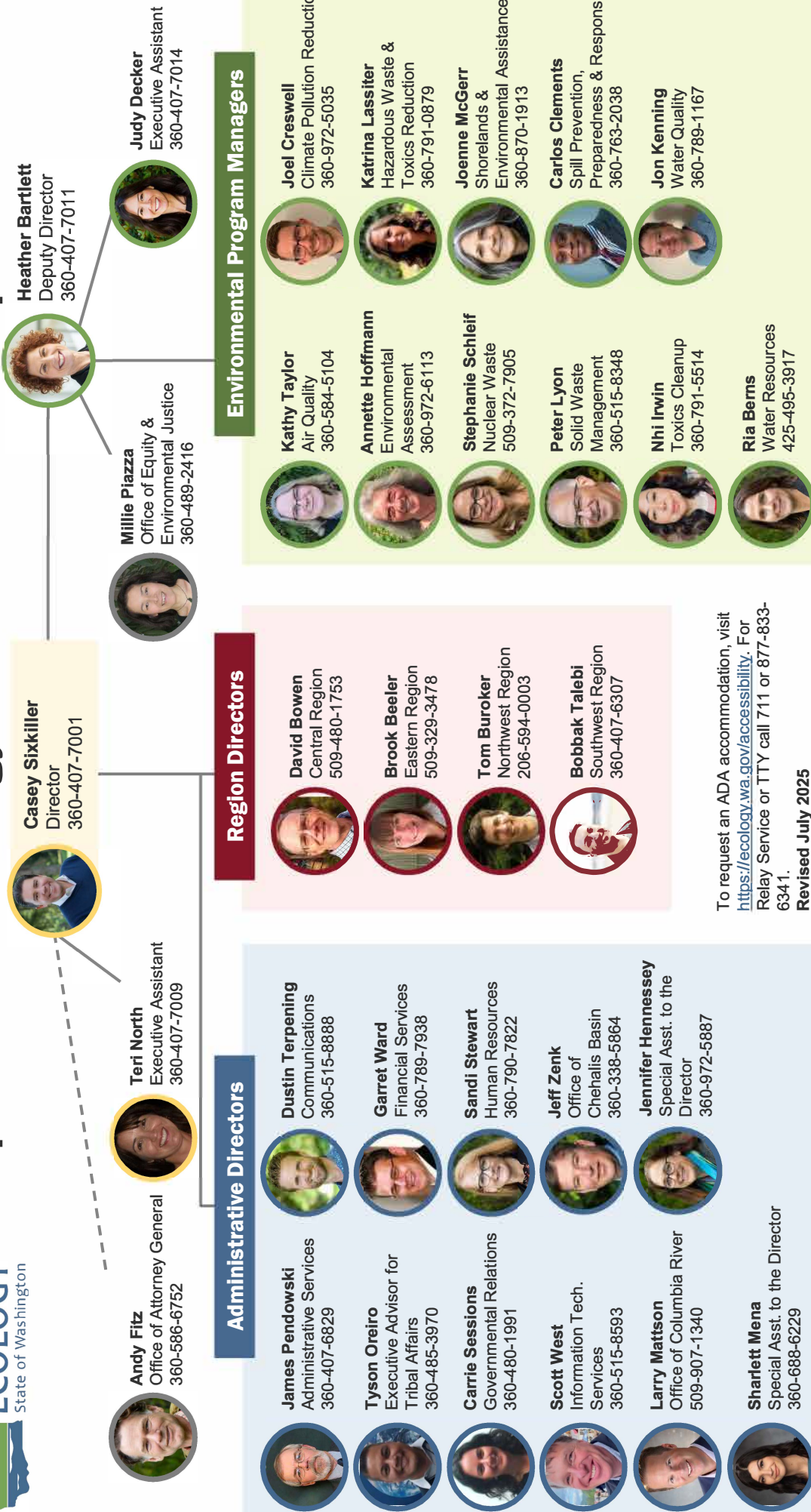
**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab A	Agency Overview.....	9
	1. Executive Management Organization Chart.....	11
	2. 2025-2030 Strategic Plan	13
	3. Agency Activity Inventory Report	39
	4. Performance Measure Incremental Estimates Report	51
	5. Activity Inventory – Indirect Cost Allocation 2026 Supplemental.....	53

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

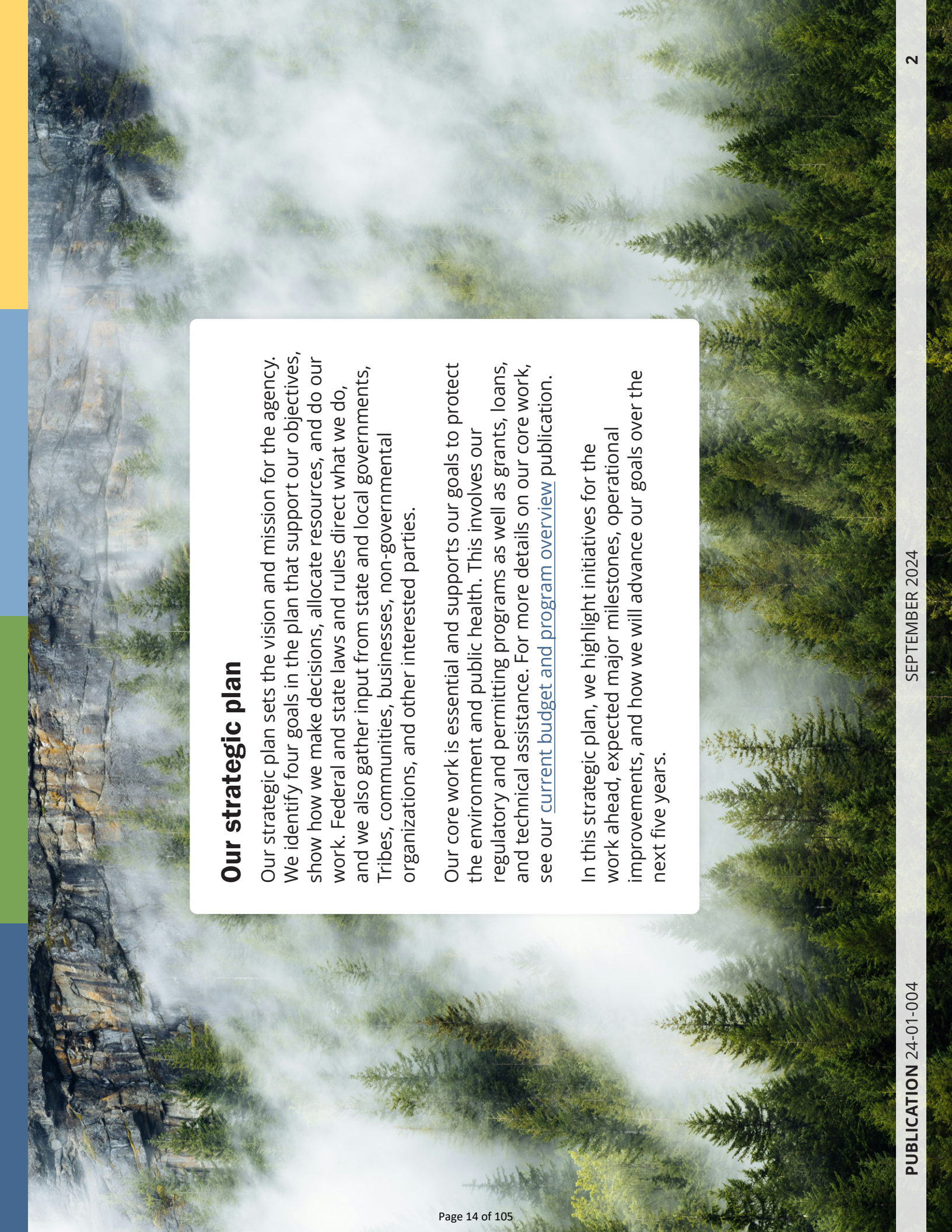
Department of Ecology: Executive Leadership



To request an ADA accommodation, visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.
Revised July 2025

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

2025–2030 Strategic Plan



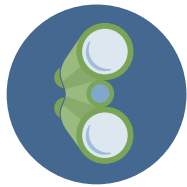
Our strategic plan

Our strategic plan sets the vision and mission for the agency. We identify four goals in the plan that support our objectives, show how we make decisions, allocate resources, and do our work. Federal and state laws and rules direct what we do, and we also gather input from state and local governments, Tribes, communities, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties.

Our core work is essential and supports our goals to protect the environment and public health. This involves our regulatory and permitting programs as well as grants, loans, and technical assistance. For more details on our core work, see our [current budget and program overview](#) publication.

In this strategic plan, we highlight initiatives for the work ahead, expected major milestones, operational improvements, and how we will advance our goals over the next five years.

Vision



Our partnerships protect and sustain healthy land, air, water, and climate in harmony with a strong economy.

Mission



To protect, preserve, and enhance Washington's environment for current and future generations.

Goals



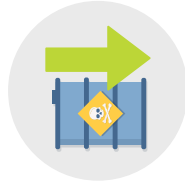
Goal 1

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees



Goal 2

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts



Goal 3

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution



Goal 4

Protect and manage our state's waters

Values



These are the values we bring to accomplish our vision and mission:

- Adaptability and flexibility
- Clear communication and plain language
- Defensible and transparent decision-making
- Diversity, belonging, and inclusion
- Kindness and respect
- Knowledge, creativity, strategic thinking
- Performance and accountability
- Public service focus
- Support for employee health and well-being
- Teamwork
- Trust and integrity
- Working safely

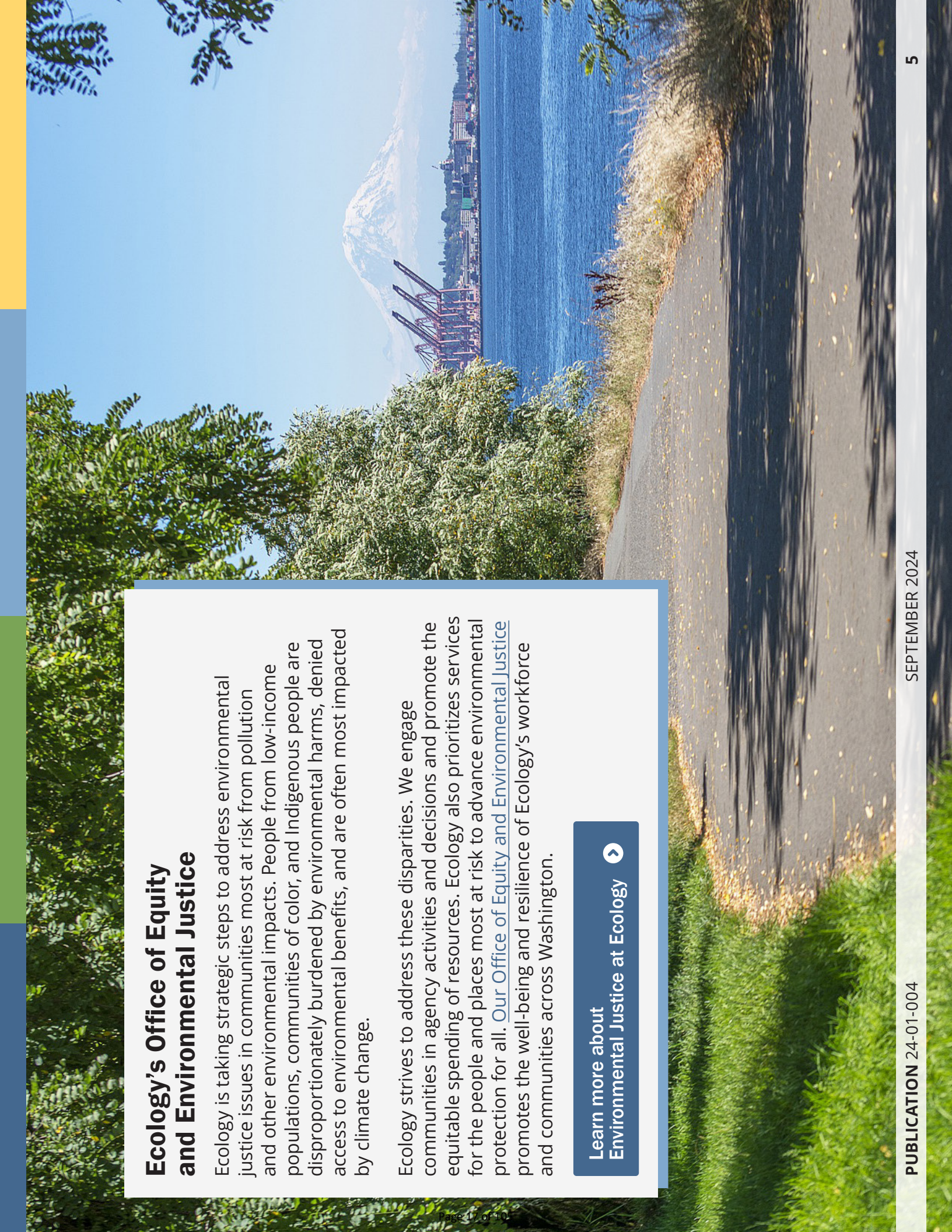
Goal 1

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

Goal 1 guides our policies, programs, workplace, relationships, and interactions to implement our vision and mission. Our leadership commits to creating a culture where we respect and include our workforce and those affected by our work. At Ecology, we:

- Infuse equity in our policies, initiatives, processes, and activities to address environmental and health disparities and create a healthy environment for all.
- Strive to provide equitable access to all who use our services, which includes providing pathways for those with limited English proficiency or disabilities to access our information, programs, and services.
- Foster a diverse, responsive, and welcoming workforce.
- Implement a clear and collaborative Tribal engagement and consultation framework to ensure we uphold the Government-to-Government relationship and promote consistency in how we invite consultation and meaningful engagement with Tribes.
- Engage with diverse parties, including government entities, communities, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses.
- Listen and learn from our employees, Tribes, interested parties, communities and regulated entities while we apply continuous improvement principles to our processes, outreach, and services.
- Promote access to and effectively manage public funds while leveraging diverse funding sources that benefit the environment and public health.
- Stay current and update rules and programs to reflect legal requirements, new science, and best practices.





Ecology's Office of Equity and Environmental Justice

Ecology is taking strategic steps to address environmental justice issues in communities most at risk from pollution and other environmental impacts. People from low-income populations, communities of color, and Indigenous people are disproportionately burdened by environmental harms, denied access to environmental benefits, and are often most impacted by climate change.

Ecology strives to address these disparities. We engage communities in agency activities and decisions and promote the equitable spending of resources. Ecology also prioritizes services for the people and places most at risk to advance environmental protection for all. [Our Office of Equity and Environmental Justice](#) promotes the well-being and resilience of Ecology's workforce and communities across Washington.

Learn more about
Environmental Justice at Ecology





Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

► 1.1 Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services.

Initiatives:

- A. Implement environmental justice goals and initiatives to reduce environmental and health disparities and advance environmental justice in our programs.
- B. Implement Ecology's Community Engagement Plan, leveraging our internal engagement network to coordinate and promote the guidance and best practices in the plan.
- C. Strengthen Ecology's language access practices through policy, guidance, training, technical assistance, and performance measures.
- D. Enhance our Tribal outreach, engagement, and consultation by implementing an updated Tribal engagement and consultation framework.
- E. Assess user experience with our website to understand how customers use it and use that data to update its design.
- F. Implement a process for community members and organizations to submit environmentally beneficial project ideas for Ecology's review and approval. Individuals or businesses that we take enforcement actions on can then propose to implement these ideas as part of an enforcement settlement.



Engagement at Ecology

Ecology continues to build upon its long-standing commitment to uphold the Government-to-Government relationship with federally recognized Tribes and engage with Washington's diverse public. With fresh momentum provided by the [HEAL Act](#) (Chapter 70A.02 RCW), we are taking action to center equity and environmental justice in our community engagement and enhance how we engage and consult with Tribes. To support this work, Ecology created several new positions in our Office of Equity and Environmental Justice that focus on equitable language access and community engagement across Ecology's programs. This will help us reduce access barriers, facilitate equitable opportunities for engagement, and strengthen our relationships with Tribes and communities.



Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

► 1.2 Improve recruiting, hiring, and retention practices and employee satisfaction to support a diverse, knowledgeable, inclusive, and skilled workforce.

Initiatives:

- | | |
|--|---|
| A. Develop and implement Ecology's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect (DEIR) Strategic Plan based on feedback and results from our previous assessment and employee feedback. | E. Develop and communicate employee development pathways that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developmental assignments.• Mentorship programs.• Training opportunities.• Technical, critical, and scientific knowledge transfer approaches. |
| B. Improve the hiring process to mitigate bias, build job seeker resources, increase employee and applicant understanding of the recruitment process, and reduce barriers to applying, interviewing, and getting hired. | F. Increase employees' understanding of the required training timelines through automated workflows, consistent branding and marketing, and employee dashboards. |
| C. Improve the employee onboarding experience by collaborating and partnering with employees, implementing improved business processes, and ensuring new employees and hiring managers have the information and resources they need. | G. Design and implement standardized and streamlined Human Resources business processes, leveraging opportunities for digital routing, approval and records management. |
| D. Develop and implement employee engagement and retention strategies based on insights gained through our DEIR Dashboard, Employee Engagement Survey, DEIR Organizational Assessment, and employee surveys. | |



Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

► 1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability.

Initiatives:

- A. Examine and advance equitable access to and distribute funding through grants, loans, vouchers, contracts, and other expenditure mechanisms.
- B. Conduct annual comprehensive Safety and Health Performance Assessments (SHPAs) at our facilities to identify and mitigate potential hazards.
- C. Implement our Ecology Data Strategy, adopt updated technologies, and transition to electronic workflows to enhance our operational efficiency, ensure data accuracy, and promote sustainability.
- D. Modernize our enforcement tracking database to improve its efficiency, track actions more clearly, and advance our data analytics.
- E. Fully support implementing One Washington (OneWA; a new statewide financial system). This includes increasing staff support to manage organizational change, training staff, and more complex and custom development of Ecology's financial and human resource systems.
- F. Implement our Enterprise Content Management system (ECM) using automated workflows and standardized electronic systems to manage records and data.
- G. Improve agency quality assurance guidance, transparency, and consistency that aligns with federal guidance.

Ecology's approach to budget equity

We are integrating environmental justice and community engagement into decision processes related to budget development, contracts, grant and loan funding programs, and other expenditures. This includes:

- Evaluating program activities and expenditures for service equity and funding distribution gaps.
- Incorporating environmental justice considerations into grant scoring criteria.
- Advancing opportunities to direct program resources to areas and communities most in need.

We also set the goal to direct 40% of grants and expenditures to create environmental benefits for vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.



Goal 2

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

Ecology prepares for the future by understanding, planning for, and reducing the effects of climate change on our communities, environment, and economy. We prioritize reducing greenhouse gas emissions with the long-term goal of eliminating use of fossil fuels and achieving our legal requirement to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. We also focus on addressing climate change impacts including wildfire, drought, flooding, increased temperatures and ocean acidification. We prevent and remediate negative effects of climate change while supporting a strong and clean economy, with an emphasis on addressing environmental and health disparities for vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.



Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

2.1 Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits.

Initiatives:

- | | |
|--|--|
| A. Implement Washington's Cap-and-Invest Program and pursue linking with the joint California and Québec carbon market. | G. Operate the Washington Center for Sustainable Food Management and implement the Use Food Well Washington Plan to prevent wasted food, get useable food to those in need, then safely manage and recycle what remains to reduce food waste by 50% before 2030. |
| B. Implement the Clean Fuel Standard and continue to grow a market to decrease the carbon intensity of Washington's transportation fuels. | H. To support our work to lower or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, we will: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve our greenhouse gas emissions inventory to reduce our data collection time.• Catalogue an expanded set of emissions such as high-emission facilities, waste recovery, consumption-based emissions, and short-lived climate pollutants.• Develop additional greenhouse gas emission reduction policies, programs and technical assistance.• Develop solutions that restore and enhance natural processes to reduce emissions. |
| C. Transition the state away from using restricted hydrofluorocarbons , which are potent greenhouse gases. | I. Expand our clean-energy coordination and development in the State. This includes providing technical assistance to explore or incentivize developing brownfields for clean energy projects. |
| D. Reduce transportation emissions through the Clean Vehicles Program and conduct outreach, develop policy, and further implement the state Transportation Electrification Strategy . | |
| E. Reduce Ecology's greenhouse gas emissions through our agency's electric vehicle strategy, implementing building and field operations efficiencies and looking for opportunities for clean-energy options in our operations. | |
| F. Support diverse methods for managing organic wastes and using compost to reduce organic materials put in landfills and the methane emissions it causes. | |



Goal 2 Objectives

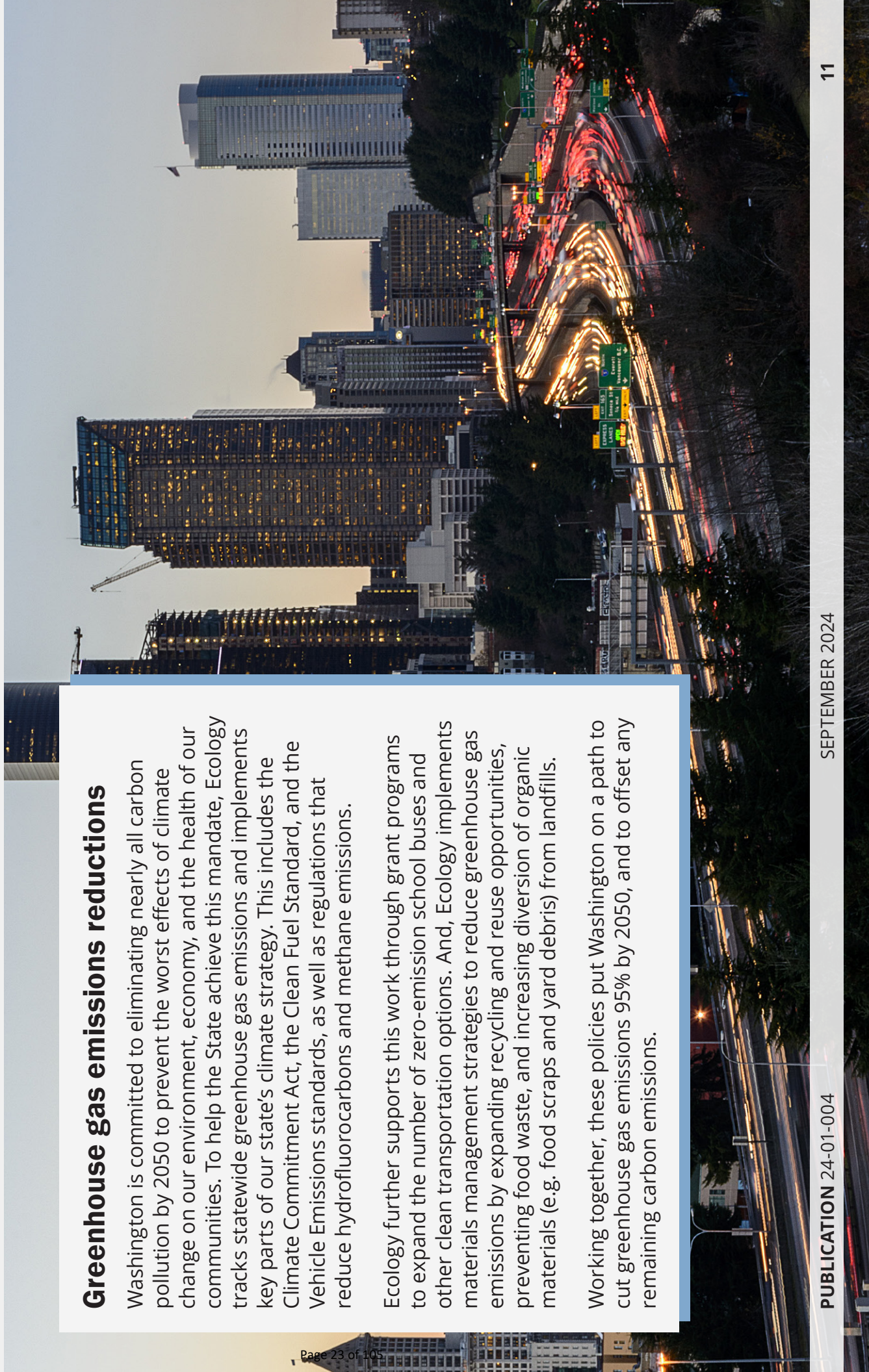
Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

Greenhouse gas emissions reductions

Washington is committed to eliminating nearly all carbon pollution by 2050 to prevent the worst effects of climate change on our environment, economy, and the health of our communities. To help the State achieve this mandate, Ecology tracks statewide greenhouse gas emissions and implements key parts of our state's climate strategy. This includes the Climate Commitment Act, the Clean Fuel Standard, and the Vehicle Emissions standards, as well as regulations that reduce hydrofluorocarbons and methane emissions.

Ecology further supports this work through grant programs to expand the number of zero-emission school buses and other clean transportation options. And, Ecology implements materials management strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by expanding recycling and reuse opportunities, preventing food waste, and increasing diversion of organic materials (e.g. food scraps and yard debris) from landfills.

Working together, these policies put Washington on a path to cut greenhouse gas emissions 95% by 2050, and to offset any remaining carbon emissions.





Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

- 2.2 Increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change through planning, response, recovery, and adaptation efforts.

Initiatives:

- A. Fulfill Ecology's commitments identified in the Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy and lead ongoing implementation and governance.*
- B. Evaluate and adapt our guidance, policies, plans, authorities, and modeling to incorporate consideration of current and expected future impacts of climate change into our work. Incorporate and clarify the processes and guidance for Tribes and underserved communities so they can be collaborators in this work and help the state avoid further inequities.*
- C. Address sea level rise impacts, riparian habitat restoration and protection, and increased storm severity by updating the state Shoreline Master Program (SMP) rules and guidance and implementing Ecology's Puget Sound Armoring Strategic Plan*
- D. In response to decreasing snowpack and low stream flow, conduct research to learn more about mitigation actions, identify supporting actions to improve water security, and develop water storage and supply solutions in Central and Eastern Washington watersheds.*
- E. Protect against flood damage, for example in the Chehalis River basin and Puget Sound region, by identifying areas of potential improvement. We will provide underserved populations with resources to better protect themselves and their property, and support the adoption of improved local ordinances and practices.*
- F. Prepare a white paper to support our economic forecasting analyses about the cost estimates of climate change impacts over time.
- G. Expand stream gauge monitoring to support water quality improvement projects and inform water availability in the face of climate change impacts.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy



Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy

Implement the updated state's Climate Resilience Strategy, in partnership with nine other agencies. State agencies are focusing on what they can do to better prepare communities, infrastructure, and natural and working lands across the state for the impacts of climate change. The strategy highlights what state agencies are already doing to build climate resilience and identifies new actions to further reduce harmful impacts of climate change. We will report our progress every two years and oversee updates to the strategy every four years.

We use ^{*} to indicate initiatives in our agency strategic plan that relate to Ecology-led actions included in the Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy.

[View the strategy to learn more >](#)





Goal 3

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

Our consumer product and producer-responsibility programs address toxic chemicals and pollution during product design, manufacturing, recycling or waste management. We aim to reduce toxic chemical use and waste generation through regulation, technical assistance, and incentives. Our regulatory policies reduce air, land, and water pollution, and provide vital information to communities and first responders about local toxic risks. Our compliance and cleanup programs hold polluters accountable, reduce risks, and support safely remediating or removing contamination from spills, toxic chemicals, or waste materials released into the environment.





Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

▶ 3.1 Reduce or prevent the use or release of toxic chemicals in products and business processes.

Initiatives:

- A. Implement consumer product laws, such as Safer Products for Washington and the Toxics Free Cosmetics Act, to evaluate chemical hazards, conduct rulemaking to establish restrictions or other requirements, support small businesses and disproportionately impacted communities, and establish compliance approaches.
- B. Address toxics in tires by developing an ongoing management strategy for 6PPD and 6PPD-quinone. This includes:
 - Identifying effective stormwater treatments for 6PPD-quinone,
 - Identifying safer alternatives to 6PPD,
 - Monitoring the environment for 6PPD-quinone, and
 - Developing 6PPD-quinone laboratory methods for water, sediment, and fish tissue.



Toxics Free Cosmetics Act implementation

Many chemicals in cosmetic products are linked to harmful impacts on human health, such as cancer, hormone disruption, and negative impacts on reproductive and developmental health. The highest exposure happens when an individual uses a product that contains toxic chemicals.

These chemicals also cause widespread impacts to the environment and public health throughout the product life cycle, such as when they get washed down the drain or thrown in the trash and then enter the environment. This causes further impacts to human health and wildlife.

The Toxics Free Cosmetics Act (TFCA) improves cosmetic and personal care product safety and protects people and the environment from toxic chemicals. TFCA restricts the manufacture, distribution, and sale of [cosmetic products that contain certain toxic chemicals](#) within Washington. To implement this law, we are:

- [Evaluating the hazards of chemicals](#) that may be safer alternatives to restricted chemicals.
- Providing [technical support to small businesses](#) that make or use cosmetic products.
- Adopting a rule to restrict chemicals that release formaldehyde from being used in cosmetics.

Learn more about TFCA >



Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution



3.2 Decrease waste generation and inefficient use of materials.

Initiatives:

- A. Improve the recycling system by promoting recycling markets, supporting research and policy advancements, conducting outreach, and implementing recycled content and single-use plastics requirements.
- B. Finalize a compost air emissions study and apply state-specific emission factors in our Air Quality Notice of Construction permit decision-making process.
- C. Advance and implement producer responsibility policies to address complex waste streams, improve recycling, reduce waste, and shift financial burdens from ratepayers and local governments to producers.
- D. Promote and offer technical assistance and incentives to help businesses reduce waste.

Recycling Market Development Center

The [Recycling Market Development Center](#) (RMDC) was created in 2019 in response to export restrictions on Washington's recyclables, which distressed state and local recycling programs. As a partnership between Ecology and Washington State Department of Commerce, the RMDC's mission is to strengthen recycling markets and processing in the state and help Washington achieve recycling's positive impacts on the economy and environment.

The RMDC holds discussions, conducts research, and provides business and technical assistance. It also supports the [NextCycle Washington](#) program, which provides hands-on-training and technical support to recycling and reuse innovators. In the first round of projects, the 14 teams of NextCycle Washington innovators diverted four million pounds of material from the landfill, created 70 jobs, and raised over \$13 million in investments.

Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination.

Initiatives:

- A. Expand air monitoring, analyze trends, and support communities to reduce air pollution. This includes supporting the transition to zero emission school buses and infrastructure.*
- B. Identify and implement approaches to address PFAS contamination in water supplies, biosolids, cleanup sites, landfills, and the environment.
- C. Pursue federal funding to secure compliant United States Department of Energy budgets that support Hanford Site cleanup activities. This includes tank waste treatment, groundwater, soil remediation, and facility cleanup.
- D. Reduce litter through diverse partnerships, behavior change strategies, and pickup programs.
- E. Assess and prioritize contaminated sites using the new Site Hazard Assessment Ranking Process (SHARP) to help with site cleanup.
- F. Evaluate our Dangerous Waste regulatory compliance and enforcement process and identify recommendations to make the process more efficient.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy



- G. Assess historical leaking underground storage tank sites and address environmental contamination.
- H. Inspect underground storage tanks every three years to reduce leaks.
- I. Implement the new Hanford Holistic Negotiations agreement between Ecology, U. S. Department of Energy, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency including retrieval of waste from aging underground storage tanks and startup of tank waste treatment.
- J. Support and encourage the safe transition to low and zero-carbon maritime fuels by taking steps to align our regulations with federal requirements for transferring liquid hazardous substances to and from vessels.

Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

Protecting public and environmental health from “forever chemicals” in Washington

A large group of manufactured “forever chemicals” are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances — also known as PFAS. Many industrial applications use PFAS because of the helpful functions these chemicals can provide. However, they can build up in organisms and be transferred to others in the food chain. Their toxicity persists in the environment for long periods of time.

For example, PFAS are common in firefighting gear and foam, nonstick cookware, carpets, food packaging, clothing, cosmetics, and other consumer products because of their ability to resist oil, grease, and water. Because of widespread use, PFAS have been detected in many parts of our environment and communities, including in surface waters, groundwater, wastewater treatment plant effluent, compost, and freshwater and marine sediments. PFAS have contaminated drinking water supplies in Washington, notably in areas where firefighting foam was repeatedly applied.

With continued exposure, the level of these chemicals builds up over time in our bodies, our food, and in wildlife. PFAS exposure in humans can increase cholesterol levels, reduce birth weight, reduce immune antibody response, and increase some cancer rates. We are addressing PFAS contamination in Washington in several ways. This includes restricting its use in consumer products, monitoring and sampling areas to know where it is, updating permits to reflect new water quality and dangerous waste criteria and best practices, and conducting cleanup efforts.

[Learn more about PFAS](#)





Goal 4

Protect and manage our state's waters

Climate change and our state's growing population present increasing challenges in water quantity, quality, and access. We promote climate resiliency and ensure high-quality water resources for people, aquatic species, and ecological systems. We conduct research, gather and assess data, and make investments to restore, protect, and enhance our state's waters now and for future generations.



Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

4.1 Increase and preserve access to water for fish, wildlife, and municipal, domestic, and agricultural needs.

Initiatives:

- A. Reduce the time it takes to process water right applications so that people and businesses get more timely answers, and we better protect the environment.
- B. Increase water availability in the Columbia River Basin for municipal, domestic, and agricultural purposes and promote water exchanges, improved efficiencies, and alternative water supplies.*
- C. Expand how reclaimed water can be used to encourage water reuse, increase water availability, and adapt to a changing climate.*
- D. Initiate improvements to how we manage water resources data and increase data transparency. This includes linking water rights and water use data and improving our public mapping tools.
- E. Legally decide who has water rights (through adjudication) in Water Resource Inventory Area 1, the Nooksack Watershed. This will provide certainty and support the economy and natural environment.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy

Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

4.2 Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters.

Initiatives:

- A. Implement the [Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Project](#) to reduce nitrogen loading in Puget Sound, improve dissolved oxygen, and meet water quality standards.*
- B. Identify waters, biannually, that do not meet water quality standards and support the cleanup and restoration of degraded waters.
- C. Implement a [Certificate of Financial Responsibility](#) program to make sure companies in Washington have the financial ability to pay for their worst-case oil spill scenario.
- D. Coordinate across agencies to address harmful algae blooms.*
- E. Provide local communities with technical assistance and financial support to implement municipal, industrial, and stormwater permits so they can reduce or eliminate pollutants including PFAS and 6PPD-quinone, from wastewater and stormwater runoff.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy



Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

Saving Washington's salmon from toxic tire dust

6PPD is a chemical used in tires to prevent cracking and blowouts. When this chemical reacts with ozone, it transforms into 6PPD-quinone — also known as 6PPDQ. As traffic passes on roads, tire wear particles containing 6PPD and 6PPDQ travel through air and stormwater runoff and enter rivers, creeks, streams, and the Puget Sound. Lethal to coho salmon and some trout species, 6PPDQ kills the fish at such low concentrations that it is considered one of the most toxic chemicals to aquatic life.

Given the complexity and severity of potential impacts, we will address this issue with short- and long-term approaches. This includes:

- Looking for safer alternatives to 6PPD in tires.
- Evaluating new and existing stormwater solutions to prevent 6PPDQ from getting into our water.
- Planning studies and developing monitoring methods to better detect 6PPDQ in the environment.
- Evaluating tire recycling, management, storage, and disposal practices and recycled tire products as a potential source of 6PPDQ contamination.

[Learn more about 6PPD](#)



Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

► 4.3 Improve floodplains, wetlands, watersheds, streamflow, and riparian habitats.

Initiatives:

- A. We will establish a new permitting process to allow landowners and developers to work or build within state waters, including wetlands. This includes mitigating impacts to wetlands and ensuring best management practices are used for other waters.
- B. Support projects that improve riparian management and fish habitat and build community resilience by providing technical and financial assistance to:
 - Remove fish barriers.
 - Accelerate water quality clean-up plans.
 - Improve stream conditions.
 - Reduce hard bank stabilization practices.
 - Support salmon recovery.
 - Update flood and risk maps.*
- C. Continue implementing the [Chehalis Basin Strategy](#) by working with local governments, Tribes, private landowners, and other interested parties to reduce flood-related damage and bolster aquatic species restoration in the Chehalis River basin.*
- D. Fund easements and property acquisitions to benefit aquatic species, protect working lands, and reduce flood damage.*
- E. Increase metering and watermaster staffing to actively manage water use, improve resilience to climate change impacts, and ensure water rights holders are complying with state laws.*

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy



Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

Protecting state waters no longer under federal protection

There are about 930,000 acres of wetlands in Washington. Wetlands include swamps, marshes, and bogs, and may be prone to seasonal drying and refilling. Wetlands are crucial for absorbing floods, controlling erosion, filtering pollutants, and providing habitat for wildlife.

A 2023 U.S. Supreme Court ruling significantly narrowed federal protection for wetlands and streams across the nation. While about half of Washington's wetlands no longer receive federal protection, we still protect all wetlands under state law. We will establish a new permitting process to allow landowners and developers to work or build within state waters, including wetlands. This includes mitigating impacts to wetlands and ensuring best management practices are used for other waters. Once we complete rulemaking, the permit process will contain better options for landowners and developers to make small impacts and possibly exclude certain activities with minimal impacts.



ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Visit [Ecology's website](#) for more information.



Department of Ecology

2026 Supplemental Agency Activity Inventory Descriptions

September 1, 2025

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A002	Administration	The administration activity supports agency functions by providing leadership, cross-program support, and staff presence throughout the state. Administration manages the agency's long-term financial health and provides information to support sound decision-making and resource management by managers. Communication, education, and outreach tools play a major role in protecting and improving the environment. Administration staff serve as liaisons to Congress, the state Legislature, local governments, businesses, Indian tribes, and environmental and citizen groups. Administration helps managers and employees create a safe, supportive, and diverse work environment by providing comprehensive human resource services. It also oversees information management (desktop and network services, application development, and data administration) and facility and vehicle management; maintains the agency's centralized records and library resources; responds to public records requests; and provides mail services.
A003	Implementing Integrated Solutions to Protect Instream Resources	Ecology staff seeks to meet increasing water demands from population growth, while protecting limited instream resources and adapting to climate change. Actions include: • Instream flow rules - Work with local stakeholders to implement and update, as needed, instream flow rules for fish and wildlife, recreation, and other instream resources. Evaluate regions of the state that are experiencing conflict over water, as potential areas for adjudication. • Streamflow Restoration - Work with watershed groups to establish or revise a streamflow restoration plan to mitigate the impacts of new domestic water use. • Section 401 federal licensing of dams - Collaborate with local governments, tribes, and other stakeholders to develop permit conditions for hydropower facilities that ensure minimum instream flows are met and that stream flows are adjusted to adapt to water supply conditions during the 50 year license period. • Water acquisition - Acquire senior water rights to restore and protect stream flows. Review municipal and industrial reclaimed water projects and water system plans to ensure new uses of water do not impair senior rights. Monitor water supply conditions that may impact water rights and the environment, and respond when water supplies are impacted by drought.
A005	Clean up the Most Contaminated Sites First (Upland and Aquatic)	Ecology protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated upland sites and contaminated sediments in the aquatic environment. Resources are first focused on cleaning up contaminated sites that pose the greatest risk to public health and the environment. These include sites where contamination threatens drinking water, exists in a large quantity, is very toxic, may affect a waterbody or the environmental health of sediments, or may affect people that are living, working, or recreating near the site. Contamination may be in the soil, sediments, underground water, air, drinking water, or surface water. Ecology also manages multi-agency upland and sediment cleanup projects. Cleaning up these sites protects public health, safeguards the environment, and promotes local economic development by making land available for new industries and other beneficial uses.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A006	Clean Up Polluted Waters	The federal Clean Water Act requires the agency to develop water quality standards and to identify water bodies that fail to meet those standards. The agency does this by reviewing thousands of water quality data samples and publishing an integrated water quality assessment report. This report lists the water bodies that do not meet standards. Ecology then works with local interests to prepare water quality improvement reports to reduce pollution, establish conditions in discharge permits and nonpoint source management plans, and monitor the effectiveness of the improvement report.
A007	Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control	Ecology conducts pollution identification studies to address known or suspected problems at specific sites and across regional areas. These studies support our efforts under the federal Clean Water Act, as well as the state Water Pollution Control and Model Toxics Control Acts. Studies range from simple water quality sampling for bacteria or dissolved oxygen, to very complex projects assessing the amount of nutrients in large watersheds. Many projects support development of water quality improvement plans or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs) to assess how much of a pollutant a waterbody can absorb without exceeding water quality standards.
A008	Control Stormwater Pollution	Ecology prepares tools, provides assistance, and offers compliance strategies to control the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff from development and industrial activities. The agency currently provides training and assistance to communities and industries on stormwater manuals and the Western Washington hydrology model. Ecology works with local governments and other stakeholders to implement a municipal stormwater program and permitting system.
A009	Eliminate Waste and Promote Material Reuse	The Department of Ecology: • Provides technical assistance to local governments for waste reduction, and recycling, including focus on reducing contamination, addressing plastic packaging, and developing marketing programs for recycled commodities. • Implements plastic and single-use packaging laws. • Supports recycling and reuse market development through the Recycling Development Center. • Reduces wasted food through a state food waste reduction and diversion plan and the Center for Sustainable Food Management. • Provides technical assistance to promote reuse of organic materials. • Ensures an environmentally compliant biosolids program in the state. • Promotes environmentally preferred purchasing. • Oversees producer managed recycling programs.
A010	Prevent and Pick Up Litter	The Department of Ecology is the state's lead agency managing litter programs. We operate youth and adult litter pickup crews and provide funding for litter pickup and prevention to state and local governments. We work with partners across the state to promote litter prevention and secure vehicle loads for safer, cleaner highways and public areas.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A011	Ensure Dam Safety	This activity protects life, property, and the environment by overseeing the safety of Washington's dams. This includes inspecting the structural integrity and flood and earthquake safety of existing state dams not managed by the federal government; approving and inspecting new dam construction and repairs; and taking compliance and emergency actions.
A012	Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data	Ecology accredits environmental laboratories that submit data to the agency and to the Department of Health. The accreditation program covers analyses in all typical environmental matrices (air, water, soil, sediment, tissue), and drinking water. Accreditation ensures environmental laboratories have the demonstrated capability to provide accurate and defensible data. Ecology's laboratory accreditation program is the primary method of performance monitoring for over 400 laboratories in the accreditation program. Ecology will start accrediting cannabis laboratories in 2024. To prepare for this role, Ecology is leading the Cannabis Science Task Force to recommend lab quality standards for cannabis laboratories.
A013	Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste	The Department of Ecology provides planning assistance to local governments and financial assistance to local governments, non-governmental organizations, and community groups through three grant programs: • Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance (LSWFA) grants to local governments for solid waste planning, implementation, and enforcement. • Public Participation Grants (PPG) to interest groups for public outreach and education. • Waste Reduction and Recycling Education (WRRED) grants to local governments and non profit organizations for public outreach and education.
A014	Restore the Air, Soil, and Water Contaminated from Past Activities at Hanford	The agency protects public health and natural resources by working to restore the public use of air, soil, and water at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation by cleaning up contaminated sites from past activities. Radioactive and hazardous contaminants are removed, residual contaminants are contained and monitored, and mitigation of natural resource damage on Hanford occurs.
A015	Clean Up and Remove Large, Complex, Contaminated Facilities throughout Hanford	The agency oversees the decommissioning of the large, complex, and high-risk facilities throughout the Hanford site and provides regulatory oversight of mixed waste management activities at facilities not under the management of the U.S. Department of Energy (Columbia Generating Station, Perma-Fix Northwest, and the U.S. Navy's Puget Sound Naval Shipyard).
A016	Treat and Dispose of Hanford's High-Level Radioactive Tank Waste	The agency protects public health and natural resources by providing regulatory oversight for the treatment and removal of highly radioactive tank waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. This activity is focused on the design, permitting, construction, and operation of the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant, the Integrated Disposal Facility (a mixed, low-level waste landfill), and immobilized high-level waste storage facility.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A017	Ensure Safe Tank Operations, Storage of Tank Wastes, & Closure of the Waste Storage Tanks at Hanford	The agency protects public health and the environment by enforcing regulatory compliance at the Hanford site to ensure the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of the high-level radioactive tank waste according to the Hanford Tank Waste Project.
A018	Ensure the Safe Management of Radioactive Mixed Waste at Hanford	The agency provides regulatory oversight for the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of liquid and solid dangerous and radioactive mixed wastes at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, as well as at radioactive mixed-waste sites throughout the state. This activity regulates the management of this historic and ongoing waste stream, and ensures the retrieval, treatment, and safe disposal of high-risk transuranic and high activity wastes currently buried in shallow, unlined trenches.
A019	Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information	This activity supports the work the agency does to: Provide the public and local governments with information about the type, location, and source of hazardous substances in local communities. • Provide waste generators with best practices and other helpful information. • Collect, manage, and report hazardous waste generation data to meet EPA's data reporting and community right to know requirements. • Engage with various interested parties and communities to inform environmental justice and hazardous waste and toxics reduction efforts
A020	Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making	To ensure the reliability and integrity of data Ecology generates, agency staff: • Provide guidance and training on developing quality assurance project plans. • Review project proposals. • Consult on sampling design requirements and interpretation of results. This quality assurance work is required by the Environmental Protection Agency for entities (including Ecology) that receive funding for work involving environmental data. In addition, Ecology scientists, modelers, statisticians, chemists, and other specialists: • Interpret technical data. • Review grantee monitoring plans. • Supply information for policy decisions to support agency mandates

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A021	Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management, Pollution Prevention, and Compliance with Dangerous	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Conduct dangerous waste compliance inspections, escalating to formal enforcement actions when necessary. • Amends the Dangerous Waste Regulations to keep our rules current with the federal program and maintain state authorization. • Provide dangerous waste management and pollution prevention education and technical assistance to businesses, including via local specialists through the Pollution Prevention Assistance partnership. • Issue permits to facilities that treat, store, or dispose of dangerous waste, and ensure that proper financial assurance requirements are in place.
A023	Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases	Ecology currently regulates over 10,000 active tanks on over 3,600 different properties, including gas stations, industries, commercial properties, and governmental entities. We ensure tanks are installed, managed, and monitored according to federal standards and in a way that prevents releases into the environment. This is done through compliance inspections and providing technical assistance to tank owners and operators. Properly managing such tanks saves millions of dollars in cleanup costs and prevents contamination of limited drinking water and other groundwater resources.
A024	Manage Water Rights	The agency allocates surface and ground water to meet the state's many water supply needs. Ecology staff makes decisions on applications for new water rights, changes to existing water rights, and by participating in water rights adjudications in areas where additional certainty is needed.
A025	Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions	This activity supports the work the agency does to collect and monitor air quality and emissions data used to assess trends; assist compliance; and assess control strategies, health effects, and environmental damage from air pollution.
A026	Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses	The Manchester Environmental Laboratory is a full service environmental laboratory. The lab provides technical, analytical, and sampling support for chemistry and microbiology for multiple Ecology programs, and supports work conducted under the federal Clean Water Act, as well as the state Water Pollution Control, Puget Sound Water Quality Protection, Children's Safe Products and Model Toxics Control Acts.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A027	Monitor the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide	Ecology operates a statewide environmental monitoring network to: • Assess the status of major waterbodies. • Identify threatened or impaired waters. • Evaluate changes and trends in water quality over time. This network includes sampling stations in rivers, streams, and marine waters (Puget Sound and the major coastal estuaries). Ecology measures statewide biological, chemical, and habitat conditions to provide information on the health of watersheds on a regional scale. Ecology also measures stream flows in salmon critical basins and key watersheds statewide.
A028	Improve Environmental Compliance at State's Largest Industrial Facilities	The Department of Ecology provides a single point of contact for compliance reviews and technical assistance for petroleum refineries, pulp and paper mills, and aluminum smelters so they have consistent regulatory oversight.
A030	Prepare for Aggressive Response to Oil and Hazardous Material Incidents	This activity ensures large commercial vessels, oil handling facilities, and railroad operators that transport oil by rail maintain state-approved oil spill contingency plans so they can rapidly and effectively respond to major oil spills. State planning standards ensure response equipment and personnel are strategically staged throughout the state. This work is carried out through staff review and approval of contingency plans, drills that test contingency plans, development of geographic response plans, and maintenance of a regional contingency plan in partnership with other agencies.
A031	Remediate Hazardous Waste Pollution and Restore Contaminated Sites to Productive Use	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Oversee cleanup of high-priority corrective action sites. • Provide pollution prevention and toxics reduction technical assistance to hazardous waste generators.
A032	Prevent Point Source Water Pollution	Ecology protects Washington's water by regulating point source discharges of pollutants to surface and ground waters. This is done with a wastewater permit program for sewage treatment plants and an industrial discharge program for other industries. A permit is a rigorous set of limits, monitoring requirements, or management practices, usually specific to a discharge, designed to ensure a facility can meet treatment standards and water quality limits. The permit is followed by regular inspections and site visits. Technical assistance and follow-up on permit violations also are provided through various means.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A033	Prevent Oil Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities	Ecology works with communities and regulated entities to prevent spills from vessels and oil handling facilities through inspections, review and approval of plans and manuals, technical assistance, incident investigation, and risk assessment work.
A034	Prevent Unhealthy Air and Violations of Air Quality Standards	This activity supports the work the agency does to develop and implement State Implementation Plans to maintain healthy air, prevent violations, and cleanup areas that violate standards as quickly as possible.
A035	Promote Compliance with Water Laws	The agency helps ensure that water users comply with the state's water laws so that other legal water users are not impaired; water use remains sustainable over the long term; and the environment is protected for the benefit of people and nature. Activities include water metering and reporting 80 percent of water use in 16 fish critical basins, along with education, technical assistance, and strategic enforcement in egregious cases.
A036	Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments	The Shoreline Management Act establishes a cooperative program between local and state governments, in which local governments develop and administer local Shoreline Master Programs, and the Department of Ecology provides support and oversight. The agency is involved in shoreline management in four primary ways: developing guidelines for local shoreline programs; providing technical assistance to local governments and applicants on shoreline planning and permitting activities; reviewing and approving amendments to local shoreline master programs; and reviewing permits to ensure resource protection and implementation of the law. The agency works with local governments on permit compliance by responding to public inquiries and complaints, making field visits, providing compliance-related technical assistance, and issuing notices of correction, orders, and penalties. Properly managed shorelines provide habitat for fish and wildlife, minimize flooding and property damage, and provide land-use certainty to local landowners.
A037	Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Construction Projects	The Department of Ecology issues water quality certifications and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determinations for water-related construction projects. Staff provide early review on projects whenever possible (e.g., through State Environmental Policy Act review and pre-application meetings) and provide project guidance and technical assistance through phone calls, e-mails, site visits, and workshops. Projects are approved, denied, or conditioned to protect water quality, sediment quality, and fish and shellfish habitat. This activity allows the state to actively participate in federal permitting activities to ensure that state interests are adequately represented and considered.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A038	Protect, Restore, and Manage Wetlands	The Department of Ecology is the lead agency responsible for implementing the state Water Pollution Control Act, which requires the protection of wetlands. The agency provides leadership on wetlands issues, coordinates statewide policy issues, and develops new approaches for managing and restoring wetlands. The agency provides technical assistance to local governments, helping them implement requirements in the Shoreline Management and Growth Management acts. The agency also provides technical assistance to non-government entities on wetlands conservation and stewardship programs.
A040	Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards	The Department of Ecology administers the Flood Control Assistance Account Program, providing grants and technical assistance to local governments for flood damage reduction projects and comprehensive flood hazard management planning. Staff review and approve local Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plans and inspect construction of flood damage reduction projects. The Department of Ecology is also the state's coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and receives an annual Community Assistance Program grant to provide technical assistance and support to 286 communities enrolled in the NFIP. In this role, staff make regularly scheduled technical assistance visits to communities, assess local regulatory programs for compliance with state and federal requirements, and provide workshops and other outreach on flood hazard recognition and reduction. Proper flood control planning and projects protect both private and public property, as well as natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat.
A041	Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review	SEPA was adopted in 1971 to ensure that state and local decision makers consider the environmental impacts of their actions. The SEPA law provides an opportunity for local citizen involvement in the environmental review process and provides developers an opportunity to identify mitigation opportunities that facilitate overall project approval and minimize development costs. The agency provides training and assistance to local governments and the public, and manages the SEPA register.
A042	Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve	The Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Skagit County is part of a national network of reserves established to protect estuaries for research and education. The Padilla Bay Reserve conducts a broad array of public education programs, technical and professional training, coastal restoration, and scientific research and monitoring. Managed in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the reserve includes over 11,000 acres of tidelands and uplands; the Breazeale Interpretive Center with aquaria and touch pool; a research laboratory; residential quarters; trails; and support facilities. The reserve also provides funds and technical support to local Marine Resource Committees as part of the Northwest Straits Initiative, and administers the Northwest Straits Marine Commission.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A043	Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance	Ecology provides grants, low-interest loans, and technical assistance to local governments, state agencies, and tribes to enable them to build, upgrade, repair, or replace facilities to improve and protect water quality. This includes meeting the state's obligation to manage the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund in perpetuity. Ecology also funds nonpoint-source control projects such as watershed planning, stormwater management, freshwater aquatic weed management, education, and agricultural best management practices. Grants are targeted to nonpoint-source problems and communities where needed wastewater facilities projects would be a financial hardship for taxpayers. Local governments use loans for both point and nonpoint-source water pollution prevention and correction projects. Ecology coordinates grant and loan assistance with other state and federal funding agencies.
A044	Provide Water Resources Data and Information	The collection, management, and sharing of data and information is critical to modern water management. It is essential to local watershed groups, conservancy boards, businesses, local governments, nonprofit groups, the Legislature, other agencies, and the media. It supports daily agency operations, including making water allocation decisions; setting and achieving stream flows; identifying the location and characteristics of wells, dams, and water diversions; supporting compliance actions; metering; tracking progress; communicating with constituents; and serving other water resource functions.
A045	Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources	This activity supports the work the agency does to ensure new and existing industrial and commercial facilities that emit significant levels of air pollution comply with state and federal air quality standards.
A047	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions	This activity supports the work the agency does to implement Washington's Clean Car standards and provide grants to incentivize cleaner motor vehicles and fuels.
A048	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke	This activity supports the work the agency does to : • Administer the state's smoke management program that oversees outdoor burning and woodstoves. • Assist communities, local health organizations, and fire suppression agencies with health impact messaging and recommendations during large-scale wildfire events.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A049	Reduce Nonpoint-Source Water Pollution	Nonpoint-source pollution (polluted runoff) is the leading cause of water pollution and poses a major health and economic threat. Types of nonpoint pollution include fecal coliform bacteria, elevated water temperature, pesticides, sediments, and nutrients. Sources of pollution include agriculture, forestry, urban and rural runoff, recreation, hydrologic modification, and loss of aquatic ecosystems. Ecology addresses these problems through raising awareness; encouraging community action; providing funding; and supporting local decision makers. The agency also coordinates with other stakeholders through the Washington State Nonpoint Workgroup, the Forest Practices Technical Assistance group, and the Agricultural Technical Assistance group.
A052	Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste and the Use of Toxic Substances through Technical Assistance	This activity supports the work the agency does to provide pollution prevention and toxics reduction technical assistance to hazardous waste generators.
A053	Regulate Well Construction	The agency protects consumers, well drillers, and the environment by licensing and regulating well drillers, investigating complaints, approving variances from construction standards, and providing continuing education to well drillers. The work is accomplished in partnership with delegated counties. It delivers technical assistance to homeowners, well drillers, tribes, and local governments.
A054	Rapidly Respond to and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills	This activity ensures Ecology and its partners respond to spills in a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated manner to ensure impacts to the environment are minimized. Spill response capability is maintained 24 hours a day and seven days a week statewide. This includes ensuring the safety of the public and emergency responders, performing cleanup and oversight of cleanup activities, coordinating wildlife rescue and rehabilitation activities, providing timely information to the public and stakeholders about response activities, and implementing protection strategies to minimize impacts to Washington's environmental, cultural and economic resources. Enforcement actions are issued based on results of incident investigations.
A055	Restore Public Natural Resources Damaged by Oil Spills	When spills occur, Ecology provides incident notification to natural resource trustees and responds to the incident to assess impacts, collect samples, and determine the extent of injury to state publicly owned resources. Ecology then leads the interagency Resource Damage Assessment (RDA) Committee to assess damages and seek fair compensation for damages to Washington resources. Ecology works with the RDA Committee and responsible parties in funding, planning, and implementing effective restoration projects to restore impacted resources. Ecology manages the Coastal Protection Fund Grant process for restoration work, and performs follow-up restoration site visits to ensure they were effective.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A056	Restore Watersheds by Supporting Community- Based Projects with the Washington Conservation Corps	The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1983 to conserve, rehabilitate, and enhance the state's natural and environmental resources, while providing educational opportunities and meaningful work experiences for young adults (ages 18-25). The WCC creates partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, private entities, and nonprofit groups to complete a variety of conservation-related projects. These include stream and riparian restoration, wetlands restoration and enhancement, soil stabilization, and other forest restoration activities, fencing, and trail work. The WCC also provides emergency response and hazard mitigation services to local communities.
A057	Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites	Ecology provides services to site owners or operators who initiate clean up of their contaminated sites. Voluntary cleanups can be done in a variety of ways: Completely independent of the agency; independent with some agency assistance or review; or with agency oversight under a signed legal agreement (an agreed order or consent decree). They may be done through consultations, prepayment agreements, prospective purchaser agreements, and brownfields redevelopment. The voluntary cleanup program minimizes the need for public funding used for such cleanup and promotes local economic development through new industries and other beneficial uses of cleaned properties.
A063	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	This activity supports the work the agency does to conduct a biennial greenhouse gas emissions inventory, administer the state's mandatory greenhouse gas reporting program, and help state agencies and higher education institutions identify and report their greenhouse gas emissions and develop strategies to reduce those emissions. It also supports the work the agency does to implement a portfolio of policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet the state's greenhouse gas emission limits.
A064	Manage Solid Waste Safely	To ensure that solid waste handling and disposal facilities are in compliance with environmental requirements, Ecology: • Sets standards for the proper handling and disposal of solid waste. • Negotiates and implements cleanup orders under the Model Toxics Control Act, and oversees cleanup actions at solid waste facilities. • Provides technical assistance, permit review, and regulatory, engineering and hydrogeology expertise to local health departments who permit solid waste handling and disposal facilities.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A065	Reduce Toxic Chemicals in Products and Promote Safer Alternatives	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Work with key organizations and interest groups, especially Department of Health, to identify chemicals of concern, review science, and develop and implement action plans to reduce presence of toxic chemicals in the environment. • Provide information safer alternatives and green chemistry to business, education, government, and public sectors. • Update and enforce statutory reporting requirements and limits in specific products.



Dollars in Thousands

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
461 Department of Ecology
2026 First Supplemental Budget Session
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request

Activity:

PL	PB			No measures linked to activity
Outcome Measures	001161	Percentage of acceptable proficiency testing analyses completed by accredited labs		
			<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
PL	PB	Laboratory Accreditation	1%	1%

Proficiency testing of labs assures quality environmental data for the state. Approximately 480 labs must meet this requirement annually.

Activity: A002 Administration

Outcome Measures	001161	Percentage of acceptable proficiency testing analyses completed by accredited labs		
			<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
PL	PB	Laboratory Accreditation	1%	1%

Proficiency testing of labs assures quality environmental data for the state. Approximately 480 labs must meet this requirement annually.

Activity: A012 Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data

Outcome Measures	001161	Percentage of acceptable proficiency testing analyses completed by accredited labs		
			<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>
PL	PB	Laboratory Accreditation	1%	1%

Proficiency testing of labs assures quality environmental data for the state. Approximately 480 labs must meet this requirement annually.

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates

461 Department of Ecology

S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request

Dollars in Thousands

Activity: A063 Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

Outcome Measures		001161	Percentage of acceptable proficiency testing analyses completed by accredited labs	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>
PL	PB		Laboratory Accreditation	1%	1%	1%	1%

Proficiency testing of labs assures quality environmental data for the state. Approximately 480 labs must meet this requirement annually.

2025-27 ACTIVITY INVENTORY INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

Act. #	Prog	Activity Title	Bien		FY26			FY27			Bien	
			Allocation Received %	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Total	Allocated	Total
A002	Admin	Administration	10.02%	1,134,177	6,070,133	7,204,310	1,164,375	6,156,148	7,320,523	14,524,833		
A003	WR	Implementing Integrated Solutions to Protect Instream Resources	1.76%	205,688	1,057,686	1,263,374	213,506	1,072,672	1,286,178	2,549,552		
A005	TCP	Clean up the Most Contaminated Sites First (Upland and Aquatic)	8.98%	892,430	5,561,687	6,454,117	919,387	5,640,491	6,559,878	13,013,995		
A006	WQ	Clean Up Polluted Waters	1.34%	90,122	875,514	965,636	91,795	887,919	979,714	1,945,350		
A007	EAP	Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control	3.79%	276,340	2,449,807	2,726,147	283,776	2,484,518	2,768,294	5,494,441		
A008	WQ	Control Stormwater Pollution	2.46%	164,990	1,602,842	1,767,832	168,053	1,625,553	1,793,606	3,561,438		
A009	SWM	Eliminate Waste and Promote Material Reuse	2.87%	234,182	1,831,237	2,065,419	238,558	1,857,184	2,095,742	4,161,161		
A010	SWM	Prevent and Pick Up Litter	1.13%	92,490	723,250	815,740	94,219	733,498	827,717	1,643,457		
A011	WR	Ensure Dam Safety	0.61%	71,118	365,704	436,822	73,821	370,885	444,706	881,528		
A012	EAP	Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data	0.32%	23,156	205,283	228,439	23,779	208,192	231,971	460,410		
A013	SWM	Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste	0.58%	47,288	369,782	417,070	48,172	375,022	423,194	840,264		
A014	NWP	Restore the Air, Soil, and Water Contaminated from Past Activities at Hanford	0.82%	117,245	469,025	586,270	120,763	475,671	596,434	1,182,704		
A015	NWP	Clean Up and Remove Large, Complex, Contaminated Facilities throughout Hanford	0.68%	97,875	391,534	489,409	100,811	397,082	497,893	987,302		
A016	NWP	Treat and Dispose of Hanford's High-level Radioactive Tank Waste	1.64%	235,511	942,129	1,177,640	242,576	955,478	1,198,054	2,375,694		
A017	NWP	Ensure Safe Tank Operations, Storage of Tank Wastes, and Closure of the Waste Storage Tanks at Hanford	0.92%	131,859	527,483	659,342	135,815	534,957	670,772	1,330,114		
A018	NWP	Ensure the Safe Management of Radioactive Mixed Waste at Hanford	1.16%	167,203	668,871	836,074	172,219	678,348	850,567	1,686,641		
A019	HWTR	Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information	1.06%	78,598	679,747	758,345	81,155	689,378	770,533	1,528,878		
A020	EAP	Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making	0.19%	14,108	125,073	139,181	14,488	126,846	141,334	280,515		
A021	HWTR	Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management and Dangerous Waste Regulatory Compliance	2.36%	175,904	1,521,273	1,697,177	181,627	1,542,828	1,724,455	3,421,632		
A023	TCP	Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases	1.09%	108,200	674,309	782,509	111,468	683,863	795,331	1,577,840		
A024	WR	Manage Water Rights	2.74%	319,901	1,644,987	1,964,888	332,059	1,668,295	2,000,354	3,965,242		
A025	AQ	Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions	1.18%	181,069	670,230	851,299	184,833	679,727	864,560	1,715,859		
A026	EAP	Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses	1.29%	94,158	834,729	928,887	96,691	846,556	943,247	1,872,134		
A027	EAP	Monitor the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide	2.31%	168,227	1,491,364	1,659,591	172,753	1,512,495	1,685,248	3,344,839		
A028	SWM	Facilities	1.03%	83,798	655,276	739,074	85,364	664,560	749,924	1,488,998		
A030	SPPR	Prepare for Aggressive Response to Oil and Hazardous Material Incidents	1.47%	167,118	891,828	1,058,946	172,676	904,464	1,077,140	2,136,086		
A031	HWTR	Remediate Hazardous Waste Pollution and Restore Contaminated Sites to Productive Use	0.65%	48,102	416,005	464,107	49,668	421,899	471,567	935,674		
A032	WQ	Prevent Point Source Water Pollution	6.11%	409,885	3,981,956	4,391,841	417,494	4,038,376	4,455,870	8,847,711		
A033	SPPR	Prevent Oil Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities	1.10%	124,320	663,433	787,753	128,454	672,833	801,287	1,589,040		
A034	AQ	Prevent Unhealthy Air and Violations of Air Quality Standards	1.72%	263,707	976,116	1,239,823	269,187	989,947	1,259,134	2,498,957		
A035	WR	Promote Compliance with Water Laws	1.31%	153,605	789,866	943,471	159,443	801,057	960,500	1,903,971		
A036	SEA	Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments	3.04%	260,267	1,926,402	2,186,669	266,438	1,953,897	2,220,135	4,406,804		
A037	SEA	Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Construction Projects	0.86%	74,021	547,876	621,897	75,776	555,639	631,415	1,253,312		
A038	SEA	Protect, Restore, and Manage Wetlands	2.07%	176,878	1,309,192	1,486,070	181,073	1,327,742	1,508,815	2,994,885		
A040	SEA	Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards	0.39%	33,796	250,147	283,943	34,598	253,691	288,289	572,232		
A041	SEA	Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review	0.97%	82,653	611,772	694,425	84,613	620,440	705,053	1,399,478		
A042	SEA	Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve	1.00%	85,960	636,243	722,203	87,998	645,258	733,256	1,455,459		

2025-27 ACTIVITY INVENTORY INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

Act. #	Prog	Activity Title	Allocation Received %	FY26			FY27			Bien	
				Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Program Admin	Total Allocated
A043	WQ	Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance	3.07%	206,272	2,003,893	2,210,165	210,101	2,032,286	2,242,387		4,452,552
A044	WR	Provide Water Resources Data and Information	1.47%	172,376	886,390	1,058,766	178,928	898,949	1,077,877		2,136,643
A045	AQ	Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources	1.12%	171,519	634,883	806,402	175,084	643,879	818,963		1,625,365
A047	AQ	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions	0.40%	60,968	225,676	286,644	62,236	228,873	291,109		577,753
A048	AQ	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke	0.79%	120,468	445,914	566,382	122,971	452,232	575,203		1,141,585
A049	WQ	Reduce Nonpoint Source Water Pollution	1.99%	133,923	1,301,035	1,434,958	136,409	1,319,469	1,455,878		2,890,836
A052	HWTR	Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste and the Use of Toxic Substances through Technical Assistance	1.04%	77,813	672,949	750,762	80,345	682,484	762,829		1,513,591
A053	WR	Regulate Well Construction	0.31%	35,956	184,891	220,847	37,322	187,511	224,833		445,680
A054	SPPR	Rapidly Respond to and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills	2.17%	246,347	1,314,630	1,560,977	254,539	1,333,257	1,587,796		3,148,773
A055	SPPR	Restore Public Natural Resources Damaged by Oil Spills	0.13%	15,285	81,570	96,855	15,794	82,725	98,519		195,374
A056	SEA	Restore Watersheds by Supporting Community-Based Projects with the WCC	2.77%	236,756	1,752,387	1,989,143	242,371	1,777,216	2,019,587		4,008,730
A057	TCP	Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites	1.18%	117,144	730,048	847,192	120,682	740,392	861,074		1,708,266
A063	ADMIN.	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	7.46%	935,928	4,431,947	5,367,875	953,685	4,494,745	5,448,430		10,816,305
A064	SWM	Manage Solid Waste Safely	1.13%	91,795	717,812	809,607	93,510	727,983	821,493		1,631,100
A065	HWTR	Prevent the Use of Toxic Chemicals in Products and Promote Safer Alternatives	1.92%	143,364	1,239,858	1,383,222	148,029	1,257,425	1,405,454		2,788,676
		Total	100.00%	9,851,863	62,033,674	71,885,537	10,111,487	62,912,635	73,024,122		144,909,659

Allocation Method Description

Under OFM definitions, "administrative" costs are made up of two components, indirect costs and overhead costs.

1. "Indirect" costs, the subject of this table, are costs that tend to vary with activity level or size. These costs are assigned to activities and are included in the cost of each activity. For Ecology, these include program administration costs, and agency level cost allocated costs. Program administration costs are incurred within the environmental programs and are assigned to the activities within each program based on FTEs. Agency level cost allocated costs are allocated to environmental programs according to various allocation bases (e.g. facility costs are allocated based on square footage) and then assigned to activities within each program based on FTEs.
2. "Overhead" costs are costs that usually support the entire organization, and tend to be relatively fixed and not readily affected by fluctuations in activity levels. These costs are not assigned to activities. They make up the one "administration" activity. In Ecology these costs are in program A00.

**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab B	Recommendation Summary.....	55
	1. Recommendation Summary 2026 Supplemental Operating Budget	57

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



Dollars in Thousands

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Department of Ecology
2026 First Supplemental Budget Session
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request

	Average Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CB	0.0	0	0	0
2025-27 Current Biennium Total	.0	0	0	0
Total Carry Forward Level	0.0	0	0	0
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%
Maintenance – Comp Changes				
ML MC Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	0.0	34	608	642
Maintenance – Comp Total	0.0	34	608	642
Total Maintenance Level	0.0	34	608	642
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%
Policy – Other Changes				
PL PB Laboratory Accreditation	2.9	(1,087)	2,102	1,015
Policy – Other Total	2.9	(1,087)	2,102	1,015
Subtotal - Policy Level Changes	2.9	(1,087)	2,102	1,015
2025-27 Total Policy Level	2.9	(1,053)	2,710	1,657
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.0%	.0%	.0%	.0%

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Department of Ecology
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request
Dollars in Thousands

ML MC Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs

State agencies received funding in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget for the collective bargaining agreement general wage increases and targeted job class increases. Funding was based on the available Compensation Impact Model projections from staffing data provided by agencies in May 2024. For Ecology, this did not reflect the significant changes to staffing in the 2025-27 operating budget. Ecology is requesting a Maintenance Level adjustment to fully fund the general wage increases and targeted job class increases for the new 2025-27 enacted budget Policy Level FTEs. (Multiple Funds)

PL PB Laboratory Accreditation

Ecology's Laboratory Accreditation Unit is responsible for auditing environmental and drinking water labs that do business in or with Washington State. These audits are a key component of the accreditation process and help ensure analyses are conducted properly, according to prescribed methods, and that Washington makes informed decisions based on credible, defensible data. The workload for this unit has increased significantly over the last decade as the need for technical assistance has grown, along with the demand to accredit new labs looking to analyze complex, novel compounds like 6PPD-quinone.

In 2023-25, the Legislature provided one-time bridge funding for five auditor positions to help Ecology address this increased workload and respond to a 2021 audit finding by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that found 34 drinking water labs had not been audited within three years, which is required under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Ecology completed rulemaking in 2023 to increase fees to support additional staff, and this request will provide funding needed to reestablish the five auditor positions on an ongoing basis, so Ecology can remain current on drinking water lab audits and continue to address the backlog of environmental labs that need to be audited.

This request also supports Ecology's related agency request legislation for the 2026 legislative session, which would establish a new dedicated account for the lab accreditation fees to be deposited into, and shifts Ecology base funding for this work to that new account. This request is related to implementing the Governor's Salmon Strategy. (General Fund-State, NEW-Laboratory Accreditation Account).

**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab C	Decision Packages	59
	1. Ecology 2026 Operating Budget Request Summary	61
	2. OFM Decision Package Summary Report	63
	3. Decision Package Prioritization.....	65

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

Operating

9/11/2025 \$ in thousands - Biennialized FTEs

2025-27 Enacted Base Budget

Maintenance Level Changes						
1	Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	-	34	210	398	642
Policy Level Changes						
Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution						
2	Laboratory Accreditation	5.8	(1,087)	-	2,102	1,015
Total Changes		5.8	(1,053)	210	2,500	1,657
Total Operating Budget		2,287.3	66,505	379,632	629,290	1,075,427

Notes:

¹ Model Toxics Control Operating Account (23P-1, 23P-7), Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account (23R-1).

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



Dollars in Thousands

ABS031 Agency DP Priority (PL)
(List only the program Policy Level budget decision packages, in priority order)
461 - Department of Ecology
2026 First Supplemental Budget Session
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request

PL-PB

Laboratory Accreditation

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab C-1	Maintenance Level	67
	1. ML MC Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	69
	2. Other Planned OFM Adjustments	77

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



Department of Ecology
2025-27 First Supplemental Budget Session
Maintenance Level - MC - Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs

Agency Recommendation Summary

State agencies received funding in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget for the collective bargaining agreement general wage increases and targeted job class increases. Funding was based on the available Compensation Impact Model projections from staffing data provided by agencies in May 2024. For Ecology, this did not reflect the significant changes to staffing in the 2025-27 operating budget. Ecology is requesting a Maintenance Level adjustment to fully fund the general wage increases and targeted job class increases for the new 2025-27 enacted budget Policy Level FTEs. (Multiple Funds)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2026	2027	2025-27	2028	2029	2027-29
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$0	\$34	\$34	\$33	\$33	\$66
Fund 001 - 2	\$0	\$95	\$95	\$96	\$96	\$192
Fund 001 - 7	\$0	\$15	\$15	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund 044 - 1	\$0	\$19	\$19	\$13	\$13	\$26
Fund 176 - 1	\$0	\$50	\$50	\$49	\$49	\$98
Fund 207 - 1	\$0	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$30	\$60
Fund 20R - 1	\$0	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$94
Fund 216 - 1	\$0	\$9	\$9	\$13	\$13	\$26
Fund 219 - 1	\$0	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$4	\$8
Fund 23P - 1	\$0	\$210	\$210	\$202	\$205	\$407
Fund 25Q - 1	\$0	\$20	\$20	\$13	\$5	\$18
Fund 26B - 1	\$0	\$47	\$47	\$24	\$24	\$48
Fund 26C - 1	\$0	\$7	\$7	\$15	\$34	\$49
Fund 26D - 1	\$0	\$16	\$16	\$16	\$16	\$32
Fund 30C - 6	\$0	\$29	\$29	\$28	\$23	\$51
Fund 564 - 1	\$0	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$10	\$20
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$642	\$642	\$593	\$602	\$1,195
Revenue						
001 - 0366	\$0	\$95	\$95	\$96	\$96	\$192
001 - 0597	\$0	\$15	\$15	\$0	\$0	\$0
20R - 0294	\$0	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$47	\$94
Total Revenue	\$0	\$157	\$157	\$143	\$143	\$286

Decision Package Description

Background

The collective bargaining agreement with the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) for the 2025-27 biennium includes a 3% general wage increase effective July 1, 2025, and a 2% increase effective July 1, 2026. The bargaining agreement also includes wage increases for targeted job classes. Ecology and other state agencies received funding in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget for represented and non-represented employees based on the available Compensation Impact Model (CIM) projections from staffing data provided by agencies in May 2024. This was intended as an estimate of staffing levels at 2025-27 Maintenance Level (ML).

Since the staffing data used for the funding provided in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget was based on an estimate of 2025-27 ML, it did not reflect the significant changes to Ecology's staffing levels in 2025-27 Policy Level (PL). In 2025-27 PL, Ecology received appropriations for 97 new FTEs in the 2025-27 biennium, including significant new additions for solid waste management, continued analysis on the effects of 6PPD-Q, PFAS testing and monitoring, obtaining permits for new work occurring on the Hanford Site, and many other new and expanded initiatives.

This request is to fully fund the 2025-27 general wage increases and targeted job class increases based on the fiscal impact of these increases for the new FTEs added at PL in the 2025-27 operating budget.

Impacts on Population Served

This request will help maintain the current level of environmental services provided by Ecology by fully funding the general wage increases and targeted job classification increases rather than diverting funding from other environmental and public health work.

Alternatives Explored

The only alternative to fund this cost increase would be to redirect existing resources from core environmental and public health work. This is not a viable option for Ecology.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request

If Ecology does not receive an appropriation for this cost increase, core environmental and public health work would be reduced to absorb these costs, which would negatively impact other priority work at Ecology.

Assumptions and Calculations***Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:***

This is not an expansion or alteration of a current program or service. This request will help maintain the current level of environmental services provided by Ecology.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Ecology requests full funding beginning in fiscal year 2027 for the 2025-27 general wage increases and targeted job class increases based on the fiscal impact of these increases for the new FTEs added at PL in the 2025-27 operating budget.

Fiscal impacts were calculated using the FTEs and job classifications previously identified and submitted by Ecology in budget requests and fiscal notes for each PL item. In the 2025-27 operating budget, the Legislature appropriated FTE authority at a level that exceeded the dollars appropriated to fund those FTEs. Therefore, for the purposes of calculating the fiscal impacts in this decision package, Ecology only assumed targeted job class and general wage increases for FTEs that received sufficient expenditure authority in the 2025-27 operating PL.

Targeted job class increases = \$146,000 in fiscal year 2027 (carries forward to \$296,000 in the 2027-29 biennium due to fluctuations in one-time and ongoing FTE levels).

Salaries are calculated based on the percentage increase due to the number of ranges increased for impacted job classes. Benefits are calculated based on the same percentage applied to benefits that change with salaries, which do not include medical or health benefits.

General wage increases = \$496,000 in fiscal year 2027 (carries forward to \$899,000 in the 2027-29 biennium due to fluctuations in one-time and ongoing FTE levels).

Salaries are calculated based on the 3% general wage increase effective July 1, 2025, and the 2% increase effective July 1, 2026. Benefits are calculated based on the same percentage applied to benefits that change with salaries, which do not include medical or health benefits.

Total = \$642,000 in fiscal year 2027 (carries forward to \$1,195,000 in the 2027-29 biennium)

See **Attachment A** for the fiscal impact details by account for the targeted job class increases and general wage increases.

See **Attachment B** for the fiscal impact details by 2025-27 PL operating budget item.

See **Attachment C** for the fiscal impact by job class.

Revenue for General Fund-Federal, General Fund-Private/Local, and the Radioactive Mixed Waste Account are adjusted to align with the changes in expenditures.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
A	Salaries and Wages		550,000	508,000	515,000	503,000	445,000
B	Employee Benefits		92,000	85,000	87,000	85,000	74,000
	Total Objects	0	642,000	593,000	602,000	588,000	519,000

Staffing			<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
Job Class	Salary							
	Total FTEs		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Explanation of costs by object:

Salaries and benefits are based on the projected fiscal impacts of the general wage increases (3% effective July 1, 2025, and 2% effective July 1, 2026) and targeted job class increases calculated for the new PL FTEs added in the 2025-27 operating budget.

Historical Funding:

	FY2026	FY2027
FTE (direct FTE)	0.00	0.00
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	\$0	\$0
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	\$0	\$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	\$0	\$0

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002, but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This request is essential to achieving all of Ecology goals: Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees, Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts, Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution, and Goal 4: Protect and manage our state's waters and all of Ecology's strategic objectives, because it will maintain the current level of Ecology's environmental and public health services by fully funding all employee wages.

This request is also essential to achieving the Governor's Results Washington Goal 3: Sustainable Energy and a Clean Environment because it will maintain the current level of Ecology's environmental and public health services by fully funding all employee wages.

Performance Outcomes:

The outcome(s) of this request will be sufficient funding for employees to continue the current level of Ecology's environmental and public health services.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A

Target Communities and Populations:

N/A

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

Not applicable - this is a technical ML budget request.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

This request is to fully fund the WFSE collective bargaining agreement general wage increases and targeted job class increases based on the fiscal impact of these increases for the new FTEs added at PL in the 2025-27 operating budget.

Intergovernmental:

N/A

Stakeholder Impacts:

N/A

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

[Compensation Changes for New 2025-27 FTEs-Attachments A-B-C.xlsx](#)

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2026	2027	2025-27	2028	2029	2027-29
Obj. A	\$0	\$550	\$550	\$508	\$515	\$1,023
Obj. B	\$0	\$92	\$92	\$85	\$87	\$172

Agency Contact Information

Aaron Hubler
(360) 742-7903
ahub461@ecy.wa.gov

Attachment A: Fiscal Impacts of General Wage & Targeted Job Class Increases by Account

Purpose: Provide fiscal impacts of 2025-27 biennium targeted and general wage increases by account for 2025-27 PL operating budget items.

Targeted Job Class Impact on 2025-27 PL Budget FTE Changes

Account	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
001-1 General Fund - State	-	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
001-2 General Fund - Federal	-	34,000	34,000	34,000	32,000	7,000
001-7 General Fund - Private/Local	-	-	-	-	-	-
044-1 Waste Reduct/Recycle/Litter Control	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
176-1 Water Quality Permit	-	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-
20R-1 Radioactive Mixed Waste	-	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000	9,000
216-1 Air Pollution Control	-	-	-	-	-	-
219-1 Air Operating Permit	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating - State	-	73,000	73,000	73,000	73,000	73,000
25Q-1 Clean Fuels Program-State	-	-	-	-	-	-
26B-1 Climate Investment-State	-	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
26C-1 Climate Commitment-State	-	-	1,000	3,000	1,000	-
26D-1 Natural Climate Solutions-State	-	-	-	-	-	-
30C-6 Responsible Recycling Mgmt	-	-	-	-	-	-
564-1 Water Pollution Ctrl. Rev. Admin - State	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	146,000	147,000	149,000	145,000	119,000

General Wage Impact on 2025-27 PL Budget FTE Changes

Account	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
001-1 General Fund - State	-	23,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000
001-2 General Fund - Federal	-	61,000	62,000	62,000	42,000	21,000
001-7 General Fund - Private/Local	-	15,000	-	-	-	-
044-1 Waste Reduct/Recycle/Litter Control	-	17,000	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
176-1 Water Quality Permit	-	37,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	35,000
207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance	-	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
20R-1 Radioactive Mixed Waste	-	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000	38,000
216-1 Air Pollution Control	-	9,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
219-1 Air Operating Permit	-	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating - State	-	137,000	129,000	132,000	127,000	123,000
25Q-1 Clean Fuels Program-State	-	20,000	13,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
26B-1 Climate Investment-State	-	44,000	21,000	21,000	21,000	20,000
26C-1 Climate Commitment-State	-	7,000	14,000	31,000	48,000	37,000
26D-1 Natural Climate Solutions-State	-	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
30C-6 Responsible Recycling Mgmt	-	29,000	28,000	23,000	21,000	16,000
564-1 Water Pollution Ctrl. Rev. Admin - State	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	-	496,000	446,000	453,000	443,000	400,000

Total Compensation Impact

Account	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
001-1 General Fund - State	-	34,000	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000
001-2 General Fund - Federal	-	95,000	96,000	96,000	74,000	28,000
001-7 General Fund - Private/Local	-	15,000	-	-	-	-
044-1 Waste Reduct/Recycle/Litter Control	-	19,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
176-1 Water Quality Permit	-	50,000	49,000	49,000	49,000	48,000
207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance	-	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
20R-1 Radioactive Mixed Waste	-	47,000	47,000	47,000	47,000	47,000
216-1 Air Pollution Control	-	9,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000
219-1 Air Operating Permit	-	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating - State	-	210,000	202,000	205,000	200,000	196,000
25Q-1 Clean Fuels Program-State	-	20,000	13,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
26B-1 Climate Investment-State	-	47,000	24,000	24,000	24,000	23,000
26C-1 Climate Commitment-State	-	7,000	15,000	34,000	49,000	37,000
26D-1 Natural Climate Solutions-State	-	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000
30C-6 Responsible Recycling Mgmt	-	29,000	28,000	23,000	21,000	16,000
564-1 Water Pollution Ctrl. Rev. Admin - State	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total	-	642,000	593,000	602,000	588,000	519,000

Attachment B: Fiscal Impacts of General Wage & Targeted Job Class Increases by 2025-27 PL Budget Item

Purpose: Provide fiscal impacts of 2025-27 biennium targeted and general wage increases by 2025-27 PL Budget item.

	FTEs						Fiscal Impact of Compensation Adjustments					
	FTEs FY 2026	FTEs FY 2027	FTEs FY 2028	FTEs FY 2029	FTEs FY 2030	FTEs FY 2031	FY 2026 (Excluded)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031
2025-27 PL FTE Changes												
5033 Biosolids/PFAS Chemicals	1.2	0.1	0.1	1.1	-	-	-	686	692	6,784	-	-
5036 Statewide Emissions Data	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	13,534	13,687	13,628	13,712	13,837
5284 Solid Waste Management	7.8	7.3	5.9	5.0	4.4	3.3	-	43,485	35,763	29,530	26,749	19,881
9F Federal Funding Adjustment	9.1	9.1	9.1	9.1	4.5	-	-	78,009	78,614	78,381	51,685	-
9F Federal Funding Adjustment - BIL/IRA	6.1	4.9	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	-	33,550	34,229	34,101	34,283	34,556
AC01 Air Operating Permit	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	-	5,095	5,135	5,119	5,141	5,174
AGFL Agricultural Fuel/CCA	1.5	0.5	-	-	-	-	-	2,698	-	-	-	-
B001 Shoreline and GMA Updates	5.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	-	20,096	20,329	20,239	20,367	20,558
BA Litter Control & Market Development	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	9,326	9,479	9,420	9,504	9,629
BB Washington Fuel Report System	0.8	0.8	0.8	-	-	-	-	6,092	6,145	-	-	-
BF WQ Grant & Loan Administration	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	12,343	12,496	12,437	12,521	12,646
BH Hanford Cleanup Support	1.2	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	-	45,073	45,458	45,309	45,522	45,838
BJ Hanford Unit Closure & Construction	1.2	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	11,560	11,713	11,654	11,738	11,863
BK Air Quality Industrial Inspectors	2.3	2.3	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	-	11,560	17,633	17,543	17,671	17,862
BL Lead in Cookware	1.2	1.8	2.7	2.4	2.4	2.4	-	10,861	16,472	14,433	14,520	14,651
BP01 Toxic Tire Chemicals	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4	-	116,849	117,806	117,440	117,965	118,745
BPS Bridge Point Settlement	3.5	3.5	-	-	-	-	-	19,704	-	-	-	-
BT Aquatic Permitting and Aquaculture	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	13,496	13,649	13,590	13,674	13,799
BY European Green Crab Research	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	15,870	16,023	15,964	16,048	16,173
CC01 Environmental Justice	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	-	23,094	23,338	23,244	23,380	23,524
CCAR CCA Analysis and Rulemaking	7.3	7.4	3.2	3.2	3.2	3.2	-	46,305	21,160	21,077	21,194	21,369
CE PFAS Response	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	10.9	-	92,868	93,599	93,313	93,715	94,316
CLFP Clean Fuels Program	2.8	3.4	1.9	1.1	1.1	1.1	-	18,555	10,696	6,521	6,561	6,621
EHR1 Environmental Incident Reporting	1.2	0.6	-	-	-	-	-	3,546	-	-	-	-
Gov.Veto-Salmon Recovery Proj	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	-	(6,562)	(6,642)	(6,611)	(6,655)	(6,720)
HFCS Hydrofluorocarbons	0.8	0.8	2.7	6.2	10.1	8.1	-	5,328	18,842	41,570	61,950	47,846
RA2 Shorelands Program Planner	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	-	(5,854)	(5,934)	(5,903)	(5,947)	(6,012)
RA3 Nutrient Credit Trading Development	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	-	(6,562)	(6,642)	(6,611)	(6,655)	(6,720)
RB1 EIM System Coordinator Position	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	(0.7)	-	(3,489)	(3,535)	(3,517)	(3,543)	(3,581)
RC1 Comm. Outreach and Env. Education	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	-	(6,075)	(6,155)	(6,124)	(6,168)	(6,233)
RE1 Climate Program Communication	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	-	(6,075)	(6,155)	(6,124)	(6,168)	(6,233)
SEWG Sewage-Containing Spills	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	-	1,976	1,569	1,561	1,572	1,589
SWST Solid Waste Handling	1.5	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	10,184	-	-	-	-
WAST Waste Material Management	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.6	-	4,041	4,035	4,017	4,043	3,630
Total	90.6	91.3	81.9	83.6	81.2	73.5		641,167	593,499	601,985	588,379	518,608

Attachment C: Fiscal Impacts of General Wage & Targeted Job Class Increases by Job Class

Purpose: Provide fiscal impacts of 2025-27 biennium targeted and general wage increases by account by job class.

Job Classes below that had targeted increases include:

Administrative Assistant 3 and 5; Environmental Engineer 3, 5, 6; Fiscal Analyst 2 and 3; Natural Resource Scientist 2 and 3; Environmental Specialist 1 and 2; Natural Resource Scientist 4; Customer Service Specialist 3.

Job Class	FTEs						Fiscal Impact of Compensation Adjustments						
	FTEs FY 2026	FTEs FY 2027	FTEs FY 2028	FTEs FY 2029	FTEs FY 2030	FTEs FY 2031	FY 2026 (Excluded)	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 3	-	-	-	0.0	-	-	-	-	12,447	12,447	-	197	-
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ADMINISTRATIVE INTERN 1	0.2	(0.1)	-	-	-	-	-	(227)	-	-	-	-	-
BUDGET ANALYST 4	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	5,707	5,546	5,546	5,546	5,546	5,546
CHEMIST 3	2.5	3.8	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	-	20,674	23,430	23,430	23,430	23,430	23,430
CHEMIST 4	-	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	-	1,599	3,198	1,599	1,599	1,599	1,599
COMM OUTRCH & ENVIRO ED SPEC 3	2.4	2.5	1.6	2.2	2.3	2.0	-	9,808	6,566	8,727	9,008	8,007	(9,278)
COMM OUTRCH & ENVIRO ED SPEC 4	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)	(2.0)	-	(9,278)	(9,278)	(9,278)	(9,278)	(9,278)	(9,278)
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT 2	-	-	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	-	-	190	190	-	-
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT 3	3.0	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	-	10,222	10,013	9,676	9,676	9,676	9,676
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT 4	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT 5	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	-	-	828	442	276	276	-	-
CUSTOMER SERVICE SPEC 3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	9,563	9,563	9,563	9,563	9,563	9,563
ECONOMIC ANALYST 3	0.3	0.7	0.3	-	0.3	-	-	3,959	1,414	-	1,414	-	-
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-	-	-	108	108	108	-	-	-
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 3	2.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	-	41,983	41,983	41,983	41,610	41,610	41,610
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	-	52,555	52,555	52,555	52,555	52,555	52,555
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 6	-	-	0.4	0.8	0.4	-	-	-	4,321	8,528	4,321	-	-
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 3	8.5	8.2	7.1	7.3	4.9	3.5	-	41,879	36,445	37,522	25,271	17,941	17,941
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 4	11.8	9.8	8.2	8.6	7.5	7.4	-	55,486	46,607	48,530	42,308	41,855	41,855
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 5	7.6	7.0	6.3	6.0	6.3	5.8	-	43,396	39,088	37,464	39,025	35,903	35,903
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 1	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 2	2.0	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.3	1.3	-	12,484	12,484	12,484	9,608	9,608	9,608
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 3	4.6	5.5	5.9	5.7	5.2	5.2	-	24,223	26,063	25,224	23,022	23,022	23,022
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 4	10.3	11.6	8.1	8.7	10.5	10.0	-	59,331	41,355	44,380	53,733	51,180	51,180
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 5	1.9	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.5	1.5	-	8,743	8,743	9,648	8,460	8,460	8,460
ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNICIAN	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	2,645	2,645	2,645	2,645	2,645	2,645
EXTERNAL CIVIL RIGHTS SPECIALIST 4	1.0	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	5,798	-	-	-	-	-
EYC SUPERVISOR	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	-	6,574	6,574	6,574	6,574	6,574	6,574
FINANCIAL EXAMINER 2	0.2	0.3	0.1	-	-	-	-	1,313	315	-	-	-	-
FINANCIAL EXAMINER 3	-	-	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	-	-	2,010	2,010	2,010	-	-
FINANCIAL EXAMINER 4	2.0	1.8	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	11,764	6,722	6,722	6,722	6,722	6,722
FISCAL ANALYST 3	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	-	29,434	29,434	29,434	29,434	29,434	29,434
GRANT AND CONTRACT COORDINATOR	0.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
HUMAN RESOURCE CONSULTANT 4	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	6,520	6,520	6,520	6,520	6,520	6,520
HYDROGEOLOGIST 2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	4,998	4,998	4,998	4,998	4,998	4,998
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY	0.6	0.1	0.1	1.1	1.4	1.1	-	634	317	6,651	8,551	6,968	6,968
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-SR/SPEC	0.7	0.7	0.7	-	-	-	-	5,135	5,135	-	-	-	-
IT BUSINESS ANALYST-JOURNEY	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	-	127	127	127	1,711	254	254
IT DATA MANAGEMENT SR MANAGER	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	8,745	8,745	8,745	8,745	8,745	8,745
IT DATA MANAGEMENT-JOURNEY	0.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
IT DATA MANAGEMENT-SR/SPEC	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	6,986	6,986	6,986	6,986	6,986	6,986
KING CO - ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	7,416	7,416	7,416	7,416	7,416	7,416
MANAGEMENT ANALYST 3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	4,529	4,529	4,529	4,529	4,529	4,529
MANAGEMENT ANALYST 4	0.8	0.4	-	-	-	-	-	2,100	-	-	-	-	-
MANAGEMENT ANALYST 5	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	-	5,798	5,798	5,798	5,798	-	-
NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTIST 2	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	-	53,946	53,946	53,946	53,946	35,964	35,964
NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTIST 3	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.0	-	25,763	25,763	25,763	25,763	20,946	20,946
NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTIST 4	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	1.0	-	31,358	31,358	31,358	31,358	15,679	15,679
REGULATORY ANALYST 2	-	0.2	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	1,050	525	-	525	-	-
REGULATORY ANALYST 3	0.3	0.4	0.1	-	0.1	-	-	2,080	476	-	297	-	-
TOXICOLOGIST 2	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	-	5,944	5,944	5,944	5,944	5,944	5,944
WMS BAND 1	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	-	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150	3,150
WMS BAND 2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.1	-	-	1,870	973	1,870	973	-	-
Total	90.9	91.5	82.4	83.8	81.7	74.0	-	641,167	593,499	601,985	588,379	518,608	518,608

2026 Supplemental Budget: Planned OFM Maintenance Level (ML) Adjustments for Ecology

Purpose: Provide a summary of planned Maintenance Level (ML) adjustments identified by Ecology, which the Office of Financial Management (OFM) plans to include in the Governor's proposed 2026 supplemental budget.

Rec Sum	Program	Budget	Duration	Title	Fund Source	Adjustment Needed				2027-29 Carryforward Level				Description	
						FY26 \$	FY27 \$	FY26 FTE	FY27 FTE	FY28 \$	FY29 \$	FY28 FTE	FY29 FTE		
PL 5284	SWM	Op-ML	Custom	Solid Waste Management	044-1-Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	\$ 383,000	\$ 94,000			\$ (383,000)	\$ 150,000			This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level, starting in 2025-27 and ongoing, with its final fiscal note for ESSB 5284 (Solid Waste Management, Laws of 2025). Due to the timing of bill passage, the funding level provided in the 2025-27 operating budget was not able to account for late changes made to the bill, which increased Ecology's costs for implementing it. Specifically, three sections of the bill were not fully funded, consistent with Ecology's final fiscal note: 1. Sec. 105(3): Equity Subcommittee 2. Sec. 124: Deposit Return Study 3. Sec. 121: Ex-Ante Study	
								0.50	0.50				(0.10)	(0.20)	This adjustment will increase the funding provided for the 2025-27 and 2027-29 biennia so that Ecology can complete the work required under the bill. Please note: The adjustment to 2027-29 carryforward level included here assumes that the existing planned adjustment currently identified in Winsum for item PL-5284 is also made. The two adjustments, together, will ensure the correct funding level is available in 2027-29: FY28 - \$1,497,000, RRM-6 FY29 - \$1,498,000, RRM-6 \$244,000, 044-1
					30C-6-Responsible Recycling Management Account	\$ -	\$ 457,000		\$ 10,000	\$ (446,000)					
PL 5036	CPR	Op-ML	Ongoing	Statewide Emissions Data	23P-1-Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$ (335,000)	\$ (335,000)			\$ -	\$ -			This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for implementing SB 5036, starting in 2025-27 and ongoing, with its final fiscal note for the bill. The 2025-27 operating budget provided more funding than is needed, based on the fiscal note for a prior version of the bill.	
							(0.60)	(0.60)			-		-	This adjustment reduces Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2025-27 and ongoing, to match the final fiscal note. The adjustment also shifts the remaining funding from 23P-MTCA Operating Account to 26B-Climate Investment Account.	
					28B-1-Climate Investment Account	\$ 255,000	\$ 255,000		\$ -	\$ -					
N/A	CPR	Op-ML	Ongoing	Zero-Emissions Vehicle Program									This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level, starting in 2025-27 and ongoing, with its final fiscal note for SB 2077 (Zero-Emissions Vehicle Program, Laws of 2025), which introduced new requirements related to Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) credit reporting and tax compliance that will impact manufacturers and require coordination between state agencies.		
					001-1-General Fund-State	\$ 74,000	\$ 74,000	0.60	0.60	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	Due to the timing of bill passage, the 2025-27 operating budget did not include funding to support Ecology's implementation of this bill. Consistent with our final fiscal note, this adjustment will provide the resources needed for Ecology to coordinate with the Department of Revenue, publish credit data, create tax impact materials for regulated entities and the public, and handle media inquiries. Note: While Ecology's final fiscal note identified General Fund-State (GF-S) as the fund source to support this work, based on the Legislature's decision in the 2025-27 operating budget to shift Ecology's ZEV-related work from GF-S to 26C-Climate Commitment Account, either fund source could be used for this adjustment.	

Rec Sum	Program	Budget	Duration	Title	Fund Source	FY26 \$	FY27 \$	FY28 FTE	FY27 FTE	FY28 \$	FY29 \$	FY28 FTE	FY29 FTE	Description
N/A	SEA	Op-Other	Ongoing	Sec. 302(3) - Ocean Acidification Proviso Change	N/A	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	\$ -	\$ -	-	-	When the 2025 Legislature shifted funding in Ecology's base budget from General Fund-State to 23P-MTCA Operating Account through item PL-FSGM in the 2025-27 operating budget, that included the funding used for implementing Executive Order No. 12-07, Washington's Response to Ocean Acidification. However, this funding is provided each biennium, and while the fund shift was made in PL-FSGM, the associated proviso language was not updated in the 2025-27 operating budget bill to change the fund source. This adjustment will align the budget bill proviso with the fund shift made and ensure that the correct fund source is used to support this work. Proviso Change Needed: Proviso: (3) (((\$2,04,000))-\$149,000) of the ((model toxics control operational account — state appropriation)) general fund—state appropriations for fiscal year 2026 and \$149,000 of the general fund—state appropriations for fiscal year 2027 are ((6)) provided solely for implementation of Executive Order No. 12-07, Washington's response to ocean acidification. No changes to appropriation levels in GF-S or MTCA Operating are needed.
ML EF	Program A	Op-ML	Ongoing	HO Parking Garage Renovation COP	001-1 General Fund-State	\$ (37,000)	\$ (37,000)			\$ -	\$ -			The 2023 Legislature authorized Ecology to finance and proceed with a major restoration project of the parking garage at Ecology's headquarters building in Casey, WA. Appropriation authority was provided in the 2025-27 operating budget to support the Certificate of Participation (COP) payments over a 10-year term. Due to one-time positive variance at the end of the 2023-25 biennium, Ecology was able to pay the costs of the parking garage project directly and avoid the need to debt finance these costs over the next five biennia. Therefore, the appropriation authority provided in the 2025-27 operating budget to support the COP payments is no longer needed, and this adjustment will reduce that funding from Ecology's operating budget on an ongoing basis, beginning in 2025-27.
					027-1 Reclamation Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					02P-1 Flood Control Assistance Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					044-1 Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					176-1 Water Quality Permit Account	\$ (9,000)	\$ (9,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					182-1 Underground Storage Tank Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					199-1 Biosolids Permit Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	\$ (6,000)	\$ (6,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					216-1 Air Pollution Control Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					217-1 Oil Spill Prevention Account	\$ (5,000)	\$ (5,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					219-1 Air Operating Permit Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$ (160,000)	\$ (160,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					250-1 Clean Fuels Program Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					268-1 Climate Investment Account	\$ (21,000)	\$ (21,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	\$ (6,000)	\$ (6,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					26D-1 Natural Climate Solutions Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					564-1 Water Pollution Control Revolving Admin Account	\$ (4,000)	\$ (4,000)			\$ -	\$ -			

Rec Sum	Program	Budget	Duration	Title	Fund Source	FY26 \$	FY27 \$	FY26 FTE	FY27 FTE	FY28 \$	FY29 \$	FY28 FTE	FY29 FTE	Description
N/A	Program A	Op-ML	Ongoing	State Parks Lease	001-1-General Fund-State	\$ (39,000)	\$ (39,000)			\$ -	\$ -			In June of 2023, the Office of Financial Management (OFM) directed State Parks and Ecology to relocate State Parks' Headquarters from their location in Tumwater into Ecology's Headquarters Building in Lacey, WA. This move became official on May 1, 2025, and under the signed lease agreement, State Parks now occupies approximately 22,013 square feet of office space and 11,509 square feet of warehouse and common space of Ecology's Headquarters Building. Under the lease agreement, State Parks now pays a pro-rational share of the property expenses to Ecology via an established Expense Rate of \$27,550 per month. Because the Expense Rate paid by State Parks (\$27,550 x24 months = \$660,000) each biennium is recorded as an offset to expenditures incurred by Ecology for the maintenance and operation of the Headquarters Building, this adjustment reduces that same amount from Ecology's operating budget since those costs are now covered by the lease payments from State Parks. The current lease runs from May 1, 2025, through April 30, 2030. During that time, if expenses increase or decrease over a two-year period, the expense reimbursement amount will be adjusted through a mutually-agreed upon amendment to the lease. Therefore, future maintenance level budget adjustments may be needed to align our funding levels with the amended lease amounts.
					027-1-Reclamation Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					029P-1-Flood Control Assistance Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					044-1-Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					176-1-Water Quality Permit Account	\$ (41,000)	\$ (41,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					182-1-Underground Storage Tank Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					199-1-Bioremediation Permit Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					207-1-Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	\$ (6,000)	\$ (6,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					216-1-Air Pollution Control Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					217-1-Oil Spill Prevention Account	\$ (6,000)	\$ (6,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					219-1-Air Operating Permit Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					239P-1-Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$ (176,000)	\$ (176,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					250Q-1-Clean Fuels Program Account	\$ (3,000)	\$ (3,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					268-1-Climate Investment Account	\$ (22,000)	\$ (22,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					269-1-Climate Commitment Account	\$ (6,000)	\$ (6,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					260-1-Natural Climate Solutions Account	\$ (2,000)	\$ (2,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					564-1-Water Pollution Control Revolving Admin Account	\$ (4,000)	\$ (4,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
ML MC (2009-11 operating budget)				Headquarters Repair Debt Service	001-1-General Fund-State	\$ (228,000)	\$ (228,000)			\$ -	\$ -			The 2008 legislature authorized Ecology to rebuild the east wall of its Lacey Headquarters Building, which had deteriorated due to water infiltration and corrosion. Ongoing funding was provided to pay debt service on the Certificates of Participation (COP) issued to finance this project. Ecology made its final COP payment on this project in June 2023. This adjustment will reduce the funding originally appropriated to support these payments from Ecology's operating budget on an ongoing basis, beginning in 2025-27.
					027-1-Reclamation Account	\$ (8,000)	\$ (8,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					044-1-Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	\$ (23,000)	\$ (23,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					239P-1-Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$ (251,000)	\$ (251,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					176-1-Water Quality Permit Account	\$ (89,000)	\$ (89,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					182-1-Underground Storage Tank Account	\$ (11,000)	\$ (11,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					207-1-Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	\$ (17,000)	\$ (17,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					217-1-Oil Spill Prevention Account	\$ (32,000)	\$ (32,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					219-1-Air Operating Permit Account	\$ (11,000)	\$ (11,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
										\$ -	\$ -			
CL CH (2010 suppl operating budget)	Program A	Op-ML	Ongoing	Reduce Debt Service for Wall Repair						\$ -	\$ -			
										\$ -	\$ -			
										\$ -	\$ -			
										\$ -	\$ -			
Totals						\$ (931,000)	\$ (763,000)	0.50	0.50	\$ (373,000)	\$ (296,000)	(0.10)	(0.20)	
					001-1-General Fund-State	\$ (230,000)	\$ (230,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					239P-1-Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$ (922,000)	\$ (922,000)			\$ -	\$ -			
					Other Accounts	\$ (221,000)	\$ (389,000)			\$ (373,000)	\$ (296,000)			

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab C-2	Prevent and Reduce Toxic Threats and Pollution	81
	1. PL PB Laboratory Accreditation	83

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



Agency Recommendation Summary

Ecology's Laboratory Accreditation Unit is responsible for auditing environmental and drinking water labs that do business in or with Washington State. These audits are a key component of the accreditation process and help ensure analyses are conducted properly, according to prescribed methods, and that Washington makes informed decisions based on credible, defensible data. The workload for this unit has increased significantly over the last decade as the need for technical assistance has grown, along with the demand to accredit new labs looking to analyze complex, novel compounds like 6PPD-quinone. In 2023-25, the Legislature provided one-time bridge funding for five auditor positions to help Ecology address this increased workload and respond to a 2021 audit finding by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that found 34 drinking water labs had not been audited within three years, which is required under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. Ecology completed rulemaking in 2023 to increase fees to support additional staff, and this request will provide funding needed to reestablish the five auditor positions on an ongoing basis, so Ecology can remain current on drinking water lab audits and continue to address the backlog of environmental labs that need to be audited. This request also supports Ecology's related agency request legislation for the 2026 legislative session, which would establish a new dedicated account for the lab accreditation fees to be deposited into, and shifts Ecology base funding for this work to that new account. This request is related to implementing the Governor's Salmon Strategy. (General Fund-State, NEW-Laboratory Accreditation Account).

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2026	2027	2025-27	2028	2029	2027-29
Staffing						
FTEs	0.0	5.8	2.9	5.8	5.8	5.8
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	\$0	(\$1,087)	(\$1,087)	(\$1,004)	(\$1,087)	(\$2,091)
Fund NEW - 1	\$0	\$2,102	\$2,102	\$2,019	\$2,102	\$4,121
Total Expenditures	\$0	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$2,030
Revenue						
001 - 0299	\$0	(\$1,087)	(\$1,087)	(\$1,004)	(\$1,087)	(\$2,091)
NEW - 0299	\$0	\$2,102	\$2,102	\$2,019	\$2,102	\$4,121
Total Revenue	\$0	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$1,015	\$2,030

Decision Package Description

Background

Ecology's Laboratory Accreditation Unit (LAU) was created in 1987 and currently provides accreditation to 448 laboratories, including 125 drinking water laboratories and 323 environmental laboratories. Of these, 349 labs require on-site audits. The federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires drinking water testing laboratories to be audited every three years. In addition to onsite audits of laboratories, the accreditation process includes the review of laboratories' quality assurance manuals, verifying their proficiency testing results, and providing technical assistance to laboratories, as needed, to help them through the process of gaining accreditation.

Throughout the accreditation process, Ecology's six permanent LAU staff, which include four auditors, one unit supervisor, and one billing/client specialist, assist labs in achieving quality results. From the smallest accredited labs in wastewater or drinking water facilities to large international firms that analyze samples for research projects in Washington, Ecology ensures the labs can perform the tests they claim to, they follow appropriate protocols, and they have a quality management system in place. Washington relies on the competence of these labs to ensure safe drinking water is available and that these labs deliver credible testing results for making important policy decisions.

Under current law and rule (RCW 43.21A.230 and WAC 173-50-190), laboratories seeking accreditation are required to pay fees for accreditation services, and these fees are deposited into General Fund-State (GF-S), which is where these fees have been deposited since their inception. However, beginning in 2017-19, the funding for the LAU's work was shifted from GF-S to the State Toxics Control Account (now the Model Toxics Control (MTCA) Operating Account), but the fee revenue has continued to be/is currently deposited into GF-S.

Problem/Opportunity

As the result of an Ecology Decision Package in 2025, the Legislature addressed the misalignment issue between how work was funded and where fees were deposited by shifting Ecology's base budget funding for the LAU back to GF-S from the MTCA Operating Account in the 2025-27 operating budget. However, the Legislature's actions only addressed one of the problems that had been outlined in Ecology's 2025-27 budget request. What was unfortunately not addressed was the need for more auditors to keep up with the increasing workload demand on the LAU.

Over the past decade, the workload facing the LAU has increased significantly, as has the need for technical assistance—especially at smaller labs—and the demand to accredit new labs looking to analyze complex, novel compounds, such as 6PPD-quinone (6PPD-q) and PFAS (per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances), has grown. Ecology does not currently have sufficient staff to keep up with this increased workload, and this has resulted in a backlog of both drinking water and nondrinking water labs that need to be audited.

Drinking Water Labs

Ecology audits 125 drinking water labs through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Department of Health (DOH). We are required to conduct audits for these facilities every three years to protect public health under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. In 2021, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) audited Ecology's accreditation program and found 30 of these labs had not been audited according to the required three-year cycle.

Environmental Labs

In addition to the drinking water labs, Ecology also currently accredits 323 environmental labs across the state and country. These include commercial, municipal, industrial, and academic labs of varying shapes, sizes, and needs. Some large commercial labs have extensive experience, a high level of expertise, and the infrastructure in place to provide the quality assurance needed for regulatory data. In contrast, other labs, such as those at small wastewater treatment plants, have only one operator who analyzes data important to protecting the waters of the state.

The number of labs accredited by Ecology has remained relatively steady over the years, but the rigor and complexity of the audit process, the need to analyze new, emerging compounds, and the demand for technical assistance have all increased over the last decade.

In 2011, the LAU changed how they accredited for organic compounds and began to accredit labs for each individual organic compound it analyzed. Prior to this change, accreditation applications for organic compounds were reviewed, and accreditation was granted for broad groupings of related compounds, such as PAHs (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons), Carbamates, Phthalates, PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), and PBDEs (polybrominated diphenyl ethers), instead of each individual compound within that group. Under this previous grouping method, it was possible for a lab to be accredited for compounds they had never attempted to analyze because the compound happened to fall under a particular group. This potentially missed important method differences among compounds within a group.

The move to accrediting individual compounds provides assurances that the data generated by accredited labs is accurate and legally defensible. This decision was made to match what the National Environmental Laboratories Accreditation Program (a group of 14 state accrediting bodies including Oregon, Utah, Louisiana, and Florida) had done. Since 2011, many other accrediting agencies have followed suit.

In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of contaminants of emerging concern, due in part to greater awareness of these contaminants, a desire to protect both environmental and public health, and advances in technology that now allow these contaminants to be measured. The two most recent examples the LAU has dealt with are PFAS and 6PPD-q. With newer compounds like these, the methods used to analyze them are not as well refined as other methods in the industry. When a published analytical lab method does not exist, the labs must have their in-house developed procedures reviewed for accreditation. This requires a thorough review of the lab's documents, such as their standard operating procedures and data.

In addition to this increased complexity, the LAU has also seen an uptick in the demand for technical assistance, with most of that need coming from small Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs) and academic labs. Small WWTPs often have only one operator running the facility, and we have found the accreditation work can be very challenging for these operators. Ecology has developed process improvements and tools to help these plant operators, but this requires more time from our auditors to provide this assistance.

This increasing workload, coupled with the fact Ecology has had to prioritize drinking water labs to meet the three-year audit requirement (unsuccessfully to this point), has meant many of our non-drinking water environmental labs have not been audited for many years. There is no current federal or state requirement for how often these labs should be audited, like there is for drinking water labs. However, Ecology's goal, based on industry standards, is to audit each of these environmental labs at least every three years. As of September 2025, 213 environmental

labs that require audits have not been audited in over four years. These labs need to be audited on a regular basis so we can ensure they produce accurate and defensible data.

Temporary Help

After a 2022 supplemental budget request to address the 2021 EPA audit finding for drinking water labs was not funded, our partners at DOH were able to help by providing \$135,000 in one-time funding for fiscal year 2023 so Ecology could hire a contract accreditation provider to conduct audits and help reduce the backlog. Then, for the 2023-25 biennium, Ecology received one-time funding for five project position auditors to help reduce or eliminate the backlog.

Unfortunately, the funding that supported the five project auditor positions in 2023-25 was reduced from Ecology's budget at carryforward-level (CFL) for 2025-27, and despite the accreditation fees now being set at a level to fully cover the costs of the LAU, including continuing the five new auditors on an ongoing basis, Ecology's request for ongoing appropriation authority for the additional five auditors was not included in the 2025-27 operating budget. This means that starting July 1, 2025, Ecology has again begun to fall behind in meeting the federal requirements for drinking water labs, and we are unable to address the audit and technical assistance needs for labs that handle both drinking water and/or other environmental parameters.

Proposed Solution

This request accomplishes three elements needed to support the growing workload demand for Ecology's LAU and ensure Ecology can remain current on drinking water lab audits and continue to address the backlog of environmental labs that need to be audited on an ongoing basis:

1. First, starting July 1, 2026, this request shifts Ecology's current base budget funding currently supporting the LAU (**\$1,087,000 and 6.9 FTEs** for fiscal year 2027) from GF-S to a new Laboratory Accreditation Account being proposed through agency request legislation (ARL) for the 2026 legislative session. This step will ensure that the fund source supporting the LAU is aligned with where fees will be deposited, starting in fiscal year 2027, under the ARL.

Having the accreditation fees deposited into the GF-S, where they are then commingled with other revenue deposited into that account, can create confusion about how the LAU is actually supported: *is it supported through fees or through GF-S?* **The answer is through fees**, but because those fees are deposited into GF-S, it can lead to confusion for those who might not be familiar with the intricacies and mechanics of the situation.

Creating a dedicated account for these fees and shifting Ecology base budget funding for this work to the new account will help alleviate confusion around how the LAU is supported, ensure that the fees collected from labs are used to support the intended accreditation purposes, and meet the legislative intent that the work of the LAU be fee-supported, both now and in the future as needs and demands change over time.

2. Next, starting July 1, 2026, the request provides increased appropriation authority, above the base budget shifted from GF-S in step #1 above, from the new account (**\$1,015,292, 5.8 FTEs** per year) to support the five additional lab accreditation auditors reduced at CFL and ensure that the LAU can stay up to date on drinking water lab audits and continue to address the backlog of environmental labs that need to be audited. These staff will also continue helping to address the increased need for technical assistance and provide resources to help accredit labs that are working to analyze novel, complex compounds, such as 6PPD-q, PFAS, PBDE, and others.
3. Finally, to enable Ecology to spend the appropriation authority from the new account provided thorough steps #1-2 above starting, beginning July 1, 2026, and help establish and maintain a reasonable working capital reserve for the account, the request seeks a transfer of the lab accreditation fee revenue collected in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 from GF-S to the new account. The fee revenue collected during the 2023-25 biennium was deposited into GF-S but not appropriated to Ecology to support the LAU because until the 2025-27 biennium, the LAU was funded from the MTCA Operating Account.

Suggested transfer language for sec. 805 – FOR THE STATE TREASURER – TRANSFERS as part of the 2026 supplemental operating budget:

General Fund: For transfer to the Laboratory Accreditation Account, \$2,343,000 for fiscal year 2026.....
\$2,343,000

Impacts on Population Served

This request will affect all residents in Washington. It is a requirement of the EPA Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Manual that states drinking water laboratories be audited every three years, a critical factor in ensuring municipal drinking water is safe for consumption. Reducing the audit backlog for environmental labs also affects residents across the state because the data from these labs are used by Ecology and other state agencies to make environmental and public health decisions. For example, accurate tests of mercury in fish will inform fish consumption advisories, and accurate tests on wastewater parameters will inform permit compliance.

This request affects private, municipal, industrial, and academic laboratories by providing them with the technical assistance they need to become accredited. This assistance has become more necessary as labs seek to be accredited for analysis of emerging and complex compounds.

Alternatives Explored

Ecology has explored and been unsuccessful in returning responsibility for accrediting drinking water laboratories to DOH. We have also tried contracting out some of the audit responsibilities for accreditation, but this is not a long-term solution, does not provide the technical support needed by many of the labs, and does not provide the level of assurance provided by audits performed by our own staff with their knowledge and expertise.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request

If this request is not funded, Ecology would continue the accreditation program at the 6.9 FTE level. Since the current fee schedule was established to support the accreditation program at the 12.7 FTE level, Ecology would need to undergo rulemaking again to reduce fees to a level that would only support the 6.9 FTEs to ensure labs do not overpay for services. With only 6.9 FTEs, Ecology would not be able to: (1) keep up with the three-year audit cycle required for drinking water labs, which would endanger DOH's primacy; (2) conduct the needed audits for environmental labs; (3) provide timely service; and (4) provide the technical assistance needed for research and small labs (like those in wastewater treatment plants) to become accredited and/or maintain their accreditation.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request expands Activity A012 – Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data, by increasing the number of auditors to help the accreditation program stay up to date on audits of drinking water and environmental laboratories. Below is a summary of the 2023-25 and 2025-27 base funding and FTEs for this activity. Administrative Overhead related to this activity is also in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals below.

A012 Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data		
	2023-25	2025-27
FTEs Total	12.9	7.6
Model Toxics Control Operating Account	\$3,542,000	\$0
General Fund-State	\$0	\$1,946,000
TOTAL	\$3,542,000	\$1,946,000

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Beginning July 1, 2026, and ongoing, Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for:

- 4.0 FTEs Chemist 4. Three of these positions will be inorganic chemists, and one will be an organic chemist. These positions will conduct onsite and virtual audits of laboratories, review quality assurance manuals and standard operating procedures of applicant laboratories, provide technical assistance to laboratories, and perform other activities required to determine whether laboratories are capable of producing accurate and defensible analytical data.

- 1.0 FTE Microbiologist 4. This position will be a microbiology specialist and will conduct onsite and virtual audits of laboratories, review quality assurance manuals and standard operating procedures of applicant laboratories, provide technical assistance to laboratories, and perform other activities required to determine whether laboratories are capable of producing accurate and defensible analytical data.

The estimated staff need is based on the following information and analysis:

- Ecology currently accredits 448 laboratories, 349 of which require onsite audits. Ecology currently has four permanent auditors to audit these 349 labs, which include 66 drinking water labs and 283 environmental labs.
- Each of the 66 drinking water labs must be audited every three years according to the EPA Drinking Water Laboratory Certification Manual (an average of 22 audits per year).
- Ecology's goal is to audit the 283 environmental labs every three to four years, based on industry standards (average of 81 audits per year).
- Currently, Ecology's four permanent auditors are able to complete an average of 12 audits per auditor per year. Based on that ratio, Ecology needs five additional auditors (nine in total) to complete a total of approximately 103 audits per year. These additional auditors will also help address the growing demand for technical assistance at both smaller labs that lack technical expertise and labs requesting accreditation for new and novel chemicals.

In addition to the new/reestablished FTEs identified above, this request shifts \$2,090,000 per biennium from GF-S (-\$2,090,000) to the new Laboratory Accreditation Account (+\$2,090,000), based on Ecology's enacted operating budget funding level for 2025-27 supporting the LAU. Because this shift is being made in the supplemental budget for 2025-27, the amount shifted will be \$1,087,000 for fiscal year 2027. This fund shift will align the fund source supporting the LAU with where lab accreditation fees will be deposited under the ARL starting in fiscal year 2027.

This request also includes a transfer of fee revenue collected in fiscal years 2024 and 2025 from GF-S to the new Laboratory Accreditation Account that is needed to establish and maintain a reasonable working capital reserve for the account so that it can be used starting July 1, 2026.

Suggested transfer language for sec. 805 – FOR THE STATE TREASURER – TRANSFERS as part of the 2026 supplemental operating budget:

General Fund: For transfer to the Laboratory Accreditation Account, \$2,343,000 for fiscal year 2026.....\$2,343,000

Revenue amounts starting in fiscal year 2027 reflect the revenue change in both GF-S and the new account as a result of this request and the proposed ARL. The revenue amounts shown in the new account starting in fiscal year 2027 will fully cover the costs for operating the LAU, including administrative and oversight costs, as authorized under RCW 43.21A.230 and WAC 173-50-190.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
A	Salaries and Wages		563,162	563,162	563,162	563,162	563,162
B	Employee Benefits		189,785	189,785	189,785	189,785	189,785
E	Goods and Services		27,760	27,760	27,760	27,760	27,760
G	Travel		11,990	11,990	11,990	11,990	11,990
J	Capital Outlays		5,370	5,370	5,370	5,370	5,370
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements		217,225	217,225	217,225	217,225	217,225
Total Objects		0	1,015,292	1,015,292	1,015,292	1,015,292	1,015,292

Staffing

Job Class	Salary	<u>FY 2026</u>	<u>FY 2027</u>	<u>FY 2028</u>	<u>FY 2029</u>	<u>FY 2030</u>	<u>FY 2031</u>
CHEMIST 4	113,734		4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
MICROBIOLOGIST 4	108,226		1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
FISCAL ANALYST 2			0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY			0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
Total FTEs		0.00	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.

Benefits are the agency average of 33.7% of salaries.

Goods and Services are the agency average of \$5,552 per direct program FTE.

Travel is the agency average of \$2,398 per direct program FTE.

Equipment is the agency average of \$1,074 per direct program FTE.

Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.85% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	<u>FY2026</u>	<u>FY2027</u>
FTE (direct FTE)	6.0	6.0
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	\$913,000	\$996,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	\$913,000	\$996,000
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	\$0	\$0

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's Results Washington goals:

- Goal 2: Prosperous Economy, because it will help Ecology accredit private sector commercial labs in a timelier manner, enabling them to earn an income in the state sooner. The laboratory accreditation program also provides technical assistance to laboratories to help them gain and maintain accreditation and improve their Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) procedures.
- Goal 3: Sustainable Energy and a Clean Environment, because it will ensure that testing laboratories can provide credible and defensible data needed for Ecology to make regulatory decisions to protect and clean up the environment.
- Goal 4: Healthy and Safe Communities, because it will ensure that laboratories testing drinking water can report credible and defensible data, which is used to ensure communities have healthy and safe water for recreation and consumption.

This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

- Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees, and Objective 1.1: Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services, because it will allow us to provide more timely service to labs that require technical assistance to become accredited.
- Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution, and Objective 3.3: Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination, and Goal 4: Protect and manage our state's waters, and Objective 4.2: Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters, because it will ensure that laboratories can provide the credible and defensible data needed for Ecology to make critical decisions around limiting toxics and pollution released into the environment and cleaning up what is already in the environment.

Performance Measures	Incremental Changes 2026	Incremental Changes 2027	Incremental Changes 2028	Incremental Changes 2029
001161 - Percentage of acceptable proficiency testing analyses completed by accredited labs	1%	1%	1%	1%

Performance Outcomes:

The outcome(s) of this request will be that laboratories will properly conduct analyses according to prescribed methods, and the state will make informed decisions based on credible and defensible data, including ensuring safe drinking water is available.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The need for this request was driven by federal requirements for the frequency of drinking water lab audits and the requirement to audit environmental laboratories to help assure quality data is coming to Ecology. Ecology has reached out to the entire accredited laboratory community and other stakeholders, including EPA, DOH (Office of Drinking Water), and Tribes. Ecology has held listening sessions for each of these groups and compiled their feedback to inform program delivery. There is great benefit to communities in having access to local laboratories with proven capabilities for testing drinking water as well as other environmental data affecting them.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This work is especially critical in communities that rely solely on municipal drinking water, which can contain contaminants that disproportionately impact disadvantaged communities. This request helps 1) all drinking water laboratories to be audited according to the EPA requirements, and 2) communities to have access to local accredited laboratories that can provide timely services. Ecology does not anticipate any potential significant impacts to Tribes' rights or interest in their Tribal lands.

Target Communities and Populations:

Ecology audits 448 laboratories that conduct environmental testing for the state of Washington. We estimate 50% of the collected laboratory accreditation fees would create environmental benefits to overburdened areas and vulnerable populations. Many of these laboratories conduct drinking water testing, which is a critical aspect of ensuring drinking water is safe for consumption and is a requirement under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

This work is critical in communities that rely solely on municipal drinking water, which can become contaminated with lead, PFAS, nitrates, and many other contaminants that disproportionately impact disadvantaged communities. This request helps to ensure all laboratories are audited, including wastewater treatment plant labs in small, rural communities, and that those laboratories can safely provide services to these communities. Laboratory accreditation also provides technical assistance to laboratories, many of which are small businesses and local to the communities that need their services. In particular, this request provides technical assistance to labs in small, rural wastewater treatment plants, which is a key component of 1) ensuring water from these facilities is safe for discharge to our marine and freshwater environments and 2) serving Ecology's equity goals. Ecology's technical support allows these businesses to expand their scope of analysis, improve the quality of their products, and grow.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

Yes, see attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

Tribal, state agency, and county and city government laboratories will receive better, faster service from Ecology's laboratory accreditation program. We anticipate support from these entities. This request particularly impacts DOH because the state is required to conduct drinking water laboratory audits every three years for DOH to have primacy over drinking water laboratories and to protect public health under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. DOH supports this request.

This request also impacts Ecology and all of EPA's National Estuary Program (NEP) Strategic Initiative Lead agencies, along with all other entities receiving funds through Ecology (such as counties, cities, and organizations). These groups depend on high-quality environmental data from accredited laboratories. EPA supports this request.

Lastly, this request impacts labs in municipal wastewater treatment plants that are required to be accredited and may need more technical assistance to achieve and maintain that status. Because all these entities will receive improved services from Ecology, we anticipate support from them.

Stakeholder Impacts:

When Ecology conducted the rulemaking process to increase accreditation fees, the affected laboratories supported the fee increase to provide Ecology the resources needed for the laboratory increased services. Without the additional 5.8 FTEs funded by this request, the laboratories would not receive the increased support they are paying for.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

This request supports Ecology's related agency request legislation, which would amend Chapter 43.21A RCW to establish a new dedicated account for lab accreditation fees imposed under RCW 43.21A.230 to be deposited into (see attached z-draft bill).

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This request is partly in response to the 2021 and 2024 EPA audit findings. Ecology is required to conduct drinking water laboratory audits every three years to protect public health, according to EPA's requirements. The EPA audits found a significant number of laboratories did not meet the triennial audit requirement. This funding request also fulfills the request from environmental labs for increased technical assistance and more timely audits. Some environmental labs have not been audited in over a decade.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

This request is related to implementing the Governor's Salmon Strategy that calls for the following actions: Invest in clean water infrastructure for salmon and people, particularly efforts to reduce toxics. Environmental labs play a critical role in processing monitoring data and providing high quality information that helps agencies assess water quality conditions, pollution exposure, and risks to salmon. This information helps Ecology and partner entities identify critical areas and prioritize investments and interventions to reduce toxic pollution with most benefit to salmon. The lethality of toxic tire dust (6PPD-quinone) to salmon has made the need to process this novel, complex compound with high-quality and repeatable methods even more urgent. Our ability to audit labs on a regular basis means Ecology and our partners can have confidence that the information these labs produce is credible and defensible.

Reference Documents

[Laboratory Accreditation Historical Funding Attachment A.xlsx](#)
[Laboratory Accreditation Z-0368.1 Attachment B.pdf](#)
[Laboratory Accreditation-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf](#)

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure <i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2026	2027	2025-27	2028	2029	2027-29
Obj. A	\$0	\$563	\$563	\$563	\$563	\$1,126
Obj. B	\$0	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$190	\$380
Obj. E	\$0	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$28	\$56
Obj. G	\$0	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$12	\$24
Obj. J	\$0	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$10
Obj. T	\$0	\$217	\$217	\$217	\$217	\$434

Agency Contact Information

Gary Koshi
(360) 701-7645
gkos461@ecy.wa.gov

DP ATTACHMENT A - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Instructions: Enter the following information about any budget items funded in the prior and/or current biennia (2023-25 budget, 2024 supplemental budget, 2025-27 budget) that are related to your Decision Package for the 2026 supplemental budget.

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25	PL-PJ-Laboratory Accreditation Auditors	ECY provides accreditation for drinking water laboratories. Funding is provided to increase the rate of drinking water lab audits for the 2023-25 biennium.	23P-1	One-Time	\$1,774,000
2025-27	PL-BR-Laboratory Accreditation Auditors	Laboratory Accreditation Unit audits environmental and drinking water labs. Lab accreditation fees are deposited in General Fund-State (GF-S). Funding for this work is shifted from the Model Toxics Control Operating Account to GF-S.	23P-1/001-1	Ongoing	\$0.00

**** This page intentionally blank. ****

BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: Z-0457.1/26

ATTY/TYPIST: AF:ajr

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning dedicated accounts for fees collected
for the implementation of environmental programs.

1 AN ACT Relating to dedicated accounts for fees collected for the
2 implementation of environmental programs; amending RCW 70A.540.130
3 and 70A.15.1010; and adding a new section to chapter 43.21A RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 43.21A
6 RCW to read as follows:

7 The laboratory accreditation account is created in the state
8 treasury. All receipts received by the state from the fees imposed
9 under RCW 43.21A.230 must be deposited in the account. Moneys in the
10 account may be spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the
11 account may be used only to develop and implement activities
12 authorized under RCW 43.21A.230.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 70A.540.130 and 2022 c 179 s 13 are each amended to
14 read as follows:

15 (1) The department and local authorities may assess and collect
16 such fees as may be necessary to recover the direct and indirect
17 costs associated with the implementation of this chapter.

18 (2) Fees collected by the department under this section must be
19 deposited into the air pollution control account created in RCW

1 70A.15.1010 and may only be used by the department to implement this
2 chapter.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 70A.15.1010 and 2022 c 179 s 16 are each amended to
4 read as follows:

5 (1) The air pollution control account is established in the state
6 treasury. All receipts collected by or on behalf of the department
7 from RCW 70A.15.2200(2), and receipts from nonpermit program sources
8 under RCW 70A.15.2210(1) and 70A.15.2230(7), and all receipts from
9 RCW 70A.15.5090, 70A.15.5120, ~~((and))~~ 70A.540.120, and 70A.540.130
10 shall be deposited into the account. Moneys in the account may be
11 spent only after appropriation. Expenditures from the account may be
12 used only to develop and implement the provisions of this chapter,
13 chapters 70A.25 and 70A.540 RCW, and RCW 70A.60.060. Moneys collected
14 under RCW 70A.540.120 and 70A.540.130 may only be used to implement
15 chapter 70A.540 RCW.

16 (2) The amounts collected and allocated in accordance with this
17 section shall be expended upon appropriation except as otherwise
18 provided in this section and in accordance with the following
19 limitations:

20 Portions of moneys received by the department of ecology from the
21 air pollution control account shall be distributed by the department
22 to local authorities based on:

23 (a) The level and extent of air quality problems within such
24 authority's jurisdiction;

25 (b) The costs associated with implementing air pollution
26 regulatory programs by such authority; and

27 (c) The amount of funding available to such authority from other
28 sources, whether state, federal, or local, that could be used to
29 implement such programs.

30 (3) The air operating permit account is created in the custody of
31 the state treasurer. All receipts collected by or on behalf of the
32 department from permit program sources under RCW 70A.15.2210(1),
33 70A.15.2260, 70A.15.2270, and 70A.15.2230(7) shall be deposited into
34 the account. Expenditures from the account may be used only for the
35 activities described in RCW 70A.15.2210(1), 70A.15.2260, 70A.15.2270,
36 and 70A.15.2230(7). Moneys in the account may be spent only after
37 appropriation.

--- END ---

2025-27 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

Background

HEAL Act requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW [70A.02](#)) requires that “covered and opt in agencies” must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW [70A.02.010](#)(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW [34.05.328](#).
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least \$12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least \$15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW [70A.02.080](#), beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity related questions required of all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act questions

If you answer YES to any of these bullet points, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

- Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW [70A.02.010\(12\)](#))?

☒ Yes

☐ No

- Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW [70A.02.010\(12\)](#))?

☒ Yes

☐ No

- Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely directed to provide environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

☒ Yes

☐ No

If you answer YES to any of the above bullet points, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe specific likely or probable environmental harms and/or benefits related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

This work is especially critical in communities that rely solely on municipal drinking water, which can become contaminated with contaminants that disproportionately impact disadvantaged communities. This request helps ensure that all laboratories are audited and that those laboratories can provide services to these communities.

2. Please describe the estimated percentage and amount of the requested funds that will go towards creating environmental benefits in overburdened communities and vulnerable populations as defined in OFM's the [OBC map](#) or as determined by the agency. If applicable, please include your methodology for making this estimate, including project/award lists if available.

It is estimated that approximately 50% of the requested funds will go towards creating environmental benefits in overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

3. Please describe any potential significant impacts to Indian Tribes' rights and interest in their tribal lands, as well as traditional practices.

Ecology does not anticipate any potential significant impacts to Indian Tribes' rights or interest in their Tribal lands.

4. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal, including offers for tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

We have not intentionally reached out to or engaged with Tribes for this request. The need for this request was driven by federal requirements for the frequency of drinking water lab audits, as well as the need to audit environmental labs to help assure quality data is coming to Ecology.

5. If the decision package is part of agency request legislation or supports another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment under RCW [70A.02.010](#)(12), please submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS.

The EJA for the agency request legislation is still ongoing.

6. If the decision package is part of agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment, please describe how your agency used the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If your agency determined that you were unable to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits, please provide a justification for not doing so.

The EJA for the agency request legislation is still ongoing.

**Department of Ecology
2026 Supplemental Operating Budget**

Table of Contents

Tab D	Other Reports.....	101
	1. 2026 Supplemental Summarized Revenues by Account and Source	103
	2. 2026 Supplemental Proposed Fee Changes.....	105

**** This page intentionally blank. ****



Dollars in Thousands

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
2026 First Supplemental Budget Session
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals	
	FY2026	FY2027	FY2026	FY2027	FY2026	Biennial Total
001 - General Fund						
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S						
PB - Laboratory Accreditation	0	0	0	(1,087)		
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	0	0	0	(1,087)	(1,087)	(1,087)
0366 - Environ Protection A - F						
MC - Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	0	95	0	0		
Total - 0366 - Environ Protection A - F	0	95	0	0	95	95
0597 - Reimburs Contracts - P/L						
MC - Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	0	15	0	0		
Total - 0597 - Reimburs Contracts - P/L	0	15	0	0	15	15
001 - General Fund - State				(1,087)	(1,087)	(1,087)
001 - General Fund - Federal		95			95	95
001 - General Fund - Private/Local		15			15	15
Total - 001 - General Fund		110			(977)	(977)
20R - Radioactive MW Acct						
0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S						
MC - Compensation for New 2025-27 FTEs	0	47	0	0		
Total - 0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S	0	47	0	0	47	47
20R - Radioactive MW Acct - State		47			47	47
Total - 20R - Radioactive MW Acct		47			47	47
830 - Agriculture College						
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S						
PB - Laboratory Accreditation	0	0	0	2,102		
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	0	0	0	2,102	2,102	2,102
830 - Agriculture College - State				2,102	2,102	2,102

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
S1 - 2026 Supplemental Agency Request
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		Biennial Total
	FY2026	FY2027	FY2026	FY2027	FY2026	FY2027	
Total - 830 - Agriculture College							
Agency: 461 ECY - State		47		1,015		1,062	1,062
Agency: 461 ECY - Federal		95				95	95
Agency: 461 ECY - Private/Local		15				15	15
Total - Agency: 461 ECY		157		1,015			

