



Draft Agenda

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

TAGRO, Central Treatment Plant, Gate 6, 2301 Cleveland Way, Tacoma, WA 98421

Please make a note of the change in meeting location. Directions are provided on the last page of this agenda.

THE MEETING'S GOALS:

1. Accept nominations for our next chair and vice chair for two-year terms beginning at our March meeting;
2. Approve our work plan updates for 2017-2018;
3. Hear about some work to address stormwater issues in non-NPDES areas
4. Hear about proposed changes to Ecology's stream status and trends monitoring program
5. Hear updates on Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP) implementation and administration:
 - a. Hear an update on the Puget Lowland stream data analysis and a summary of the December 6 Freshwater Workgroup discussion; and other status and trends monitoring updates
 - b. Hear updates on current (first round) effectiveness studies and proposals for a second round;
 - c. Hear about progress toward recommendations for future source identification work;
 - d. Hear about progress on the RSMP communication strategy.
 - e. Hear from the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee (PRO-C) chair and RSMP Coordinator about the RSMP budget and recent contracting actions.
6. Hear from our subgroups about progress implementing and updating our work plan for 2017-2018;
7. Decide on messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter; and
8. Hear other updates related to our work:
 - a. PSEMP and Action Agenda development; and
 - b. NPDES municipal stormwater permit reissuance.

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9:00 Welcome, introductions, and review of the meeting's agenda and goals

- *New work group member: Marty Beagle (Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association), Business Groups*

9:10 Accept nominations for the next Stormwater Work Group chair and vice chair

- *Our chair and vice chair serve two-year terms beginning upon their selection at the beginning of our next meeting on March 15. Dana de Leon of the City of Tacoma and Kevin Burrell of the City of Seattle have been nominated as chair, and Abby Barnes of Washington Department of Natural Resources has been nominated as vice chair.*
- *Are there other nominations?*

9:15 Approve work plan updates

- *The SWG has a 2-year work plan. We update it annually. Our staff, subgroup chairs, and several subgroups prepared updates for 2017-2018 that were discussed at our last meeting in November. A revised updated work plan was sent with this meeting agenda.*
- *Do work group members have any comments, questions, or concerns that need to be addressed prior to approving the work plan?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

9:25 Hear about some work to address stormwater issues in non-NPDES areas

- *Bob Simmons, Associate Professor of Water Resources at WSU Extension, will describe the low cost methodology, partnerships, and process that was used to prioritize and install rain gardens at key locations in Jefferson County.*



- *Are there any questions or comments from the audience?*

9:45 Hear about changes to Ecology's stream status and trends monitoring program

- *Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program (EAP) is making some changes to their stream monitoring program based on past findings. Jess Archer and Glenn Merritt will describe the proposed changes.*
- *What are the potentials for impacting/leveraging future RSMP stream monitoring efforts?*
- *Do work group members have any questions?*
- *Are there any questions or comments from non-work group members?*

10:00 Break

10:15 Briefing on RSMP implementation and administration activities since our November meeting

- *Streams Status and Trends:*
 - *The PSEMP Freshwater Workgroup (FWG) – a group that includes all members of the former SWG Small Streams Status and Trends Oversight Subgroup – had a detailed discussion of the analysis team's work on December 6. They will have a detailed discussion about the changes being made to EAP and USGS stream monitoring programs based on their programs' findings at a meeting later this winter or in early spring. Today we will hear a summary of the December 6 discussion.*
 - *The WSDA-funded pesticide data collected in sediment at 80 RSMP sites will be available in EIM later this month. We have invited WSDA staff to present their findings to us at our next meeting in March.*
- *Marine nearshore status and trends:*
 - *Mussel data were reviewed and will be uploaded to EIM this month.*
 - *Final bacteria technical memo was delivered to RSMP Coordinator and will be discussed at our next work group meeting in March.*
- *Effectiveness Studies:*
 - *Notable updates on the first round of studies:*
 - *King County data request for the catch basin study is going out this month.*
 - *The QAPP for bioretention treatment of PCBs was approved and monitoring has begun at the Ship Canal site.*
 - *Full proposals for the second round were submitted to the RSMP Coordinator on December 12.*
 - *Technical reviews will be completed in February and we will discuss the main comments at our next work group meeting on March 15.*
 - *A workshop will be in April; the workshop date is being set to accommodate the project leads. Following the workshop, the permittees will vote on the projects to rank them. The SWG will then decide which projects to fund based on the voting and feedback, and also determine whether (or not) to keep a list of "ready" projects to begin in the next permit cycle.*
- *Communication:*
 - *The RSMP Communication Advisory Committee for the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) communication project will had its first meeting December 1 and its second meeting January 9. Participating members of the committee included Andy Rheume (Redmond), Ben Parrish (Covington), Theresa Thurlow (Federal Way), Kelly Uhacz (Battle Ground), Leska Fore (PSP), Abby Barnes (WDNR), Brandi Lubliner (RSMP Coordinator), Karen Dinicola (SWG Project Manager), Andy Meyer (AWC), and Alicia Seegers-Martinelli (AWC). Kit Paulsen (Bellevue) provided comments via email.*
 - *The purpose of this project is to develop a communication strategy, "brand" and tools to help the RSMP Coordinator share findings and recommendations with stormwater managers. The project will also result in tools that help stormwater managers communicate with their elected officials and other decision makers. Andy Meyer is coordinating with Laura Berg of the Washington State Association of Counties to reach out to county stormwater managers.*
 - *After much deliberation, the committee came to a consensus decision to rename the RSMP to SAM, for Stormwater Action Monitoring. The thinking behind this decision includes:*



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html>

- *RSMP is descriptive but long and bureaucratic; “regional [stormwater] monitoring program” may still be used in the tagline; and... if we are going to change the name, now is the time.*
- *Do work group members have any comments or concerns?*
 - *Some timeline details: the overall plan will be complete by end of January; the baseline survey will go out this week or next; and the boilerplate templates will be ready for the effectiveness workshop. The RSMP/SAM symposium will be in May?*
 - *RSMP status and trends site maps on the webpages have been updated, and the maps were included in a presentation at the Washington State Capitol GIS Map Day on January 10 by Ecology’s GIS team.*
 - *The RSMP Coordinator will give a presentation at the Green Infrastructure Summit in February.*
- *Pooled Resources Oversight and RSMP administration:*
 - *The PRO-C last met October 12 and will next meet on February 6. A quorum of the PRO-C members participated in the RSMP Communication Advisory Committee meetings.*
 - *The October-December quarterly report is expected to go out early next month.*
 - *Ecology hired Amelia Min-Venditti to assist the RSMP Coordinator for the next six months. Amelia will be organizing the effectiveness studies workshop and assisting with contracting.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? Do work group members wish to provide further direction to the PRO-C and RSMP Coordinator?*
- *Are there any questions or comments from non-work group members?*

10:45 Hear about progress toward recommendations for future Source Identification work

- *The SWG approved recommendations in June 2016 to direct and focus the future work done using RSMP funds collected for permit Special Condition S8.D Source Identification. For this permit cycle, were entered in a database, analyzed, and summarized in a report that was completed at the end of last year.*
- *The SWG Source Identification Subgroup met in September and November 2016 to discuss the report on the permittees’ Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination incident data for the 2014 calendar year and the consultant’s recommendations for future work. The Subgroup is proposing a set of data fields to recommend for the next permit cycle. The Subgroup will meet again January 23 to finalize its proposal.*
- *Do work group members have any questions about the draft proposal? Do work group members wish to provide further direction for the subgroup?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:15 Other work plan implementation and updates

- *Our subgroups continue to make progress toward achieving the goals established in our 2016-17 work plan and draft 2017-2018 work plan. In addition to the updates provided in prior agenda topics:*
 - *Communication: The most recent issue of the SWG Reporter went out on December 2. Possible topics for the next issue include:*
 - *The first stage of technical review is underway on ten full proposals submitted for second round RSMP effectiveness studies; workshop coming in April followed by voting*
 - *RSMP/SAM communication plan under development (name change?)*
 - *Permittees’ data are needed for the catch basin cleaning effectiveness study*
 - *2017-2018 work plan approved*
 - *New SWG Chair and Vice Chair will be selected at our March meeting*
- *Do other subgroup chairs or members have additional updates to share?*
- *Do work group members wish to provide additional direction for our subgroups?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html>

11:30 PSEMP and Action Agenda coordination

- *JLARC recently released its audit of PSP and made several recommendations for monitoring. The link to the report to the Legislature is: <http://leg.wa.gov/jlarc/reports/2017/PSPPartnership2016/p/default.htm>. The PSEMP Steering Committee (SC) met on January 10 and discussed the report.*
 - *One key finding was that current monitoring is not informing the actions implemented to meet the recovery targets; another finding was that the monitoring program structure inhibits its effectiveness.*
- *The process to develop the new Stormwater Strategic Initiative is underway. It is focused on developing implementation strategies to achieve the targets PSP established for the B-IBI and Toxics in Fish vital sign indicators. The interdisciplinary team members have been selected. If you would like to participate in a topical subgroup to support development of these strategies, please contact [Gary Meyers](#) at Ecology.*
- *Puget Sound Institute staff Andy James, Tessa Francis, and Aimee Kinney are working on a “starter package” to support development of the implementation strategies for these vital sign indicator targets. For these indicators, the Freshwater and Toxics Workgroups have been identified as the lead workgroups on monitoring related to these targets, and the SWG has been identified as another workgroup to involve.*
 - *The resulting document is meant to summarize the state of knowledge that will then turn into an implementation strategy with prioritized actions/approaches and estimated costs.*
 - *We are invited to review the “starter package” outline. (It was not included with the agenda but was intended to be shared with work group members and interested parties in advance of this meeting.)*
 - *In the course of providing feedback on the starter package outline, PSI staff wants to leverage the SWG’s work and are very interested in our ideas about:*
 - *What are we missing? What’s already been or is being done? What actions are needed outside the permit requirements? Where? What (if any) additional monitoring needs to be done to capture the effectiveness of those actions?*
- *What are the other PSEMP workgroups discussing and what are our related plans, needs and interests?*

11:50 Recap of today’s meeting and hear other updates or announcements

- *Summarize decisions, action items, and next steps from today’s meeting.*
- *Ecology is planning to hold “listening sessions” next month on some of the topics the ad hoc group worked on.*
- *Our new chair and vice chair will be selected at our March meeting.*

12:00 Adjourn

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

Wednesday, March 15, 2016 from 9am to 12pm at the **TAGRO Visitor Center** in Tacoma, with possible extended hours as needed. Expected agenda topics include:

- *Select our next chair and vice chair for two-year terms beginning today;*
- *Discuss technical reviews of RSMP effectiveness study proposals and upcoming workshop;*
- *Hear from Pierce County about their Source ID analysis and findings;*
- *Discuss recommendations for future Source ID data collection and analysis;*
- *Discuss next steps for RSMP marine nearshore bacteria monitoring and assessment; and*
- *Hear an update on the strategy for communicating RSMP findings to key audiences.*

At each of our meetings we will:

- *Hear updates on RSMP implementation and administration;*
- *Hear from our subgroups about progress implementing our work plan for 2017-2018;*
- *Decide on messages for the next SWG Reporter; and*
- *Hear other updates related to our work, including briefings on PSEMP and Action Agenda development.*



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<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/swworkgroup.html>

Additional expected agenda topics for the June 7 meeting:

- *Hear about changes to Ecology's marine sediment status and trends monitoring programs;*
- *Hear findings of the winter 2015-2016 RSMP mussel monitoring;*
- *Hear about progress on the agricultural runoff monitoring implementation strategy;*

The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2017 is: March 15, June 7, September 13, and November 15.

DIRECTIONS TO THE TAGRO VISITOR CENTER IN TACOMA

A map is available at <http://cms.cityoftacoma.org/enviro/TAGRO/MaptoTAGRO.pdf>

Driving directions: Northbound or Southbound on I-5, take exit 134 Portland Avenue East and travel north. Turn left on Cleveland Way and follow it back south toward I-5 to the end of the street marked "Entrance Gate 6, TAGRO Office."



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Wednesday, November 9, 2016, from 9:05 am to 12:10 pm
USGS, 934 Broadway, Tacoma WA, 98402

Draft Summary

OF THE MEETING'S KEY DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS

a list of acronyms is provided at the end of the document

ATTENDEES:

Work Group members and alternates present, and the organizations and caucuses they represent:

Cami Apfelbeck (Bainbridge Island), Local Governments, and the Work Group's Chair; **Jess Archer** (ECY EAP), State Agencies; **Abby Barnes** (WDNR), State Agencies, and the Work Group's Vice Chair; **Dick Gersib** (WSDOT), State Agencies; **Shana Joy** (WSSC), Agriculture; **Patrick Moran** (USGS), Federal Agencies; **Ben Parrish** (Covington), Local Governments; **Kit Paulsen** (Bellevue), Local Governments; **Nancy Rapin** (Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Fisheries), Tribes; **Jim Simmonds** (King Co), Local Governments; **Connie Sullivan** (Puget Soundkeeper Alliance), Environmental Groups; **Theresa Thurlow** (Federal Way), Local Governments.

Invited speakers: **Karma Anderson** (NRCS), **Curtis DeGasperi** (King Co), **Lisa Duriancik** (NRCS), **Nicole Embertson** (Whatcom Conservation District), **Andy James** (UW-Tacoma).

Others in attendance: **Fred Bergdolt** (WSDOT), **Chris Hall** (Ecology SWRO), **Jeff Kray** (Marten Law PLLC), Sam Merrick (Ecology SWRO), **Chris Montague-Breakwell** (Ecology SWRO), **Sarah Norberg** (Tacoma), **Rob Plotnikoff** (TetraTech), **Angela Vincent** (Ecology SWRO).

Work Group staff: **Karen Dinicola** (ECY WQP), SWG Project Manager; and **Brandi Lubliner** (ECY WQP), RSMP Coordinator.

WORK GROUP DISCUSSES DRAFT AGRICULTURAL RUNOFF MONITORING STRATEGY AND KEY PROGRAMS

Shana Joy of WSSC is both staff and chair of the SWG Agricultural Runoff Subgroup. She and NRCS and Whatcom Conservation District staff presented information about the "Conservation Effects Assessment Project" and "Edge of Field (EoF) Monitoring" and "Discovery Farms" agricultural effectiveness monitoring programs. Their presentations will be posted with this meeting summary. In the Q&A session following the presentation, the speakers also described an approach called "precision conservation" that is pulling these three programs together in new targeted areas using coordinated investments.

Each of these programs has benefits and challenges. Work group members expressed concern about the confidentiality of the data collected in these programs and want to be certain that enough data are collected at a large enough scale that it can be aggregated, presented, and shared collectively. The data and programs overall also seem insufficient to provide a regional roll-up addressing the monitoring priorities established in our previous recommendations related to this topic. It is also unclear how many agricultural sectors will be addressed by the planned monitoring.

Can EoF inform where receiving water monitoring is needed? How can the final agricultural runoff strategy leverage EoF with Intensively Monitored Watersheds and the RSMP?

Work group members want to be certain that this strategy is informed by the findings of the 2015 RSMP Puget Lowland stream monitoring, and, in particular, the results of the WSDA-funded laboratory analysis of 100 additional pesticides at 80 of the RSMP sites. Lots of cities and counties and Ecology EAP and USGS also have monitoring programs and data that are available to provide additional perspective and definition to the plans for this strategy.

For next revisions to the implementation plan, work group members want to see more definition of who will do the literature review, and what is its scope and scale? The literature review should result in more specific research questions to drive the monitoring. The strategy especially needs to articulate how findings of agricultural runoff monitoring will be used not only by farmers but also by local governments to manage their MS4s and critical areas.

Shana will give progress updates at our next work group meetings. Work group members want to be certain that the subgroup takes sufficient time to bring in the necessary detail and people to flesh out a concrete plan for the final strategy

and implementation plan. Therefore, we expect to delay approval of a final document until our June or September meeting in 2017.

WORK GROUP HEARS INITIAL FINDINGS OF RSMP STREAM DATA ANALYSIS

Brandi Lubliner, RSMP Coordinator, and Curtis DeGasperi of King County updated work group members on the progress toward completing the analysis of 2015 RSMP Puget Lowland stream monitoring inside and outside Urban Growth Areas. Their presentation will be posted along with this meeting summary. The analysis is focused on answering questions the SWG identified prior to the project:

- What percent of streams meet biological, water, and sediment quality standards for beneficial uses within and outside urban growth areas (UGAs)?
- What natural variables correlate with the status of streams within and outside the UGA?
- What human variables correlate with the status of streams within and outside the UGA?
- For future RSMP stream monitoring what water, sediment, biological and habitat parameters should be carried forward, and at what timing and frequency? How should sites be selected?
- How do the 2015 RSMP findings compare to other sizeable monitoring programs in Puget Sound?

The presentation focused on answers to the first three bullets; future work will address the last two. The talk highlighted which parameters were rarely (if ever) detected in the water column or sediments, and differences between sites inside UGAs and outside UGAs as well as seasonally. Water/sediment quality standards were exceeded for metals, phthalates, and PCBs but were infrequent overall. The team also searched for meaningful benchmarks to compare concentrations for toxics parameters without official water/sediment quality standards. Correlating variables included

- Natural: December precipitation and longitude (which seems to be a proxy for density).
- Human: development, canopy, chloride (no intertidal sites were included, so this is either from leaky septic or deicing material), and zinc in sediment.

The PSEMP Freshwater Workgroup (FWG) will review and discuss in detail the RSMP Puget Lowland Stream Data analysis and findings and recommendations for future RSMP monitoring and trends analysis. The FWG will also hear about findings of USGS NAWQA and ECY EAP programs the RSMP is leveraging, and changes and adjustments being made to their programs based on results and new scientific understanding. Work group members who want to be included in those FWG meetings should contact [Leska Fore](#). A synopsis of these discussions will be shared at SWG meetings, and work group members will review and discuss all RSMP recommendations that come out of the workgroups and subgroups.

WORK PLAN UPDATES TO BE APPROVED IN JANUARY

Subgroups' proposals for updating our work plan for 2017-2018 were included in a document distributed with the agenda for this meeting. In addition to the plans included in the draft plan, work group members expressed interest in:

- Providing comment on Ecology's draft permit language for Special Condition S8 Monitoring and Assessment; and
- Hearing about findings of other monitoring programs (and in particular, Ecology EAP programs the RSMP is leveraging, and also USGS NAWQA) and changes and adjustments being made to their programs based on results and new scientific understanding.

Karen will add these topics to the work plan and to the topics planned for our scheduled meetings in 2017-2018. For some topics, the primary conversation might take place at another PSEMP Workgroup meeting or at one of our Subgroup meetings, with high level summaries presented at our meetings. Work group members are encouraged to review the subgroup member list and ask Karen to add them to additional subgroups for meeting agendas and notes.

WORK GROUP UPDATED ON RSMP IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT

RSMP Coordinator Brandi Lubliner and PRO-Committee chair Ben Parrish provided a detailed update on RSMP activities, contracting decisions, and upcoming projects. The details are listed in the meeting agenda. The PRO-C agreed to do another "report card" evaluation of Ecology as RSMP administrator in preparation for permit reissuance.

WORK GROUP UPDATED ON PSEMP AND PSP ACTIVITIES RELATED TO OUR WORK

Andy James briefly described the new process for developing the implementation strategies for stormwater actions related to the B-IBI and Toxics in Fish vital sign indicator targets. Work group members are invited to participate in these Inter-Disciplinary Teams. Andy is leading the work on factsheets, background summaries, synthesis papers (generalizations supported by evidence), alternatives analysis, and the monitoring plan for the Stormwater Strategic Initiative and would appreciate work group members volunteering to provide review comments on those documents. The timeline for completion of this work is April 2017 to inform funding decisions in the next cycle.

George Tuttle of WSDA will be giving a presentation about other agricultural monitoring findings at the PSEMP Toxics Workgroup meeting tomorrow, November 10. Work group members are encouraged to attend in person or via the webex. We will invite George to present the RSMP data at one of our future meetings.

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

At all of our meetings, we will:

- Hear updates from the RSMP Coordinator and PRO-Committee on RSMP implementation,
- Continue to discuss recommendations for RSMP implementation and oversight outside the permit structure,
- Hear from our subgroups about the status of implementing our current work plan,
- Hear updates from the PSEMP Steering Committee and other workgroups, and Action Agenda coordination, and
- Determine messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter issue.

At our next meeting on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the USGS Office in Tacoma, we will also:

- Accept nominations for SWG Chair and Vice Chair for a two-year term beginning in March 2017,
- Approve updates to our work plan for 2017-2018,
- Hear updates on progress toward a detailed implementation plan for agricultural runoff monitoring, and
- Discuss the recommended data fields and proposed budget for future RSMP Source ID work.

Work group meetings in 2017 are scheduled on January 18, March 15, June 7, September 13, and November 15.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS MEETING SUMMARY:

B-IBI – Benthic index of biotic integrity

BMP – Best management practice

ECY SWRO - Washington Dept. of Ecology Southwest Regional Office

ECY EAP – Washington Dept. of Ecology’s Environmental Assessment Program

ECY WQP – Washington Dept. of Ecology’s Water Quality Program

FWG – (PSEMP) Freshwater Workgroup

MS4 – Municipal separate storm sewer system

NAWQA – National Water Quality Assessment

NRCS – Natural Resources Conservation Service

PCBs – Polychlorinated biphenyls

PRO-C or PRO-Committee – Pooled Resources Oversight Committee

PSEMP – Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program

PSP – Puget Sound Partnership

RSMP – Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program

SWG – Stormwater Work Group

UGA – Urban Growth Area

USGS – U.S. Geological Survey

WDNR – Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

WSCC – Washington State Conservation Commission

WSDA – Washington Dept. of Agriculture

WSDOT – Washington Dept. of Transportation