

# Adjudication — what you need to know

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The Department of Ecology recently filed an adjudication in Whatcom County Superior Court. Adjudication is a court process to review and prioritize all water use in an area.

- Later this year, water users will receive certified mail including a summons, instructions and a court claim form.
- If you use water directly from surface or groundwater, you must follow the instructions and file a court claim form. **If you only use water from a city or other public service, you do not need to file a form.**
- Even small groundwater uses that do not require permits, including single homes on wells, still need to file a claim form.
- You do not need a water meter to submit your required court claim form.



**WATER  
ADJUDICATION**  
Nooksack Area

Visit our  
website to  
learn more



[ecology.wa.gov/  
nooksack-adjudication](https://ecology.wa.gov/nooksack-adjudication)

## Adjudication timeline



**2024**

Receive certified mail



**2024-2025**

Fill out form and return within one year



**2025-future**

Ecology reviews forms and court rules on water rights



**Questions?** Contact us at WRadjudications@ecy.wa.gov or leave a message at 360-255-4406



**Join our email list**  
ecology.wa.gov/nooksack-adjudication-list



**Learn if you use water in WRIA 1 (the Nooksack watershed and nearby areas)**  
ecology.wa.gov/WRIA-finder



**In-person help available this summer**



Si tiene dificultades para entender la lengua inglesa o presenta una discapacidad, puede solicitar asistencia lingüística y otros tipos de ayuda y servicios sin coste alguno. Llame al siguiente número de teléfono 564-233-1879.

Если у вас есть трудности с пониманием английского языка или у вас инвалидность, по запросу предоставляется бесплатная языковая помощь или другие вспомогательные средства и услуги. Пожалуйста позвоните по телефону 564-233-1879.

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਅੰਗਰੇਜ਼ੀ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਅੌਖਿਆਈ ਹੁੰਦੀ ਹੈ ਜਾਂ ਫਿਰ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਅਪਾਹਜ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਅਪੀਲ 'ਤੇ ਮੁਫਤ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਜਾਂ ਹੋਰ ਸਹਾਇਤਾਵਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਉਪਲੱਬਧ ਹਨ। ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ 564-233-1879.

**Accommodation Requests:** To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, visit [ecology.wa.gov/accessibility](https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility) or call Ecology at 564-233-1879. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.