

Skagit County 2019 Stormwater Management Program Plan

Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit
Compliance



Skagit County Public Works Department
Natural Resources Division

March 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION	4
1.1 Overview and Background.....	4
1.2 Phased Implementation of Permit Requirements	6
1.3 Department Responsibilities	6
1.4 Document Organization	6
2. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION.....	7
2.1 Permit Requirements	7
2.2 Current Activities	7
2.3 Planned Activities	7
3. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.....	8
3.1 Permit Requirements	9
3.2 Current Activities	9
3.3 Planned Activities	11
4. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT	13
4.1 Permit Requirements	13
4.2 Current Activities	14
4.3 Planned Activities	14
5. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION	15
5.1 Permit Requirements	15
5.3 Planned Activities	17
6. CONTROLLING RUNOFF FROM NEW DEVELOPMENT, REDEVELOPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION SITES.....	19
6.1 Permit Requirements	19
6.2 Current Activities	20
6.3 Planned Activities	21
7. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS	24
7.1 Permit Requirements	24
7.2 Current Activities	25
7.3 Planned Actions.....	25
8. MONITORING.....	27
8.2 Current Compliance Activities.....	28
8.3 Planned Activities	29
9. Reporting.....	30
9.2 Current Compliance Activities.....	30
9.3 Planned Activities	31

LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1. 2019 SWMP Administration Activities 8
Table 3-1. 2019 SWMP Public Education and Outreach Activities 12
Table 4-1. 2019 SWMP Public Involvement Activities 14
**Table 6-1. 2019 SWMP Controlling Runoff From New Development, Redevelopment, and
Construction Sites Activities 22**
Table 7-1. 2019 SWMP Pollution Prevention and Operations and Maintenance Activities 26
Table 8-1. 2019 SWMP Monitoring Activities 29
Table 9-1. 2019 SWMP Reporting Activities..... 31

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Skagit County would like to acknowledge Thurston County’s Stormwater Management Program Plan. This document was modeled after its format and basic content to develop Skagit County’s plan.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview and Background

The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Permit Program is a requirement of the federal Clean Water Act. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has delegated Permit authority to state environmental agencies. In Washington, the NPDES delegated Permit authority is the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology).

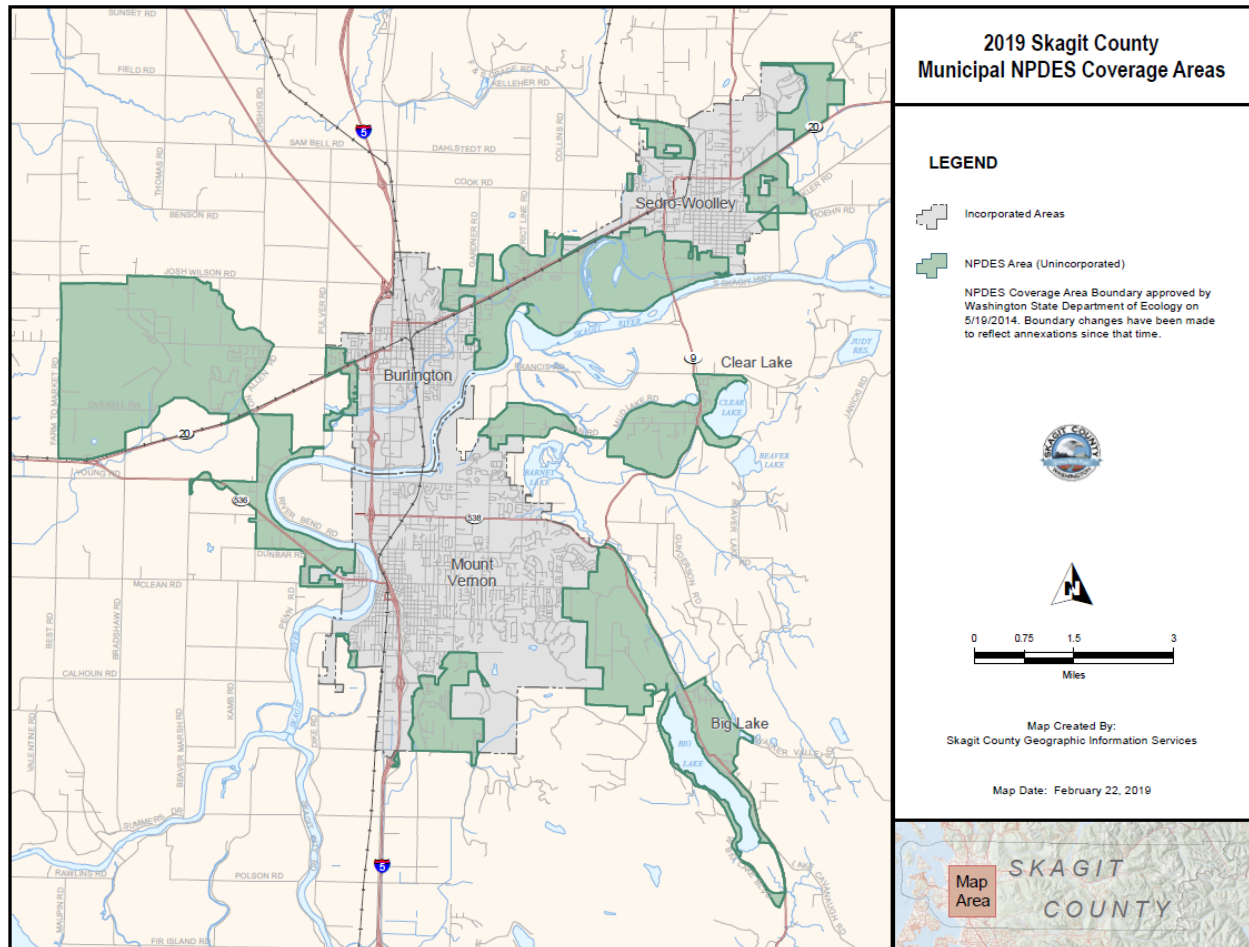


Figure 1: NPDES Permit Boundary

Municipalities with a population of over 100,000 have been designated as Phase I communities and must comply with Ecology’s Phase I NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit.

Skagit County’s 1990 census fell below the 100,000 threshold, so the County must comply with the Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit, issued in February 2007. About 110 municipalities in Washington must now comply with the Phase II Permit as operators of small, municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).

The Permit allows municipalities to discharge stormwater runoff from their drainage systems into the State's water bodies (i.e., streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, etc.). This is permitted as long as municipalities implement programs to protect water quality by reducing the discharge of "non-point source" pollutants to the "maximum extent practicable" (MEP) through application of Permit-specified "best management practices" (BMPs). The practices specified in the Permit are collectively referred to as the Stormwater Management Program (SWMP) and grouped under the following program components:

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE)
- Runoff Controls
- Pollution Prevention and Municipal Operations and Maintenance
- Monitoring

The current Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permit for Western Washington became effective August 1, 2013 and was set to end on July 31, 2018. Ecology has decided to extend that permit a year, out until July 1, 2019, when a new permit will be issued and become effective on August 1, 2019. Ecology took this action to give themselves more time to consider information from ongoing research on the effectiveness of stormwater management actions, to conduct a review of submittals on permit requirements, and to allow more time for engagement with the public and stakeholders.

2019 is a transition year between the 2013 - 2018 Permit and the pending 2019 - 2024 Permit. This document will reflect Skagit County's plans for ongoing compliance with the current Permit. The County cannot provide plans for complying with the 2019 -2024 Permit, as Ecology has yet to issue a final draft. Once the final draft has been issued, Skagit County will begin the process of planning and amending its existing SWMP with the intent of fully complying with new permit requirements.

The Permit requires the County to report annually on the progress of the permit program, and provide a written plan of activities for the coming year.

As of December 31, 2018, the County meets the Permit requirements. This 2019 report is the County's *Stormwater Management Program* (SWMP) compliance document. The rest of this document describes what Skagit County will do to maintain compliance over the remainder of the Permit term (January 1, 2019 through August 1, 2019).

1.2 Phased Implementation of Permit Requirements

Ecology has phased implementation of many of the Permit requirements over the five-year permit term. On March 31 of each year, the County is required to:

- Submit its SWMP Plan to Ecology describing compliance activities planned for the coming year.
- Post the SWMP Plan on the web.
- Submit an annual report documenting Permit compliance activities for the previous calendar year.
- Provide tracking of Permit related activities and costs.

This document includes the following attachments:

- Definitions and Acronyms from the Permit.

Additional Permit information is located on Ecology's website:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Regulations-Permits/Permits-certifications/Stormwater-general-permits/Municipal-stormwater-general-permits/Western-Washington-Phase-II-Municipal-Stormwater>

1.3 Department Responsibilities

Responsibilities for meeting Permit requirements are divided across several County departments. To encourage collaboration and efficiency, the Natural Resources Division of Skagit County Public Works Department has organized an interdepartmental NPDES Coordination Group. The Group consists of members from affected departments, including Public Works (PW), Skagit County Health Department (Health), Planning and Development Services (PDS), GIS Mapping (GIS), Facilities, Skagit County Parks and Recreation (SCPR), and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM).

1.4 Document Organization

The content in this document is based upon Permit requirements and Ecology's Draft *Guidance for City and County Annual Reports for Western Washington Phase II Municipal Stormwater Permits*. The remainder of the SWMP document is organized similarly to the Permit. Each section includes a summary of the relevant Permit requirements and a description of current and planned compliance activities.

- Section 2.0 Administration of the County's SWMP for 2019.
- Section 3.0 Public Education and Outreach for 2019.

- Section 4.0 Public Involvement and Participation for 2019.
- Section 5.0 Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination for 2019.
- Section 6.0 Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites for 2019.
- Section 7.0 Pollution Prevention and Operation and Maintenance for Municipal Operations for 2019.
- Section 8.0 Water Quality Monitoring Section of the Permit for 2019.
- Section 9.0 Reporting for the Permit for 2019.
- Acronyms & Definitions from the Washington Ecology NPDES Phase II Permit.

2. STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

This section describes Permit requirements related to overall SWMP administration, including current and planned compliance activities.

2.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.A) requires the County to:

- Update the SWMP and prepare written documentation (SWMP document) for submittal to Ecology by March 31 annually.
- Submit annual compliance reports by March 31 (for the previous calendar year). These reports are to summarize SWMP implementation status and present information from assessment and evaluation activities conducted during the reporting period.

2.2 Current Activities

The County's current activities and programs meet the Permit requirements. They include:

- Submittal of this Annual Compliance Report with updated SWMP documentation.
- Maintain an on-call consultant contract for technical assistance with stormwater compliance issues.

2.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County is compliant with the planned activities section of the Permit. The County is ready to maintain compliance as Ecology releases new draft permits. Actions recommended for continued compliance include:

- Holding regular NPDES Coordination Group meetings.
- Refining and adjusting the SWMP implementation cost accounting strategy if necessary.
- Continuing to improve the Permit training program and tracking system.
- Further defining roles and responsibilities in developing processes, procedures, and completing updates to the SWMP and the Annual Compliance Report.

Table 2-1 is the work plan for 2019 SWMP Administration activities.

Table 2-1. 2019 SWMP Administration Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule Notes
SWMP-1	Hold regular NPDES Coordination Group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
SWMP-2	Review and update the SWMP compliance cost accounting strategy as needed	PW Accounting	All	Continue in 2019
SWMP-3	Maintain an on-call consultant contract for technical assistance with stormwater compliance issues	PW		Continue in 2019
SWMP- 4	Hold quarterly meetings to coordinate with other NPDES permittees in the region.	PW	All	Continue in 2019
SWMP- 5	Improve the Stormwater Permit training program and tracking systems	PW	All	Continue in 2019
SWMP-6	Share NPDES job codes with staff from other departments who perform work directly related to Permit compliance	PW	All	Continue in 2019

PW= Public Works.

3. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

This Section describes the Permit requirements related to Public Education and Outreach, including current and planned compliance activities.

3.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.C.1) requires the County to:

- Prioritize and target education and outreach activities to the general public, businesses, landscapers, property managers, contractors, developers, county review staff, and land use planners to reduce or eliminate practices that cause or contribute to adverse stormwater impacts.
- Have an outreach program designed to achieve measurable improvements in the target audience’s understanding of the problem and what they can do to solve it.
- Track and maintain records of public education and outreach activities.

3.2 Current Activities

The County funds Skagit Conservation District (SCD) programs through an Interlocal Agreement. The SCD education and outreach programs include:

- General outreach
- Storm drain labeling
- Watershed Masters Volunteer Training Program
- Stream Team Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program
- Stormwater Education Program for Local Businesses
- Stormwater Facility Maintenance Workshops
- Backyard Conservation Stewardship Program and Short Course
- Resource Materials and Education for Local Schools
- Stormwater/watershed model presentations to 773 students in local schools
- Creation and Distribution of Stormwater Educational Brochures
- Stream Team workshops on a variety of water resources topics
- Landscape contractor training



Figure 2: Skagit County Stormwater display at Dine and Discover



Figure 3: Stream Team volunteers taking water quality samples

- Advertising through social media platforms and local media outlets

In addition to Skagit County's inter-local agreement with the SCD, Surface Water Section staff members have made public presentations to groups, including the Backyard Conservation Group, Watershed Masters, and a televised update to the Skagit County Board of Commissioners on Skagit County's stormwater program.

Skagit County hosted a meeting of the North Sound Permit Coordinators; a group of NPDES permit coordinators from Skagit, Snohomish, Island, and Whatcom Counties. The purpose of this group is to share information and resources and discuss topics related to NPDES Phase I&II permits.

Skagit County staff has been actively involved in Stormwater Outreach for Regional Municipalities (STORM) meetings. STORM's mission is to improve surface water quality by reducing non-point source pollution. STORM is responsible for the Puget Sound Starts Here Campaign (PSSH).

Skagit County Public Works Surface Water staff presented an educational talk to the June Detention Pond Workshop participants.

Skagit County Public Works Surface Water staff expanded their stormwater education and outreach efforts in 2017 by hosting a table at annual public events, including the Mount Vernon High School Science Night, Kids in Nature, DASSH 5K Fun Run, Fidalgo Bay Day, and Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group's (SFEG) Skagit River Salmon Fest.

Skagit County Public Works Surface Water Staff used three social media platforms to promote clean water:

1. Posted 429 several stormwater related items on the Skagit County Clean Water Facebook page.
2. Posted four videos to the Skagit County YouTube channel.
3. Made two posts to Next Door Skagit County

In April 2018, we released our grant-funded PoopSmart campaign, designed to use social marketing tools to encourage residents to change their behaviors to improve water quality.

Skagit County Health Department's Health's Local Source Control (LSC) program engages the community by providing stormwater education and outreach to a variety of businesses, including auto repair shops, animal care facilities, marine repair, beauty salons, golf courses, and a portable toilet provider.

The Public Works Water Resource Section Coordinates the activities of the Skagit Marine Resources Committee (SMRC) in partnership with the Northwest Straits Commission. The mission of the SMRC is to "act as a catalyst for protection and restoration of the marine waters,

habitats, and species of Skagit County to achieve ecosystem health and sustainable resource use.” The SMRC accomplishes many projects that help protect and improve the health of Puget Sound. In 2018, those projects included the following:

- Salish Sea Stewards Volunteer Program
- The Annual Fidalgo Bay Day Event
- Pinto Abalone Restoration
- SFEG’s Salmon Fest
- Kids on the Beach
- Bowman Bay Nearshore Restoration

Skagit County has led the Clean Samish Initiative (CSI), a combined effort by Skagit County, the State Departments of Ecology and Health, the Skagit Conservation District, the Skagit Conservation Education Alliance (SCEA), the Samish Tribe, the Western Washington Agricultural Association, the Washington State Dairy Federation, EPA, Taylor Shellfish, and others. The CSI’s goal is to achieve short and long-term pollution reductions in the Samish Basin. In an effort to reach this goal, the CSI has conducted numerous education and outreach efforts that included several newspaper ads that highlighted the County’s Water Pollution Hotline number, (360) 416-1400.

Skagit County has supported SCEA through the Clean Water program. SCEA has been working since 2002 to protect water quality in the Skagit and Samish Watersheds through public outreach and education.

3.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County constantly evaluates its public education and outreach program to ensure it meets Permit requirements. Recommendations for continued compliance include:

- Identify areas for cooperation with other NPDES municipalities.
- Work with SCD staff to check on program status and determine ways to improve our educational efforts.
- Reach out to a variety of businesses in Skagit County through the Health Department’s Local Source Control program.
- Provide educational presentations to interested groups, elected officials, and stakeholder groups.
- Summarize annual activities for the Public Education and Outreach components of the Annual Compliance Report.
- Participate in regional outreach groups like STORM.
- Staff information tables at local events like the Skagit County Fair, Fidalgo Bay Days, MVHS Science Night, and SFEG’s Salmon Fest.

- Continue to air “After the Storm”, PSSH public service announcements, and other available media on the public television channel Skagit 21.
- Hold public workshops focused on the maintenance of private stormwater facilities.
- We plan to continue the PoopSmart outreach campaign into 2019 with more videos, radio public service announcements, translation of materials and the website into Spanish, and continued posts on social media. We also plan several surveys in early 2019 and later in the year to measure the effectiveness of the campaign

Table 3-1 is the work plan for 2019 SWMP public education and outreach activities.

Table 3-1. 2019 SWMP Public Education and Outreach Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
EDUC-1	Hold regular NPDES Coordination group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
EDUC-2	Quarterly meetings with other NPDES municipalities to evaluate program effectiveness	PW		Continue in 2019
EDUC-3	Meet with SCD to check on progress and find areas for improvement	PW		Continue in 2019
EDUC-4	Evaluate understanding and adoption of target behaviors	PW	SCD	Continue in 2019
EDUC-5	Summarize activities & updates in the Annual Report	PW	All	Report is due on or before March 31
EDUC-6	Coordinate with Health Department’s Local Source Control program	PW	Health	Continue in 2019
EDUC-7	Provide educational presentations to interested groups, elected officials, and stakeholder groups	PW		Continue in 2019
EDUC-8	Participate in STORM meetings and activities	PW		Continue in 2019
EDUC-9	Display a regional PSSH display board at local events	PW	SCD	Continue in 2019

Table 3-1. 2019 SWMP Public Education and Outreach Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
EDUC-10	Air stormwater related media on Skagit21	PW	IS	Continue in 2019
EDUC-11	Participate in the Skagit MRC and encourage stormwater related projects	PW		Continue in 2019
EDUC-12	Promote clean water messages though social media and interview with local radio stations.	PW	Health, SCD, IS	Continue in 2019

PW = Public Works

SCD = Skagit Conservation District

Health = Skagit County Health Department

IS = Information Services

SCEA = Skagit Conservation Education Alliance

4. PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

This section describes the Permit’s Public Involvement requirements, including current and planned compliance activities.

4.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.C.2) requires the County to:

- Provide ongoing opportunities for public involvement through advisory boards and commissions, watershed committees, public participation in developing rate structures and budgets, stewardship programs, environmental activities or other similar activities. The public must be able to participate in the decision-making processes involving the development, implementation, and update of the program.
- Make the SWMP Plan and Annual Compliance Report available to the public, including posting on the County’s website. In response to permit conditions, require other documents to be submitted to Ecology and available to the public.

4.2 Current Activities

The County currently has activities and programs that meet the Permit requirements, which include:

- The County has an Interlocal agreement with SCD to deliver public workshops/meetings focused on stormwater. SCD held a workshop on Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance where the County's Private Facility Maintenance Guidelines were made available.
- Fourteen people completed the Watershed Masters training in 2018. Over 6,385 volunteer hours were reported by Watershed Master Participants in 2018.
- The Skagit Stream Team Volunteer Monitoring Program involved 71 individuals in a countywide effort to conduct hands on water quality monitoring. The Skagit Stream Team reported over 1,200 volunteer involvement hours in 2018.
- The County placed the SWMP Plan and Annual Compliance Report on the County website and encourages the public to provide input on the plan.

4.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County has a history of including the public in decision making on environmental issues. Recommendations for continued compliance include:

- Defining public involvement opportunities in the annual SWMP update.
- Making the SWMP document and Annual Compliance Report available to the public by posting on the County website and encouraging public comment.
- Notifying the public of the 2019 SWMP Plan update and requesting public input via a press release, email, social media, and posting on the County website.

Table 4-1 is the work plan for 2019 SWMP public involvement activities.

Table 4-1. 2019 SWMP Public Involvement Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
PI-1	Hold regular NPDES Coordination group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
PI-2	Define public involvement opportunities in the SWMP	PW	All	Continue in 2019
PI-3	Make SWMP document and Annual Compliance Report available on the County website	PW	IS	Complete in 2019

PI- 4	Present an update to Skagit County Board of Commissioners during a televised meeting	PW		Complete in 2019
PI-5	Seek public comments on stormwater related documents and the SWMP	PW		Complete in 2019
PI-6	Summarize annual activities for Public Involvement and Outreach in the SWMP Plan	PW	All	The SWMP and Annual Compliance Report are due each spring
PI-7	Hold 30-day online public comment period for SWMP Plan Update.	PW		Complete April – May 2019
PI-8	Publish updated SWMP Plan on County Website by May 31, 2019.	PW		Complete May 2019

PW = Public Works

IS = Information Services

5. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION

This section describes the Permit requirements related to Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) including current and planned compliance activities.

5.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.C.3) requires the County to:

- Implement a program to detect and remove illicit discharges, connections, and improper disposal, including any spills into the municipal separate storm sewers owned or operated by the County. An illicit discharge means “any discharge to a municipal storm system that is not composed entirely of stormwater...” and illicit connection means “any man-made conveyance that is connected to a municipal storm system without a permit (excluding roof drains and other similar type connections) such as sanitary sewer connections, floor drains, etc.”

- Develop a storm infrastructure system map, have ordinances that prohibit illicit discharges, and create a program to detect and address illicit discharges.
- Publicly list and publicize a hotline or other local telephone number for public reporting of spills and other illicit discharges. Track illicit discharge reports and actions.
- Train staff on proper IDDE response procedures and processes, and how to recognize and report illicit discharges.
- Summarize all illicit discharges and connections reported to the County and response actions taken, including enforcement actions in the Annual Compliance Report. Provide annual updates to the SWMP document and make available to the public.

5.2 Current Activities

The County implements activities and programs that meet the Permit requirements. These include:

- The County has developed a GIS based stormwater asset map for all of the County's stormwater facilities within the county's permit area.

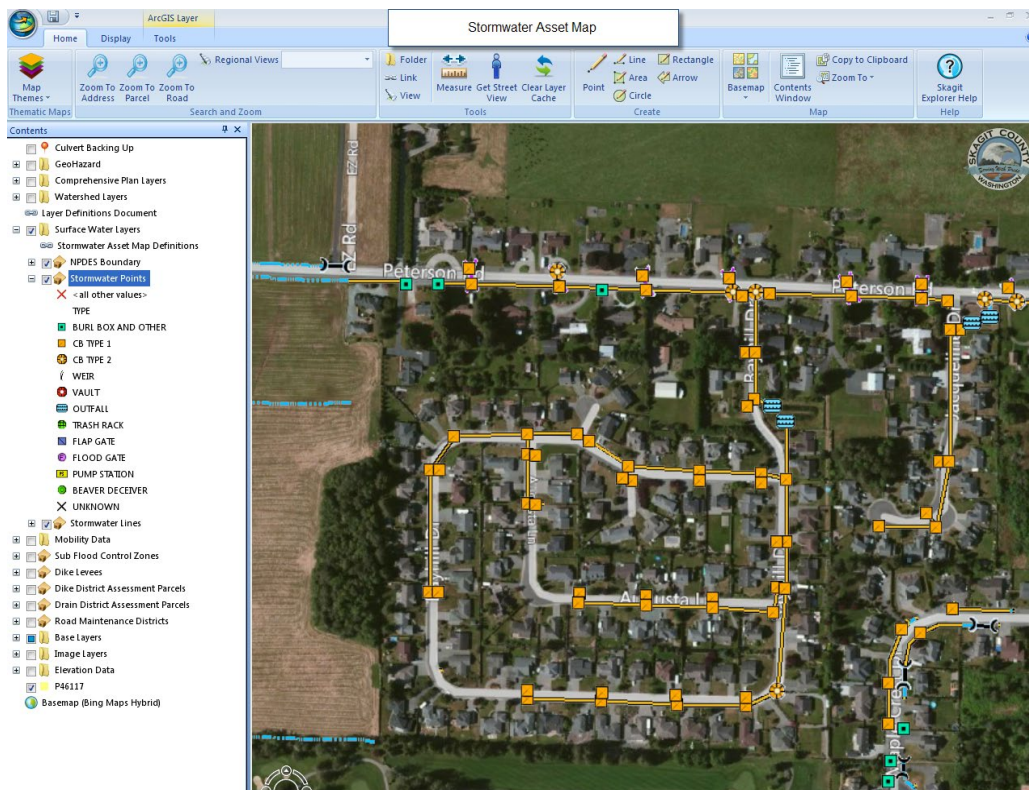


Figure 4: Stormwater Asset Map

- Skagit County adopted a permanent ordinance (#O20100002) on May 18, 2010, amending the drainage ordinance to be compliant with our NPDES Phase II Permit requirements and taking the place of a previous interim ordinance (Ordinance #O20090008).
- The County maintains a Water Pollution Hotline and encourages the public to report illicit discharges or other water quality concerns. The calls to the hotline are recorded, tracked and then distributed to the appropriate response authority. The County documents and tracks illicit discharges and connections, response actions taken, and educational efforts with a call tracking database.
- The County developed and implemented an IDDE program and developed IDDE Program Technical and Administrative Guidelines to support this program.
- The County prioritizes receiving waters for visual inspection and conducts Outfall Reconnaissance Inventories on high priority water bodies within the Permit boundary area.
- The County provides IDDE pollution prevention and identification training to primary staff involved in IDDE.
- The County Health Department's Local Source Control Program informs businesses and the general public of hazards associated with illegal discharges and improper disposal of waste.

5.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County has a program to detect and remove illicit discharges and connections into the municipal separate storm sewers owned or operated by the County. Recommendations for continued compliance include:

- Revise the County's IDDE Program Technical and Administrative Guidelines as needed to meet the requirements of the Permit.
- Review public education and outreach efforts and develop new materials to minimize pollutant releases from permitted non-stormwater discharges.
- Provide updated IDDE training to municipal staff as it becomes necessary.
- Summarize annual activities for the IDDE component of the Annual Report; including updates to the SWMP document.
- Coordinate with the SCD and other Skagit County permittees to advertise hotline numbers.
- Provide stormwater asset maps to the public and secondary permittees on the website.
- Inform public employees, businesses, and the general public of the hazards associated with illegal discharges.
- Adopt and implement procedures for IDDE program evaluation and assessment.

Table 5-1 is the work plan for 2019 SWMP illicit discharge detection and elimination activities.

Table 5-1. 2019 SWMP Illicit Discharge and Elimination Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
IDDE-1	Hold regular NPDES Coordination group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
IDDE-2	Revise and update the County's IDDE Program Guidelines as necessary	PW	Health	Complete in 2019
IDDE-3	Develop new education and outreach efforts as needed	PW	SCD	Continue in 2019
IDDE-4	Make the Stormwater Asset Map available upon request	PW	GIS	Continue in 2019
IDDE-5	Update the Stormwater Asset Map as census boundaries change	PW	GIS	Complete in 2019
IDDE-6	Provide updated IDDE training as needed to municipal staff	PW	Health	Complete in 2019
IDDE-7	Monitor 12% of outfalls annually	PW		Continue in 2019
IDDE- 8	Evaluate the IDDE program	PW	PDS	Continue in 2019
IDDE- 9	Publicize the hotline and track all calls and actions	PW		Continue in 2019
IDDE- 10	Summarize annual activities in the IDDE component of Annual Report	PW	All	The SWMP and Annual Compliance Report submittal is due each spring.

PW = Public Works

PDS = Planning and Development Services

DEM = Department of Emergency Management

GIS = Skagit County GIS Department

Health = Health Department

6. CONTROLLING RUNOFF FROM NEW DEVELOPMENT, REDEVELOPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION SITES

This section describes the Permit requirements related to controlling runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites, including current and planned compliance activities.

6.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.C.4) requires the County to:

- Develop, implement, and enforce a program to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff (i.e., illicit discharges) to the municipal separate storm system from new development, redevelopment, and construction site activities. The program must apply to both private and public projects, including roads and address all pollutant sources associated with construction/development
- Adopt regulations (codes and standards) and implement plan review, inspection, and escalating enforcement processes and procedures necessary to implement the program in accordance with Permit conditions, including the minimum technical requirements in Appendix 1 of the Permit (i.e., The most current Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington)
- Provide provisions and processes and procedures (plan review, inspection, and enforcement) to allow non-structural preventive actions and source reduction approaches, such as, Low Impact Development (LID) techniques, measures to minimize the creation of impervious surfaces, and measures to minimize the disturbance of native soils and vegetation



Figure 5: Stormwater Detention Pond

- Adopt regulations (codes and standards) and provide provisions to verify adequate long-term operations and maintenance of new post-construction permanent stormwater facilities and best management practices (i.e., private drainage system inspections) in accordance with Permit conditions, including an annual inspection frequency and/or approved alternative inspection frequency and maintenance standards for private drainage systems as protective as those in Chapter IV of the 2012 Ecology Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington
- Implement an ordinance or other enforceable mechanism that addresses runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction site projects. No later than December 31, 2016, Skagit County shall review, revise and make effective local development-related codes, rules, standards, or other enforceable documents to incorporate and require LID principles and LID BMPs. The intent of the revisions shall be to make LID the preferred and commonly-used approach to site development. The revisions shall be designed to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff in all types of development situations.
- Provide training to staff on the new codes, standards, processes and procedures, and create Public Education and Outreach materials
- Develop and define a process to record and maintain all inspections and enforcement actions by staff for inclusion in the Annual Compliance Report
- Summarize annual activities for the “Controlling Runoff” component of the Annual Compliance Report; identify any update to program document

6.2 Current Activities

The County has activities and programs that meet the NPDES Phase II Permit requirements. Those compliance activities include:

- Skagit County adopted a permanent ordinance (#O20100002) on May 18, 2010 amending the drainage ordinance to be compliant with our NPDES Phase II Permit requirements and taking the place of a previous interim ordinance (Ordinance #O20090008).



Figure 6: Private Stormwater Facility Workshop

- The County has an established program to address stormwater runoff to the municipal separate storm system from new development, redevelopment, and construction site activities. The County enforces this program using the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual, as amended in December 2014 in the Urban Growth Areas and the Census Defined Urbanized Areas.
- The County performs project site assessments for erosion & runoff control before, during, and after construction.
- The Public Works Development Review staff maintain a list and inspection schedule for annual inspection of post-construction stormwater facilities.
- Public Works staff are developing an in-house Certified Erosion and Sedimentation Control Lead (CESCL) training for County staff.
- The County records and maintains inspections and enforcement actions performed by staff.
- Skagit County adopted ordinance, O20150006, on September 8, 2015, effective January 1, 2016. This action created a local development-related code, rules, standards, and other enforceable documents to incorporate and require LID principles and LID BMPs. The intent of the ordinance is to make LID the preferred and commonly used approach to site development. The revisions are designed to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff in all types of development situations.

6.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County has a program to assess and manage stormwater runoff from new development and construction sites, but updates and additions will be necessary to reach full compliance as Ecology specifies in the Phase II Permit requirements. Actions that are recommended for continued compliance include:

- Continue annual inspection of post-construction stormwater facilities.

- Continue staff training and Public Education and Outreach on implementing the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual.
- Revise and periodically update the Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance Guidelines.
- Support Ecology by making copies of the Notice of Intents for Construction Activity and Industrial Activity available.
- Apply the stormwater runoff program to all sites that disturb one acre or greater and perform site assessments on all projects for erosion and runoff control before, during, and post construction as required in the Permit.
- Summarize annual activities for the "Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites" component of the Annual Report including updates to the SWMP document.
- Review, revise, and make effective Skagit County local development-related codes, rules, standards and other enforceable documents to incorporate and require LID principles and LID BMPs within Skagit County NPDES Phase II Permit Boundary.
- Continue to develop an in-house CESCL training program.
- Notify property owners and start inspecting facilities within the Permit Area built before February 2010

Table 6-1 is the work plan for 2019 SWMP activities related to control of runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites.

Table 6-1. 2019 SWMP Controlling Runoff From New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
CTRL-1	Hold regular NPDES Coordination Group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
CTRL-2	Annual inspection of post-construction stormwater facilities	PW		Continue in 2019
CTRL-3	Provide refresher training on the 2012 Manual as needed.	PW	PDS	Continue in 2019
CTRL-4	Revise and update the Private Stormwater Facility Maintenance Guidelines as needed	PW		Continue in 2019
CTRL – 5	Evaluate and update the plan review, inspection, and	PW	PDS	Complete in 2019

Table 6-1. 2019 SWMP Controlling Runoff From New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
	enforcement processes and procedures as needed			
CTRL- 6	Support Ecology by making copies of the Notice of Intent for Construction Activity and Industrial Activity available	PDS		Continue in 2019
CTRL- 7	Summarize annual activities for "Controlling Runoff from New Development, Redevelopment, and Construction Sites" component of Annual Report; identify any updates to Program document	PW	All	The SWMP and Annual Compliance Report submittal is due each spring.
CTRL- 8	Review, revise, and make effective Skagit County local development related codes, rules, standards and other enforceable documents to incorporate and require LID principles and LID BMPS within Skagit County NPDES Phase II Permit Boundary.	PDS	All	Continue in 2019
CTRL-9	Continue to develop an in-house CESCL training program.	PW		Continue in 2019
CTRL-10	Notify property owners and start inspecting facilities within the Permit Area built before February 2010	PW		Continue in 2019

PW = Public Works

PDS = Planning & Development Services

7. POLLUTION PREVENTION AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS

This section describes the Permit requirements related to Pollution Prevention and Operation and Maintenance for Municipal Operations, including current and planned compliance activities.

7.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S5.C.5) requires the County to:

- Develop and implement an operations and maintenance (O&M) program with the goal of preventing or reducing pollutant runoff from municipal separate stormwater system, and municipal operations and maintenance activities.
- Establish maintenance standards for the municipal separate stormwater system that are at least as protective as those specified in the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington.
- Perform required inspection frequency of stormwater flow control and treatment facilities and catch basins, unless previous inspection data show that a reduced frequency is justified.
- Reduce stormwater impacts associated with runoff from municipal operation and maintenance activities including but not limited to streets, parking lots, roads, or highways owned or maintained by the County and to reduce pollutants in discharges from all lands owned or maintained by the County.
- Train staff to implement the modified processes and procedures and document that training.
- Prepare a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities owned or operated by the County within the Permit area.
- Summarize annual activities for the “Pollution Prevention and Operations and Maintenance for Municipal Operations” component of the Annual Compliance Report, including any updates to the SWMP document.



Figure 7: Public Works Crew Using a Vactor Truck

7.2 Current Activities

The County has activities and programs that meet the Permit requirements, including:

- The County implemented maintenance standards in accordance with the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual.
- The County maintains an annual inspection program for all County owned or operated stormwater control facilities. Hundreds of catch basins are inspected and cleaned every year.
- The County inspects treatment and flow control facilities for damage after major storm events.
- Public Works Divisions cooperated to develop and implement BMPs that address the activities listed in S.5.C.5.f of the Permit.
- The PW Road Operations staff has developed and follows a Roadside Vegetation Management Objectives document that addresses how to effectively and properly control vegetation through mechanical, manual, and chemical means.
- Public Works conducts training on municipal stormwater pollution prevention for the Road Crews and Transfer Station staff.
- A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan has been developed for Skagit County PW Road Maintenance Facility, located within the city limits of Burlington.
- The County developed a countywide Integrated Pest Management Plan and a Property and Facility Management Plan for Pollution Reduction. The County adopted the Integrated Pest Management Plan and the Property and Facility Management Plan for Pollution Reduction as County Policy per resolution #R20110118.
- Public Works distributed stormwater BMP handbooks to Road Operations staff. BMP handbooks are kept in Road Operations vehicles and used as reference when implementing the BMPs developed to address the activities listed in S.5.C.5.f of the Permit.
- The County will summarize associated activities and updates in its Annual Compliance Report on March 31.

7.3 Planned Actions

Skagit County performs many activities to limit stormwater pollution potential related to its municipal operations and maintenance program. Actions recommended for compliance include:

- Updating inspection, operation, maintenance processes, and procedures for County owned or operated stormwater facilities

- Continued implementation of the 2012 Ecology maintenance standards for County performed maintenance activities
- Implement and update annually the SWPPP at the PW Road Shop Facility
- Provide staff training at the PW Road Shop Facility on the SWPPP and spill cleanup procedures
- Continue to use a Street Waste Decant Facility to receive and treat waste from street sweeping, catch basin and detention pond cleanout. The decanted liquids are sent to the City of Burlington wastewater treatment plant; the solids area are sent to the County Transfer Station to be handled as hazardous waste.
- Implementation of the BMPs developed to address the activities listed in S.5.C.5.f of the Permit.
- Continue training efforts for staff and provide refresher training as needed.
- Summarize annual activities for the "Pollution Prevention and Operation and Maintenance" component of the Annual Report & SWMP.

Table 7-1 is the work plan for SWMP activities related to pollution prevention and operations and maintenance activities.

Table 7-1. 2019 SWMP Pollution Prevention and Operations and Maintenance Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
PPOM-1	Continue to hold regular NPDES Coordination group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
PPOM-2	Evaluate and update municipal storm system inspection and operations and maintenance processes and procedures as needed	PW		Continue in 2019
PPOM-3	Perform annual inspection of all County owned or operated stormwater control facilities	PW		Continue in 2019
PPOM-4	Continue to track maintenance and inspections of stormwater facilities and catch basins	PW	GIS	Continue in 2019
PPOM-5	Provide spill and SWPPP training for Road Operations	PW		Continue in 2019

Table 7-1. 2019 SWMP Pollution Prevention and Operations and Maintenance Activities

Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
PPOM-6	Continue to implement the 2012 Ecology maintenance standards for County-performed maintenance activities	PW		Continue in 2019
PPOM-7	Spot check treatment and flow control facilities after major storm events	PW		Continue in 2019
PPOM-8	Continue to implement the SWPPP for the Burlington Road Shop and update as needed	PW		Continue in 2019
PPOM-9	Provide training on the Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP) and Facility Management Plan with maintenance and operation staff.	PW	Parks, Facilities	Continue in 2019
PPOM-10	Summarize annual activities for Pollution Prevention and Operations and Maintenance Activities component of Annual Report	PW	All	The SWMP and Annual Compliance Report submittal is due on or before March 31 of each year.

PW = Public Works
 Facilities = Skagit County Facilities Department
 Parks = Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department.

8. MONITORING

This section describes the Permit requirements related to water quality monitoring, including current and planned compliance activities.

8.1 Permit Requirements

The current Permit (Section S8) does not require municipalities to conduct water quality sampling or other testing during this Permit term, with the following exceptions:

- Water quality monitoring required for compliance with Total Maximum Daily Pollutant Loads (TMDL) a.k.a., water quality clean-up plans]. Part of the area covered by the Lower Skagit TMDL falls within this Permit Area.
- Any sampling or testing required for characterizing illicit discharges pursuant to Program’s Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination conditions.
- Preparation for future, comprehensive, long-term water quality monitoring efforts consistent with current Phase I monitoring requirements. According to the Permit, this program would include two components: general stormwater quality monitoring and targeted Stormwater Management Program effectiveness monitoring. The stormwater monitoring is intended to characterize stormwater runoff quantity and quality at a limited number of locations. This characterization would allow for analysis of pollutants and changes in conditions over time and across the County. The Stormwater Management Program effectiveness monitoring is intended to improve stormwater management efforts by evaluating various stormwater controls. Results of the monitoring will be used to support the adaptive management process for improving programs over time.



Figure 8: Mike See Collecting a Water Sample

8.2 Current Compliance Activities

The County currently has activities and programs that meet many of the Permit requirements. The current compliance activities associated with the Permit requirements include:

- As per Skagit County resolution, R20030210, the County monitors water quality conditions and trends in agricultural area streams in the County. Several of these sites are located within NPDES Phase II Permit boundaries.

- County staff routinely participates in meetings of the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) Workgroup that work on the development of a regional stormwater monitoring program.

8.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County performs many activities to meet the monitoring requirements of our Phase II NPDES Permit. Actions recommended for compliance include:

- Continue to actively participate in the Stormwater Workgroup Municipal Caucus to support the development of a regional stormwater monitoring program for the Puget Sound.
- Summarize annual monitoring activities in the annual compliance report and SWMP document.
- Hold regular NPDES coordination group meetings to discuss issues related to stormwater monitoring and NPDES Permit requirements.

Table 8-1 is the work plan for SWMP monitoring activities.

Table 8-1. 2019 SWMP Monitoring Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
MNTR-1	Continue to hold regular NPDES Coordination Group meetings	PW	All	Continue in 2019
MNTR-2	Update the monitoring program to meet current Permit requirements if necessary.	PW		Continue in 2019
MNTR-3	Participate in regional and state monitoring forums to support the successful development and implementation of a regional monitoring program	PW		Continue in 2019
MNTR-4	Summarize the monitoring activities in the annual report and SWMP.	PW		The SWMP and Annual Compliance Report submittal is due on or before March 31 of each year.

PW = Public Works

9. Reporting

This section describes the Permit requirements related to reporting, including current and planned compliance activities.

9.1 Permit Requirements

The Permit (Section S9) requires municipalities to conduct the following reporting requirements:

- No later than March 31 of each year, each permittee shall submit an annual report.
- Each permittee is required to keep all records related to this Permit and the SWMP for at least five years.
- Each permittee shall make all records related to this Permit and the permittees SWMP available to the public at reasonable times during business hours. The permittee will provide a copy of the most recent annual report to any individual or entity, upon request.
- Permittees shall include with the annual report submitted, no later than March 31, information that at a minimum includes:
 - A summary of identified barriers to the use of low impact development (LID) within the area covered by the Permit and measures to address the barriers.
 - A report completed by an individual permittee or in cooperation with multiple permittees that describes:
 - LID practices that are currently available and that can reasonably be implemented within this Permit term
 - Potential or planned non-structural actions and LID techniques to prevent stormwater impacts
 - Goals and metrics to identify, promote, and measure LID use.
 - Potential or planned schedules

9.2 Current Compliance Activities

The County currently has activities and programs that meet the reporting requirements of the municipal NPDES Phase II Permit. The current compliance activities associated with the above permit requirements include:

- The County submits the annual report and SWMP to Ecology on a timely basis. These documents are available to the public in several formats including an electronic version that is available on the County's website.

- The County implemented procedures for record keeping of Permit-related documents.
- With the assistance of our consulting team, Brown & Caldwell and AHBL, the County conducted a LID Barrier Analysis of Skagit County Code to identify barriers to the use of LID.
- From the LID Barrier Analysis, the County developed a report that describes the LID practices that are currently available, potential, or planned actions, goals, and potential or planned schedules to implement LID techniques on a broader scale.
- Attended the American Public Works Association (APWA) Stormwater Managers Meeting on a regular basis to stay informed on the recommendations of the LID Technical and Implementation Committees and to influence the development of feasible and effective future LID requirements.
- Use the County’s permit tracking system, Permits Plus to track the number and type of LID features permitted.

9.3 Planned Activities

Skagit County will need to conduct the following activities to maintain compliance as Ecology phases in current and future Permit requirements. The County will:

- Continue to make the SWMP and Annual Report available to the public
- Continue to follow record-keeping practices that are compliant with the Permit
- Submit the Annual Report and SWMP to Ecology no later than March 31 of each year
- Continue to attend the APWA Stormwater Mangers Meetings to influence development of feasible and effective future LID requirements

Table 9-1 is the work plan for SWMP monitoring activities.

Table 9-1. 2019 SWMP Reporting Activities				
Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
REPRT-1	Continue to make the SWMP and Annual Report available to the public	PW		Continue in 2019
REPRT-2	Continue to follow record-keeping practices that are compliant with the Permit	PW	ALL	Continue in 2019

Table 9-1. 2019 SWMP Reporting Activities

Task ID	Task Description	Lead	Support	Schedule
REPRT-3	Submit the Annual Report and SWMP to Ecology no later than March 31 of each year	PW		Continue in 2019
REPRT-4	Participate in the APWA Stormwater Managers and other regional forums.	PW		Continue in 2019

PW = Public Works

Washington Department of Ecology Western Washington Phase II Permit -*The following definitions and acronyms are taken directly from the Phase II Permit and are reproduced here for the reader's convenience. All definitions contained within the Permit, may or may not apply to Skagit County.*

DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS

This section includes definitions for terms used in the body of the permit and in all the appendices except Appendix 1. Terms defined in Appendix 1 are necessary to implement requirements related to Appendix 1.

40 CFR means Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government.

AKART means all known, available, and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment. See also State Water Pollution Control Act, chapter 90.48.010 RCW and chapter 90.48.520 RCW.

All known, available and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment refers to the State Water Pollution Control Act, chapter 90.48.010 RCW and chapter 90.48.520 RCW.

Applicable TMDL means a TMDL which has been approved by EPA on or before the issuance date of this Permit, or prior to the date that Ecology issues coverage under this Permit, whichever is later.

Beneficial Uses means uses of waters of the state, which include but are not limited to use for domestic, stock watering, industrial, commercial, agricultural, irrigation, mining, fish and wildlife maintenance and enhancement, recreation, generation of electric power and preservation of environmental and aesthetic values, and all other uses compatible with the enjoyment of the public waters of the state.

Best Management Practices are the schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and structural and/or managerial practices approved by Ecology that, when used singly or in combination, prevent or reduce the release of pollutants and other adverse impacts to waters of Washington State.

BMP means Best Management Practice.

Bypass means the diversion of stormwater from any portion of a stormwater treatment facility.

Census defined urban area means Urbanized Area.

Circuit means a portion of a MS4 discharging to a single point or serving a discrete area determined by traffic volumes, land use, topography or the configuration of the MS4.

Component or **Program Component** means an element of the Stormwater Management Program listed in S5 Stormwater Management Program for Cities, Towns, and Counties or S6 Stormwater Management Program for Secondary Permittees, S7 Compliance with Total Maximum Daily Load Requirements, or S8 Monitoring of this permit.

Conveyance system means that portion of the municipal separate storm sewer system designed or used for conveying stormwater.

Co-Permittee means an owner or operator of an MS4 which is in a cooperative agreement with at least one other applicant for coverage under this permit. A Co-Permittee is an owner or operator of a regulated MS4 located within or in proximity to another regulated MS4. A Co-Permittee is only responsible for permit conditions relating to discharges from the MS4 the Co-Permittee owns or operates. See also 40 CFR 122.26(b)(1)

CWA means Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub.L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. (6-483 and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 *et seq.*).

Director means the Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, or an authorized representative.

Discharge Point means the location where a discharge leaves the Permittee's MS4 through the Permittee's MS4 facilities/BMPs designed to infiltrate.

Entity means a governmental body, or a public or private organization.

EPA means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

General Permit means a permit which covers multiple dischargers of a point source category within a designated geographical area, in lieu of individual permits being issued to each discharger.

Ground water means water in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the surface of the land or below a surface water body. Refer to chapter 173-200 WAC.

Hazardous substance means any liquid, solid, gas, or sludge, including any material, substance, product, commodity, or waste, regardless of quantity, that exhibits any of the physical, chemical, or biological properties described in WAC 173-303-090 or WAC 173-303-100.

Heavy equipment maintenance or storage yard means an uncovered area where any heavy equipment, such as mowing equipment, excavators, dump trucks, backhoes, or bulldozers are

washed or maintained, or where at least five pieces of heavy equipment are stored on a long-term basis.

Highway means a main public road connecting towns and cities.

Hydraulically near means runoff from the site discharges to the sensitive feature without significant natural attenuation of flows that allows for suspended solids removal. See Appendix 7 Determining Construction Site Sediment Damage Potential for a more detailed definition.

Hyperchlorinated means water that contains more than 10 mg/Liter chlorine.

Illicit connection means any infrastructure connection to the MS4 that is not intended, permitted or used for collecting and conveying stormwater or non-stormwater discharges allowed as specified in this permit (S5.C.3 and S6.D.3). Examples include sanitary sewer connections, floor drains, channels, pipelines, conduits, inlets, or outlets that are connected directly to the MS4.

Illicit discharge means any discharge to a MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater or of non-stormwater discharges allowed as specified in this permit (S5.C.3 and S6.D.3).

Impervious surface means a non-vegetated surface area that either prevents or retards the entry of water into the soil mantle as under natural conditions prior to development. A non-vegetated surface area which causes water to run off the surface in greater quantities or at an increased rate of flow from the flow present under natural conditions prior to development. Common impervious surfaces include, but are not limited to, roof tops, walkways, patios, driveways, parking lots or stormwater areas, concrete or asphalt paving, gravel roads, packed earthen materials, and oiled, macadam or other surfaces which similarly impede the natural infiltration of stormwater.

Land disturbing activity means any activity that results in a change in the existing soil cover (both vegetative and non-vegetative) and/or the existing soil topography. Land disturbing activities include, but are not limited to clearing, grading, filling and excavation. Compaction that is associated with stabilization of structures and road construction shall also be considered land disturbing activity. Vegetation maintenance practices, including landscape maintenance and gardening, are not considered land disturbing activity. Stormwater facility maintenance is not considered land disturbing activity if conducted according to established standards and procedures.

LID means Low Impact Development.

LID BMP means low impact development best management practices.

LID Principles means land use management strategies that emphasize conservation, use of onsite natural features, and site planning to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff.

Low Impact Development means a stormwater and land use management strategy that strives to mimic pre-disturbance hydrologic processes of infiltration, filtration, storage, evaporation and transpiration by emphasizing conservation, use of on-site natural features, site planning, and distributed stormwater management practices that are integrated into a project design.

Low impact development best management practices means distributed stormwater management practices, integrated into a project design, that emphasize pre-disturbance hydrologic processes of infiltration, filtration, storage, evaporation and transpiration. LID BMPs include, but are not limited to, bioretention, rain gardens, permeable pavements, roof downspout controls, dispersion, soil quality and depth, vegetated roofs, minimum excavation foundations, and water re-use.

Material Storage Facilities means an uncovered area where bulk materials (liquid, solid, granular, etc.) are stored in piles, barrels, tanks, bins, crates, or other means.

Maximum Extent Practicable refers to paragraph 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the federal Clean Water Act which reads as follows: Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques, and system, design, and engineering methods, and other such provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.

MEP means Maximum Extent Practicable.

MS4 means municipal separate storm sewer system.

Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System means a conveyance, or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains): (i) Owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to state law) having jurisdiction over disposal of wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of Washington State. (ii) Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater. (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; (iv) Which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2.; and (v) Which is defined as “large” or “medium” or “small” or otherwise designated by Ecology pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking, and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under sections 307, 402, 318, and 405 of the Federal Clean Water Act, for the discharge of pollutants to surface waters of the state from point sources. These permits are referred to as NPDES permits and, in Washington State, are administered by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

Native vegetation means vegetation comprised of plant species, other than noxious weeds, that are indigenous to the coastal region of the Pacific Northwest and which reasonably could have been expected to naturally occur on the site. Examples include trees such as Douglas Fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, alder, big-leaf maple; shrubs such as willow, elderberry, salmonberry, and salal; and herbaceous plants such as sword fern, foam flower, and fireweed.

New development means land disturbing activities, including Class IV General Forest Practices that are conversions from timber land to other uses; structural development, including construction or installation of a building or other structure; creation of hard surfaces; and subdivision, short subdivision and binding site plans, as defined and applied in chapter 58.17 RCW. Projects meeting the definition of redevelopment shall not be considered new development. Refer to Appendix 1 for a definition of hard surfaces.

New Permittee means a city, town, or county that is subject to the *Western Washington Municipal Stormwater General Permit* and was not subject to the permit prior to August 1, 2013.

New Secondary Permittee means a Secondary Permittee that is covered under a municipal stormwater general permit and was not covered by the permit prior to August 1, 2013.

NOI means Notice of Intent.

Notice of Intent means the application for, or a request for coverage under a General Permit pursuant to WAC 173-226-200.

Notice of Intent for Construction Activity means the application form for coverage under the *Construction Stormwater General Permit*.

Notice of Intent for Industrial Activity means the application form for coverage under the *General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities*.

NPDES means National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System.

Outfall means a point source as defined by 40 CFR 122.2 at the point where a discharge leaves the Permittee’s MS4 and enters a surface receiving waterbody or surface receiving waters. Outfall does not include pipes, tunnels, or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other surface waters and are used to convey primarily surface waters (i.e., culverts).

Permittee unless otherwise noted, the term “Permittee” includes city, town, or county Permittee, Co-Permittee, New Permittee, Secondary Permittee, and New Secondary Permittee.

Physically Interconnected means that one MS4 is connected to another storm sewer system in such a way that it allows for direct discharges to the second system. For example, the roads with drainage systems and municipal streets of one entity are physically connected directly to a storm sewer system belonging to another entity.

Project site means that portion of a property, properties, or right-of-ways subject to land disturbing activities, new hard surfaces, or replaced hard surfaces. Refer to Appendix 1 for a definition of hard surfaces.

QAPP means Quality Assurance Project Plan.

Qualified Personnel means someone who has had professional training in the aspects of stormwater management for which they are responsible and are under the functional control of the Permittee. Qualified Personnel may be staff members, contractors, or volunteers.

Quality Assurance Project Plan means a document that describes the objectives of an environmental study and the procedures to be followed to achieve those objectives.

RCW means the Revised Code of Washington State.

Receiving waterbody or **receiving waters** means naturally and/or reconstructed naturally occurring surface water bodies, such as creeks, streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, estuaries, and marine waters, or ground water, to which a MS4 discharges.

Redevelopment means, on a site that is already substantially developed (i.e., has 35% or more of existing hard surface coverage), the creation or addition of hard surfaces; the expansion of a building footprint or addition or replacement of a structure; structural development including construction, installation or expansion of a building or other structure; replacement of hard surface that is not part of a routine maintenance activity; and land disturbing activities. Refer to Appendix 1 for a definition of hard surfaces.

Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program means, for all of western Washington, a stormwater-focused monitoring and assessment program consisting of these components: status and trends monitoring in small streams and marine nearshore areas, stormwater management program effectiveness studies, and a source identification information repository

(SIDIR). The priorities and scope for the RSMP are set by a formal stakeholder group. For this permit term, RSMP status and trends monitoring will be conducted in the Puget Sound basin only.

Regulated Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System means a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System which is automatically designated for inclusion in the Phase II stormwater permitting program by its location within an Urbanized Area, or by designation by Ecology and is not eligible for a waiver or exemption under S1.C.

RSMP means Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program.

Runoff is water that travels across the land surface and discharges to water bodies either directly or through a collection and conveyance system. See also “Stormwater.”

Secondary Permittee is an operator of a regulated small MS4 which is not a city, town or county. Secondary Permittees include special purpose districts and other public entities that meet the criteria in S1.B.

Sediment/Erosion-Sensitive Feature means an area subject to significant degradation due to the effect of construction runoff, or areas requiring special protection to prevent erosion. See Appendix 7 Determining Construction Site Sediment Transport Potential for a more detailed definition.

Shared water bodies means water bodies, including downstream segments, lakes and estuaries that receive discharges from more than one Permittee.

SIDIR means Source Identification Information Repository.

Significant contributor means a discharge that contributes a loading of pollutants considered to be sufficient to cause or exacerbate the deterioration of receiving water quality or instream habitat conditions.

Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System means an MS4 that is not defined as “large” or “medium” pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(b)(4) & (7) or designated under 40 CFR 122.26 (a)(1)(v).

Source control BMP means a structure or operation that is intended to prevent pollutants from coming into contact with stormwater through physical separation of areas or careful management of activities that are sources of pollutants. The *SWMMWW* separates source control BMPs into two types. Structural Source Control BMPs are physical, structural, or mechanical devices, or facilities that are intended to prevent pollutants from entering stormwater. Operational BMPs are non-structural practices that prevent or reduce pollutants from entering stormwater. See Volume IV of the *SWMMWW* for details.

Stormwater means runoff during and following precipitation and snowmelt events, including surface runoff, drainage or interflow.

Stormwater Associated with Industrial and Construction Activity means the discharge from any conveyance which is used for collecting and conveying stormwater, which is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant, or associated with clearing, grading and/or excavation, and is required to have an NPDES permit in accordance with 40 CFR 122.26.

Stormwater Management Program means a set of actions and activities designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP and to protect water quality, and comprising the components listed in S5 (for cities, towns, and counties) or S6 (for Secondary Permittees) of this Permit and any additional actions necessary to meet the requirements of applicable TMDLs pursuant to *S7 Compliance with TMDL Requirements*, and *S8 Monitoring and Assessment*.

Stormwater Treatment and Flow Control BMPs/Facilities means detention facilities, treatment BMPs/facilities, bioretention, vegetated roofs, and permeable pavements that help meet Appendix 1 Minimum Requirements #6 (treatment), #7 (flow control), or both.

SWMMWW or Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington means *Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (as amended in 2014)*

SWMP means Stormwater Management Program.

TMDL means Total Maximum Daily Load.

Total Maximum Daily Load means a water cleanup plan. A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the water body can be used for the purposes the state has designated. The calculation must also account for seasonable variation in water quality. Water quality standards are set by states, territories, and tribes. They identify the uses for each water body, for example, drinking water supply, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic life support (fishing), and the scientific criteria to support that use. The Clean Water Act, section 303, establishes the water quality standards and TMDL programs.

Tributary conveyance means pipes, ditches, catch basins, and inlets owned or operated by the Permittee and designed or used for collecting and conveying stormwater.

UGA means Urban Growth Area.

Urban Growth Area means those areas designated by a county pursuant to RCW 36.70A.110.

Urbanized Area is a federally-designated land area comprising one or more places and the adjacent densely settled surrounding area that together have a residential population of at least 50,000 and an overall population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile. Urbanized Areas are designated by the U.S. Census Bureau based on the most recent decennial census.

Vehicle Maintenance or Storage Facility means an uncovered area where any vehicles are regularly washed or maintained, or where at least 10 vehicles are stored.

Water Quality Standards means Surface Water Quality Standards, chapter 173-201A WAC, Ground Water Quality Standards, chapter 173-200 WAC, and Sediment Management Standards, chapter 173-204 WAC.

Waters of the State includes those waters as defined as "waters of the United States" in 40 CFR Subpart 122.2 within the geographic boundaries of Washington State and "waters of the state" as defined in chapter 90.48 RCW which includes lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, underground waters, salt waters and all other surface waters and water courses within the jurisdiction of the State of Washington.

Waters of the United States refers to the definition in 40 CFR 122.2.