

Stormwater Work Group Agenda

Wednesday May 15, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

[Join via this Teams link](#)

Agenda Summary

- 9:00** **Welcome**
- 9:10 SAM Study Presentation: Hydrologic performance of bioretention
- 9:40 SAM Study Presentation: Improving roadside ditches and maintenance
- 10:10** **Break**
- 10:20 Updates from Our Partners
- 10:40 PRO-C Updates
- 10:55 Status and Trends Subgroup
- 11:05** **Break**
- 11:10 Internal SWG Affairs
- 11:40 6PPD Subgroup
- 11:50 Updates Related to Our Work
- 11:55 Wrap-up
- 12:00** **Adjourn**

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Full Agenda

9:00 Welcome – Don McQuilliams, SWG Chair

- Welcome, introductions, and review of the meeting’s agenda and goals
- If you are not a designated SWG representative, please mute your microphone. There will be time for others to provide input during our meeting.
- Feel free to introduce yourself in the chat, we are no longer going to track attendance, with the exception of voting by members.

9:10 SAM Study Presentation: Hydrologic performance of bioretention – Jesse Barham, City of Olympia; Bill Taylor, Raedeke Associates; and Jenny Saltonstall, AESI

- Project website: [Hydrologic Performance of Bioretention](#)
- In the third phase of evaluating bioretention facilities’ hydrologic performance, this study measured infiltration rates, soil composition, vegetation, and maintenance practices of 50 older bioretention facilities. The goal of the study is to provide engineering guidance on the critical factors that prevent bioretention facility failure and recommendations for future designs.

9:40 SAM Study Presentation: Improving roadside ditches and maintenance – Ani Jayakaran, WSU-Puyallup; Jonathan Schnore, WSU; Michael Neff, WSU

- Project website: [Improving ditches & maintenance](#)
- Regraded roadside ditches provide a very challenging environment to grow and establish plants. This study evaluated various grass blends to determine plant establishment and growth when planted in three cleaned-out ditches under varying degrees of shade, water stress, and season. The study was conducted at three sites, two in western Washington and one in eastern Washington.
- Final report: [Plant Selection for Ditch Regrades](#)

10:10 Break

10:20 Updates from Our Partners – PSEMP, NEP SIL, WA Ecology

Puget Sound Ecosystem and Monitoring Program (PSEMP) - Katrina Radach, PSEMP Manager

- **Strategic Plan:** In the May PSEMP Steering Committee meeting, we launched our finalized Strategic Plan (link still TBD as of 5/1). Thank you to everyone who was a part of the process including participation via surveys and meetings.
- **Dialogue Series:** The Dialogue Series is a PSEMP hosted event with large support from Oregon State University to grow an understanding around critical human well-being related topics. The intention is to host a series of 5, 2-hour long webinars starting in May. We have two sessions, Environmental Justice and Indigenous Knowledge, Science, and Collaboration, open for registration. These sessions are meant to be more tailored to the PSEMP community compared to other webinar events and includes opportunities for engagement with colleagues and partners. More information and links to registration is available in this [linked announcement](#). We hope you can join us!

National Estuary Program Stormwater Strategic Initiative Lead (NEP SIL) - Dustin Bilhimer, Stormwater SIL Toxics in Fish Implementation Lead

- The Stormwater SIL's grant solicitation for [Innovative BMP Installations in toxic hotspots and transportation areas](#) **closes May 22nd**. This investment focuses on innovative techniques and pilot efforts for Best Management Practice (BMP) installations in toxic chemical hotspots and transportation environments. This may include hotspots for priority toxics in stormwater runoff including but not limited to 6PPD, 6PPD-Q, and PCBs along federal, state, and local highways and streets, and in industrial environments. For more information, reach out to dustin.bilhimer@ecy.wa.gov.
- A new RFP will be announced in late May focused on wastewater treatment plants and contaminants of emerging concern. It is anticipated that the RFP will be open from July to October 2024. For more information, reach out to frances.bothfeld@ecy.wa.gov.

Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) - Madison Rose Bristol, 6PPD Stormwater Planner; Morgan Baker, 6PPD Management Analyst; Jeff Killelea, Water Quality Program Section Manager

6PPD Work

- 3 new 6PPD BMP effectiveness research projects will begin in Spring 2024. Partners and project descriptions:
 - **Snoqualmie Indian Tribe:** Floating wetlands, native vegetation, and characterizing parking lot runoff
 - **Pierce County:** Decant facilities and granular activated carbon
 - **King County:** Grassy embankments and a screening model for road types
- We are in the early stages of scope negotiations for [vendor pool](#) participants who bid on Ecology's 6PPD solicitation
- The [draft Aquatic Life Toxics Criteria](#) comment period closed on May 7th. The water quality standard for 6PPD-q in freshwater and for acute mortality is 0.008 ug/L. Though the State of Washington might implement this standard in 2024, changes to stormwater permits will only happen after completion of an EPA review and Section 7 ESA consultations. Therefore, any changes that could impact permittees will go into effect in the next permit cycle (e.g., 5 years from now for municipal stormwater general permits).
- [6PPD Action Plan](#): Last month, the 6PPD Action Plan Advisory Committee finalized their recommendations to include in the December Legislative report. Currently, Ecology's internal review process is underway to edit and add to those recommendations. Ecology and other state agencies are also writing their budget packages, which will be directly informed by committee recommendations.
- Permit and manual progress
 - MS4 Phase I and II Permits and Stormwater Management Manuals: The permits and manuals are currently being finalized, and the response to public comments and final permits and manuals will be published in July 2024. For more information: [permit reissuance process, manuals](#).
 - [Draft Industrial Stormwater General Permit \(ISGP\)](#): The ISGP will expire in December 2024. Ecology has started the reissuance process and will hold a formal comment period in late Spring 2024. 6PPD-q considerations are included in the draft ISGP.

10:40 PRO-C Updates – Todd Hunsdorfer, PRO-C Chair

- PRO-C met on May 1 to discuss changes in membership, SAM administration, and SAM projects.
- Changes in membership: Abby Barnes and Laura Haren are stepping down from the committee. We're recruiting for new members. If interested, please reach out to Todd Hunsdorfer and Chelsea Morris.
- SAM administrative updates
 - Ecology is still looking to fill the vacant SAM Coordinator position: [Stormwater Monitoring Engineer \(Environmental Engineer 5\)](#).
 - Two new quarterly reports posted: [Oct-Dec 2023](#) and [Jan-Mar 2024](#).
 - Due for another report card. [Previous report card was 2022](#).
- Updates on new & on-going SAM projects

10:55 Status and Trends Subgroup – Chelsea Morris, SAM Scientist

- We are reconvening the Status & Trend subgroup of the Stormwater Work Group to discuss ongoing adaptations and clarifications to the Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) program's study design. The subgroup will make plans for trends analyses and tee up recommendations for future monitoring.
- For example, the subgroup could discuss adding 6PPD-q to the parameter list for monitoring.
- We are currently seeking membership from SWG and other PSEMP workgroups for scientists, statisticians, and ecologists. We are also looking for a subgroup chair from SWG membership. If interested in participating, please reach out to Chelsea at chelsea.morris@ecy.wa.gov.

11:05 Break

11:10 Internal SWG Affairs

- Voting member information
 - **Presentation:** Current status of voting member contact information (Abby Barnes)

- o Abby reached out to listed voting members to verify their status and contact information. If you are a voting member but you are not included in our current list, please let us know.
- o We have voting member vacancies that we want to fill. We will reach out to folks who expressed interest through the Member Engagement Survey. You can also email us at abby.barnes@dnr.wa.org if you are interested in becoming a voting member.
- 2024 – 2025 SWG Work Plan
 - o Review the [SWG Work Plan](#) prior to the meeting
 - o **Presentation:** SWG Work Plan (Abby Barnes)
 - o **Vote:** Adopt the SWG Work Plan
- SWG Charter update
 - o **Discuss:** Forming a Charter and Work Plan Subgroup. This subgroup would convene when necessary to update the SWG charter and work plan.
 - Work group would first convene in Summer 2024 to revise the SWG Charter
 - Are looking for at least 3 people to be a part of the subgroup; co-chairs would only be involved to review the charter. Email madison.bristol@ecy.wa.gov if interested.
- In-person meeting
 - o We are planning to host an in-person meeting during the late Summer or Fall of 2024. We have several options that we are considering:
 - Downtown Seattle – 30 people maximum, pay for street or garage parking nearby, public transit accessible (Link, buses, Sounder, and Amtrak), hybrid meeting capabilities
 - Downtown Bellevue – City Hall or Don’s meeting office, close proximity to Link station, affordable or free parking nearby
 - Bellingham – the GPPD Subgroup is planning to host a meeting in Bellingham in September 2024. They have several meeting room options, many of which could support over 100 people. Since these in-person meetings might occur around the same time period, merging the meetings could be an option. If this option was pursued, we would host an all-day SWG Workshop.

- o We will provide food during the meeting. More information TBD.
- o **Discuss:** Meeting options and preferences.
- Inviting Eastern WA permittees into the SWG
 - o After the stormwater permits are reissued this year, Eastern WA permittee will have three options: Continue to coordinate with other permittees to perform effectiveness studies, pay into SAM on or before August 15, 2025, or conduct stormwater discharge monitoring that meets the requirements in S8.E. Permittees have until December 1, 2024 to inform Ecology of their choice.
 - o The chairs would like to set up a process to invite Eastern WA permittees into the SWG. Ideas so far:
 - Host an informational meeting for Eastern WA permittees. Could share the history of the SWG, SAM projects, SAM presentation focused on E WA geographic area, and discuss with permittees the preferred form of representation within the SWG and caucuses.
 - Create informational materials to recruit E WA members
 - Will work with Laurie Larson-Pugh and Eastern WA permit writers to distribute information.
 - o **Discussion:** Eastern WA permittee recruitment strategies.

11:40 6PPD Subgroup – Eli Mackiewicz, SWG 6PPD Subgroup Chair

- [Meeting notes](#)
- Shared updates about lab methods for water samples
 - o Manchester Environmental Lab is accredited for water samples. [Microsoft Word - 730136 v1.2 6PPD-Q Extraction and Analysis.docx \(wa.gov\)](#)
 - o EPA has released a Draft Method for water samples [6PPD-q Method 1634 \(Not yet approved\) | US EPA](#)
- Also shared updates regarding:
 - o 6PPD RFP update – Vendor Pool
 - o [Draft Aquatic Life Toxics Criteria](#)
 - o [6PPD Action Plan](#)

- o [Tire Contaminant Story Map](#) to inform sampling study designs and how Ecology address tire containments
- Next meeting: June 12, 1-3pm PST

11:50 Updates Related to Our Work

- **Discuss:** Additional updates that people would like to share during this meeting?

11:55 Wrap-up – Don McQuilliams, SWG Chair

- Summarize decisions, action items, and next steps from today's meeting

12:00 Adjourn

Future Meeting Dates

The next regular SWG meeting is **September 11, 2024**. Please mark your calendars for September 11 and November 13, 2024 – all Wednesdays, from 9am-noon. We may occasionally extend our meeting time; any extended meeting time will be determined at the previous meeting.

At our meeting on Wednesday, September 11, we will:

- Meet in-person as a SWG community
- Hear updates from our partners
- Hear PRO-C and SAM study updates
- Learn about progress in SWG subgroups

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View the SWG Website

We regularly update the [SWG website](#) with information about upcoming meetings, past meeting materials, and important SWG documents. If you have additional questions about the SWG, contact madison.bristol@ecy.wa.gov.