

# Welcome to the Water Quality Partnership

Please connect your audio and join.  
We will do a sound check at 9:50 a.m.

## Connect & Join

1 Connect Audio

2 Join Meeting

The screenshot shows a meeting join interface. At the top, there is a 'Connect to video system' button, an audio selection dropdown currently set to 'Audio: Use computer audio', and a 'Test speaker and microphone' button. Below these are three buttons: 'Unmute', 'Start video', and 'Start Meeting'. A green arrow points from the '1 Connect Audio' label to the audio dropdown, and another green arrow points from the '2 Join Meeting' label to the 'Start Meeting' button.

## Participate

Turn on Chat box  
and Participant list  
at the bottom  
right side of your  
screen.

The screenshot shows the bottom right corner of a meeting interface. It features two panels: 'Participants (1)' and 'Chat'. The 'Participants' panel includes a search bar, a list of participants (Ian Fawley, Host, me), and 'Mute all' and 'Unmute all' buttons. The 'Chat' panel includes a 'To:' dropdown set to 'Everyone' and a text input field for chat messages. At the bottom, there are icons for 'Participants', 'Chat', and a menu.

## Audio Options

**Tip** Try your computer audio first.

**A** Use computer for audio

**B** Webex calls you. You listen through phone.

**C** Call in (using your phone)

- Call US Toll: 415-655-0001
- Enter code: **2458 522 3153**

The screenshot shows the 'Audio connection' menu. It has four options: 'Use computer audio' (selected with a blue checkmark), 'Call me at' (with a dropdown menu showing 'Enter YOUR phone #'), 'Call in', and 'Don't connect to audio'.

Nothing working? Use the chat box to send us a message.



# Navigating webinar features

Webex

## How to Participate

The screenshot shows the Webex meeting interface with several callout boxes:

- “Host” or “Cohost” will help with technical issues.** Points to the participant list on the right, specifically to Barbara Brooks (Host, me) and Heather Rawley She/Her (Cohost).
- Change the TO “Everyone” to ask questions** Points to the dropdown menu in the chat box, which is currently set to Heather Rawley She/Her.
- Click on this symbol to “raise lower your hand”** Points to the hand icon in the bottom toolbar.
- Click on this symbol to open the chat box** Points to the chat icon in the bottom toolbar.

The interface includes a top menu bar with options: File, Edit, Share, View, Audio & Video, Participant, Meeting, Breakout Sessions, Help. A search bar and a Layout button are also visible. The bottom toolbar contains icons for Mute, Start video, Share, Record, and a hand icon.



# Water Quality Partnership

## December 10, 2020

<b>Welcome - Introductions &amp; Program Updates</b>	Vince McGowan	10:00 –10:15
<b>Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit</b>	Jeff Killelea & Eleanor Ott	10:15 – 10:35
<b>General Permit Updates</b>	Lucienne Banning	10:35 – 10:45
<b>Watershed Management Updates</b>	Melissa Gildersleeve	10:45 - 11:15
<b>Grants and Loans Updates</b>	Jeff Nejedly	11:15 – 11:30
<b>Legislative and Budget Updates</b>	David Giglio & Stephanie Teets	11:30 – 11:45
<b>Roundtable</b>	All	11:45 – 11:55
<b>Wrap Up – Future agenda topics</b>	Colleen Keltz	11:55 –12:00







# Water Quality Program Updates

## Vince McGowan





# Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit

## Jeff Killelea & Eleanor Ott







# General Permit Updates – Fact Sheet

## Lucienne Banning





# Watershed Management Updates

## Melissa Gildersleeve

# Watershed Management Section Update

- **Watershed Management Updates**
- Water Cleanup work
- Nonpoint
- Water Quality Standards/Rulemaking updates
- Water Quality Assessment – Submitted to EPA on August 31, 2021





# Watershed Management Section

## Water Cleanup work

- Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Project –
  - Getting ready for another Nutrient Forum this **Winter** to select Year 2 optimization runs.
- Columbia River Temperature TMDL Implementation – Reissued on August 13, 2021.  
EPA did a first round of outreach on the reissued TMDL throughout September. We are starting work on what an implementation plan process might look like.
- Related: EPA section 303(d) litigation: Water Quality Assessment /TMDL production and pace, Spokane PCB TMDL settlement, Puget Sound legal complaint around TMDL constructive submission.



# Watershed Management Section

## Nonpoint Work

Washington State **Nonpoint Plan** submittal to EPA (includes ESA review) in 1 year.

First 5 chapters of our **Voluntary Guidance for Agriculture** will be in this submittal. We are actively working to get those chapter drafts done and through our advisory committees.

Will coordinate the Riparian Chapter with the Governor's initiatives and any legislation that passes this season.

Forestry – planning to update the nonpoint forestry section to reflect any updates to the Forest and Fish rules, to reflect success of adaptive management program for water quality





# Watershed Management Section

## Water Quality Standards

- **Water Quality Standards**

- Chelan UAA rule adopted and at EPA for Clean Water Act approval.
- Salmon Spawning Rule – Just finished two hearings last week. Public comments due today-**Dec. 16, 2021**. We will review all comments received, look at any modification that might need to happen based on public feedback. Current plan is to adopt March 2022.
- Triennial Review- working on a response to comments and package to submit to EPA. We do know the following items are on our “to do” list this next year to start scoping:
  - Aquatic toxics criteria
  - Outstanding Resource Water – nominations submitted for
    - Soap Lake (Grant County)
    - Cascade River (Skagit)
    - Green River (Lewis and Skamania)
    - Napeequa River (Chelan)



# Watershed Management Section

## Water Quality Standards

- Natural Conditions
  - Update the Water Quality Standards so that natural condition determinations are covered under a formal rule process.
  - *“the natural conditions constitute the water quality criteria.”* EPA decision-- this language, in effect, changes the water quality standards without going through a formal rulemaking process.
  - This EPA disapproval resulted from the specific way our natural conditions provision was written. It was not around whether or not a natural conditions provisions can be in the standards. EPA regulations allow for natural conditions provisions in standards-(almost all the states have it), and we see it as a necessary complement to a numeric standard.







# Grants and Loans Updates

## Jeff Nejedly



# New Federal Funding for Water Quality's CWSRF

## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

- Reauthorization of the CWSRF at new levels for 2022-2026
  - WA state estimate: \$270M over 5 years; \$45M, \$51M, \$55M, \$59M, \$59M
- Supplemental CWSRF stimulus funds
  - WA state estimate: \$193M over 5 years; \$31M, \$36M, \$39M, \$42M, \$42M
  - 49 percent of this funding must be added subsidy (forgiven loan)
- Emerging Contaminants funding – CWSRF eligible projects
  - Nationally \$1 billion over 5 years; 100% added subsidy (forgiven loan)
  - Not yet sure how EPA will distribute these funds to the states

## New Federal Conditions

- Buy America Build America – will add some complications on construction procurement
- Justice40 – Evolving framework
  - 2 staff engaged in EPA SRF workgroup





# New CWSRF Resources

## Water Quality Combined & CWSRF – New Resource Planning

- Cash flow model shows CWSRF annual awards at \$240M per year going forward
- Access to more forgivable loan
  - Focus on assisting small financially and disadvantaged community water quality projects – possible adjustments to hardship criteria
  - Opportunity to better address emerging needs
    - Nutrient Reduction
    - Climate resiliency
    - Nonpoint source projects
    - Onsite sewage repair and replacement statewide program
    - Offset of cost impacts from BABA
    - Other – WQP ongoing brainstorming and stakeholder input over the coming months

## Other News:

- Clean Watersheds Needs Survey 2022
  - Needs data beginning Jan 2022, data entry starts March 2022

**Contact:** Jeff Nejedly – [Jeffrey.Nejedly@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.Nejedly@ecy.wa.gov) – 360-878-4913





# Legislative and Budget Updates

**David Giglio & Stephanie Teets**







# Wrap Up

## Vince McGowan

