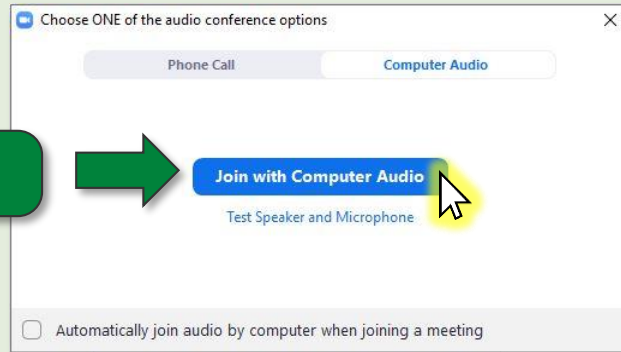


Welcome

Please connect your audio and join.
No sound? We will do a sound check at 9:50 am.

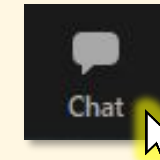
Join

Connect Audio & Join

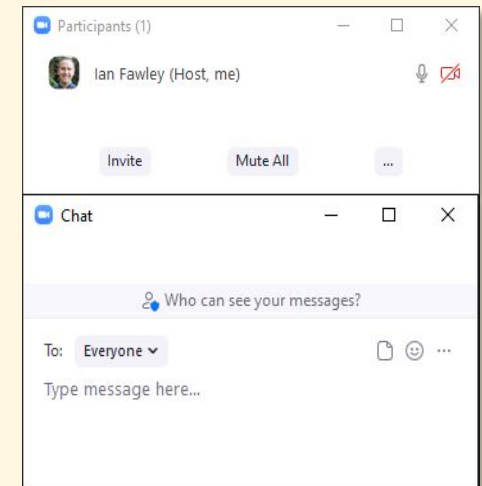


Tip Try your computer audio *first*.
If you'd like, you can test your speaker and microphone **before** joining.

Participate



Question?
Need help?
Chat with us!



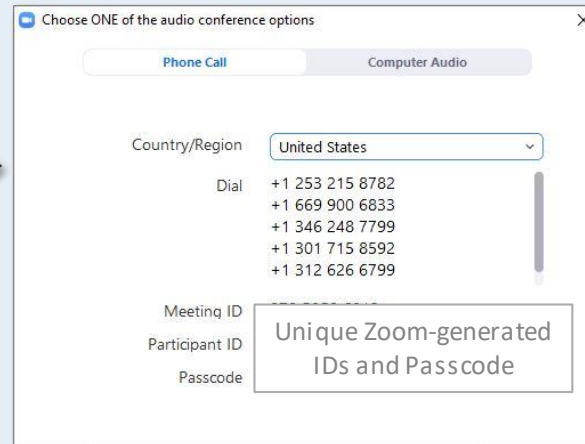
Turn on the Chat box and Participant list from your toolbar.

Audio

A Best Option: Use computer for audio

B If selecting "Phone Call" ...

- Dial: **253-215-8782 (Tacoma)**
- Enter Meeting ID **827 6687 9200**, followed by "#"
- Enter your unique Zoom Participant ID, followed by "#"
- (If you do not enter the Participant ID, you will be prompted to enter the **Passcode Ecology1.**)



Water Quality Partnership

December 10, 2020

Welcome - Introductions & Program Updates	Vince McGowan	10:00 – 10:10
Legislative and Budget Updates	David Giglio & Leslie Connelly	10:10 – 10:30
Grants and Loans Updates	Jeff Nejedly	10:30 – 10:50
Watershed Management Updates	Melissa Gildersleeve	10:50 - 11:20
General Permit Updates	Lucienne Banning	11:20 – 11:40
Roundtable	All	11:40 – 11:55
Wrap Up – Future agenda topics	Stacy Galleher	11:55 – 12:00





Water Quality Program Updates

Vince McGowan



Legislative and Budget Updates

David Giglio & Leslie Connelly



EHB 1931 – Sustaining hydropower license fees



- Water power license fees are required for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed dams (Revised Code of Washington 90.16.050). These fees, initiated in 2007 and extended in 2016, were set to expire on June 30, 2023. FERC-licensed public and private dams in Washington State pay the state-assessed fee so that they can use state waters for power generation. In turn, the revenue from these fees enable Washington State agencies to help hydropower facility operators meet federal licensing requirements that protect water and habitat. Licensing requirements include important work like enhancing fish passage and salmon survival.
- This bill changes the sunset date for the fees to June 30, 2029. Extending this fee ensures Ecology and WDFW can continue to work in partnership with dams to meet federal licensing requirements and water quality standards.

SB 5585 – Setting domestic wastewater discharge fees

- SB 5585 removes the cap on permit fees charged to municipalities for domestic wastewater facility permits. Removing the fee cap reduces a \$2 million gap, allows Ecology to charge fees for the Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit and helps us provide municipalities with better permit support. The bill sets a goal of reducing the permit backlog from 62% currently to no more than 20% by July 1, 2027. To set the new fee schedule, Ecology must work with a stakeholder advisory committee and then finalize the fee amount using our biennial rulemaking process.

2022 Supplemental Operating Budget

- Additional \$8,972,000 for water quality improvements
 - Implement Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit
 - Research alternatives to trade nutrient levels in Puget Sound
 - Research best management practices to mitigate tire dust pollutants
 - Increase efforts to issue 401 certifications at dams
 - Increase pass-through funding for local stormwater capacity grants
 - Authority to spend federal Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act
 - Improve permit data systems

2022 Supplemental Operating Budget

Agency Requests

- Wastewater Permit Implementation (Agency Request)
 - \$550,000 General Fund-State FY23 one-time
 - \$439,000 Water Quality Permit Fees FY23 ongoing
- Water Quality Permit Systems (Agency Request)
 - \$1 million Water Quality Permit Fees in FY 23 and FY 24 only

2022 Supplemental Operating Budget

Other New Funding

- Toxic Tire Wear in Stormwater
 - \$1,382,000 MTCA-Operating FY23 one-time
- Hydropower Compliance Assistance
 - \$557,000 GFS FY23 ongoing
- Increase Local Stormwater Capacity
 - \$4 million MTCA-Stormwater FY23 ongoing
- Nutrient Credit Trading
 - \$350,000 GFS FY23 one-time
- Clean Water Project IIJA Investment
 - \$692,000 Water Pollution Control Revolving Administration Account

2022 Supplemental Operating Budget

Not Funded

- Protect State Water from Toxics
 - \$714,000 MTCA-Operating ongoing



Grants and Loans Updates

Jeff Nejedly

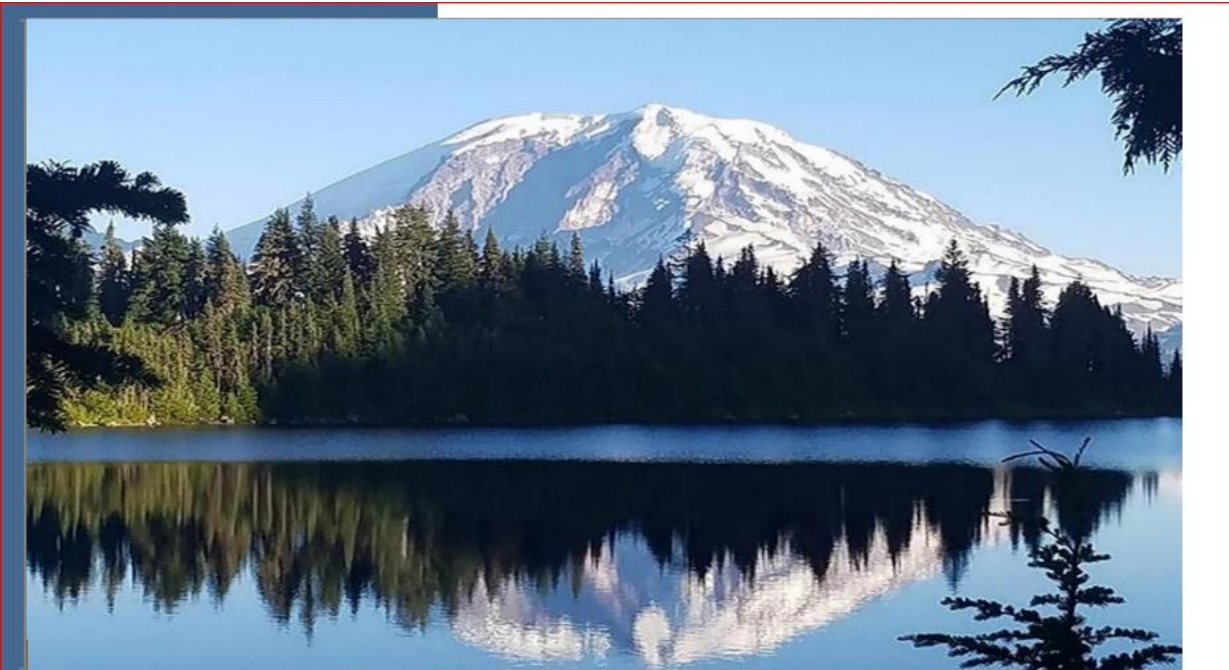




Watershed Management Updates

Melissa Gildersleeve

Watershed Management Section Updates



Triennial Review of Surface Water Quality Standards

Rulemaking updates –

- Submitted the Chelan UAA rule to EPA in October 2021
- Adopted the Salmon Spawning Rule this week and will send the package to EPA in the next 30 days.
- Triennial Review Report – doing final edits and cleanup and expect that to go to EPA in the next month

Water Quality Assessment

- 2018 Water Quality Assessment - sent to EPA at the end of August 2021
- 2022 Water Quality Assessment will start once we have EPA decision on 2018

Nonpoint Plan Update

Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Plan

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

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.

Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Plan

At the February 2022 Nutrient Forum we discussed the next set of model runs for this plan. Will be drafting parts of the plan over the next year as we wait for the results.

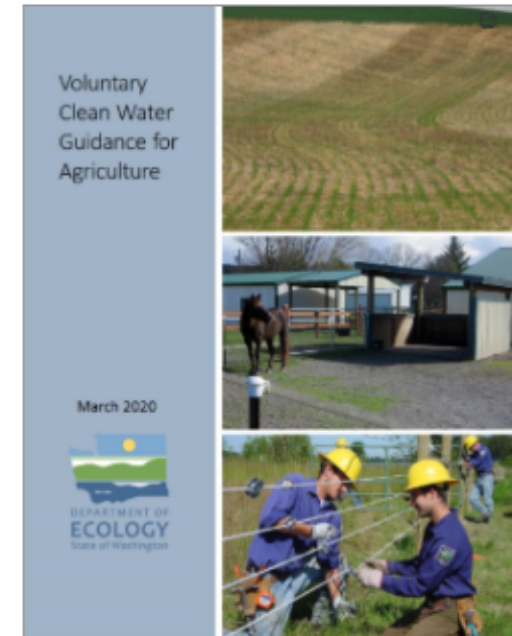
Conservation practices covered in the guidance

The first chapter, [Cropping Methods: Tillage and Residue Management](#), outlines our recommended BMPs for tillage and residue management. The BMPs focus on ways to minimize soil loss from fields and retain healthy soil. Many of these practices have co-benefits such as controlling pollution, improving soil health, and many practices become less expensive over time.

We will develop the next 12 chapters with ongoing collaboration with our advisory group. Each chapter will address a different type of conservation practice, such as:

- Crop system
- Nutrient management
- Pesticide management
- Sediment control
- Water management
- Livestock management
- Riparian areas and surface water protection

Eventually, we will incorporate the guidance chapters into [Washington's Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Sources of Pollution](#).



The Voluntary Clean Water Guidance will cover an variety of conservation practices.

Litigation – not permits

- **Section 303(d) litigation** - Water Quality Assessment /TMDL production and pace
- **Spokane PCB TMDL litigation** – Settlement—EPA developing PCB TMDL
- **Puget Sound TMDL litigation** -asserting EPA failed to fulfill mandatory obligations to develop total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for the Puget Sound.
- **Aquatic Life Criteria Court Ruling** - EPA's failure to meet its statutory obligation to play its backstop role and make a necessity determination as to Washington's outdated aquatic life WQS. the Court ORDERS EPA to issue its necessity determination within 180 days of entry of this Order
- **Cyanide criteria** - Notice of Intent to Sue Under the Endangered Species Act Related to the Environmental Protection Agency's Approval of Washington's Water Quality Standards for Cyanide





General Permit Updates – Fact Sheet

Lucienne Banning





Wrap Up

Vince McGowan

