

Stormwater Needs Assessment, Vision and Finance Strategy; LID Stormwater Management; and Reissuance of Municipal NPDES Permits

Written Update

Prepared by: Chris Townsend

Proposed Action: Written update only

Summary

Needs Assessment

The Partnership has contracted with Parametrix and Pam Bissonnette to conduct a needs assessment for local governments in the Puget Sound region to implement NPDES MS4 stormwater permits and to retrofit existing untreated impervious surfaces across the Sound for water quality; to create a coordinated regional vision for addressing threats from polluted runoff; and to develop a finance strategy to pay for actions to achieve the vision. A public review draft of the needs assessment will be released later in September. The vision and finance plan are in development and will be ready by December 2010. A more in-depth presentation was made about this work at the July 15, 2010 ECB meeting.

Low Impact Development Stormwater Management

The Partnership and WSU Puyallup Research & Extension Center are teaming up again to develop the region's technical guidance on low impact development (LID). The new LID technical guidance manual for Puget Sound will be released in July 2011. The Partnership is also initiating a project to develop a new "how to" guidebook for local governments. The guidebook will help local governments incorporate LID into their stormwater and land development codes. Accompanying the guidebook will be a series of model ordinances to provide specific code examples. The guidebook and model ordinances will be completed by July 2011. Targeted to all local governments in the basin, the guidebook will also help municipal NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permittees meet new requirements to add LID to their codes. Finally, the Partnership will fund another round of WSU Extension-led LID technical workshops in Spring 2011. The workshops include eight days of training, and cover all aspects of LID, including siting, design, construction, maintenance and performance.

Reissuance of Municipal NPDES Permits

The Partnership has been working with Ecology on the process to reissue the MS4 NPDES permits that are scheduled to go into effect in January 2012. These permits are a critical component of Puget Sound recovery efforts and will help the region achieve 2020 recovery goals.