

Monitoring and Assessment

Appendix G

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Overview:

Under the first permit, the Cities and Counties developed a regional monitoring plan that was submitted to Ecology in 2010. During development of the current permit, Ecology established a new approach to monitoring named “Stormwater Management Program Effectiveness Studies”. The updated permit effective August 1, 2014, requires that each city and county collaborate with other Permittees to select, propose, develop, and conduct Ecology-approved studies to assess, on a regional or sub-regional basis, effectiveness of permit-required stormwater management program activities and best management practices.

At a minimum, the four local jurisdictions; Chelan County, Douglas County, City of East Wenatchee, and the City of Wenatchee, plan to work collaboratively together on a sub-regional basis to meet Ecology effectiveness monitoring requirements. Additionally, the City of Spokane Valley received funding from Ecology to lead a process to select, propose, and develop effectiveness study ideas for the Eastern Washington regional Permittees. Representatives of the WVSTAC have been participating in this process.

Summarizing Ecology’s Stormwater Management Program Effectiveness Studies, Permittee’s shall:

1. Review the 2010 regional monitoring plan and add new ideas for collaborative studies of permit-required programmatic, operational, or structural best management practices. (S8.B.1)
2. Before June 30, 2016, submit to Ecology ranking of the study ideas and compile a final list of twelve to fifteen study ideas for Eastern Washington to Ecology. For each study idea, the lead entity must identify the sub-region that will participate. Include a brief summary of the data collection that will be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the practice. (S8.B.2 & S8.B.3)
3. Lead entities for each study idea will develop a detailed study design proposals for a combined total of no fewer than eight and no more than twelve of the top-ranked ideas. For each study idea, describe the purpose, objectives, design, and methods; list the Permittee’s that will participate, and their roles and responsibilities; describe anticipated outcomes; identify methods to report the results and describe expected modifications to the stormwater management program. (S8.B.4)
4. Before June 30, 2017, lead entities are required to submit the detailed proposal to Ecology. (S8.B.5)
5. Lead entities are required to submit a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) for each study. A combined total of no fewer than eight and no more than twelve QAPPs are required to be submitted to Ecology from all lead entities. (S8.B.6)

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6. For all studies, lead entities are required to describe interim results and status of the study in their annual reports throughout the duration of the study. (S8.B.8)
7. All participating Permittees are required to report the final results of each study and recommend future actions based on the findings. (S8.B.10)