



Water Quality Program

Permit Submittal Electronic Certification

Permittee: PIERCE COUNTY SW

Permit Number: WAR044002

Site Address: 930 TACOMA AVE S POLICE GARAGE
TACOMA, WA 98402

Submittal Name: MS4 Annual Report Phase I City County

Version: 1

Due Date: 3/31/2025

Questionnaire

Number	Permit Section	Question	Answer
1	S9.D.6.	Attach a map of any annexations, incorporations or jurisdictional boundary changes resulting in an increase or decrease in the Permittee's geographic area of permit coverage during the reporting period per S9.D.6.	Q1_S9.D.6_2024 Annexations_1_031820 25112614
2	S9.D.1, S5.A.1	Attach updated annual Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP Plan). (S9.D.1, S5.A.1)	Q2_S9.D.1, S5.A.1_2025 SWMP_2_03272025131 848
3	S5.A.2.	No later than March 31, 2027, implemented an ongoing program to gather, track, and maintain information per S5.A.2, including costs or estimated costs of developing and implementing the SWMP?	Not Applicable
4	S9.D4	If applicable, identify other entities relied on to satisfy any of the obligations under the Permit. (S9.D4).	Not Applicable
5	S5.C.2.a	Maintained electronic mapping data for the features listed in S5.C.2.a?	Yes
11	S.5.C.3.a	Did you update your internal coordination agreement(s) or directives to facilitate compliance with this permit? (S.5.C.3.a) (Required by March 31, 2025)	Not Applicable
12	S5.C.3.b.i	Implemented coordination mechanisms clarifying roles and responsibilities for control of pollutants between physically interconnected MS4s per S5.C.3.b.i?	Yes
13	S5.C.3.b.ii	Coordinated stormwater management activities for shared waterbodies among Permittees and Secondary Permittees, as necessary to avoid conflicting plans, policies and regulations? (S5.C.3.b.ii)	Yes

14	S5.C.4.a	Describe in Comments field opportunities created for the public, including overburdened communities, to participate in the decision making processes involving the development, implementation and updates of the SWMP and SMAP (SMAP applies to Counties). (S5.C.4.a).	<p>The SWMP is made publicly available at https://www.piercecountywa.gov/1855/Managing-Stormwater-Runoff The public can also submit recommendations to Pierce County's communications program that are to be used during the update process. Other considerations are watershed council meetings.</p> <p>Direct contact with businesses and residents through inspections and investigations, on ways to become involved with the process of developing the SWMP and permit compliance. The County coordinates with other programs, including watershed councils that support salmon recovery, who have a more direct nexus with overburdened communities, such as Tribal governments.</p>
14a	S5.C.4.a.i	Annually document specific public involvement and participation opportunities provided to overburdened communities, including highly impacted communities (e.g., federally recognized tribes). (S5.C.4.a.i)	Pierce County partnered with STORM's Puget Sound Starts Here efforts to continue education and outreach through the Don't Wait to Inflate and Don't Drip and Drive behavior change campaigns. Outreach included social media on Facebook and Instagram as well as the PSSH Blog.
15	S5.C.4.b	Posted the updated SWMP Plan and latest annual report on your website no later than May 31? (S5.C.4.b)	Yes
15a	S5.C.4.b	List website address in Comments field.	https://www.piercecountywa.gov/1855/Managing-Stormwater-Runoff
18	S5.C.5.b.i	Number of adjustments granted to the minimum requirements in Appendix 1? (S5.C.5.b.i, and Section 5 of Appendix 1)	0
19	S5.C.5.b.i	Number of exceptions granted to the minimum requirements in Appendix 1? (S5.C.5.b.i, and Section 6 of Appendix 1)	0

20	S5.C.5.b.vi.(a)	Reviewed Stormwater Site Plans per S5.C.5.b.vi.(a).	Yes
20a	S5.C.5.b.vi(a)	Number of stormwater site plans reviewed during the reporting period? S5.C.5.b.vi(a)	1609
21	S5.C.5.b.vi.(b)	Inspected, prior to clearing and construction, permitted development sites per S5.C.5.b.vi.(b)?	Yes
22	S5.C.5.b.vi.(c)	Inspected permitted development sites during construction to verify proper installation and maintenance of required erosion and sediment controls per S5.C.5.b.vi.(c)?	Yes
23	S5.C.5.b.vi.(d)	Inspected stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities and catch basins in new residential developments twice per 12-month period, with no less than four months between inspections, per S5.C.5.b.vi.(d)?	Yes
24	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Inspected permitted development sites upon completion of construction and prior to final approval or occupancy to ensure proper installation of stormwater facilities per S5.C.5.b.vi(e)?	Yes
25	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Verified that a maintenance plan is completed and responsibility for maintenance is assigned for stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities prior to final approval and occupancy being granted? (S5.C.5.b.vi(e))	Yes
26	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Number of enforcement actions taken during the reporting period? (Based on all construction and post-construction phase inspections at new development and redevelopment projects.) (S5.C.5.b.vi(b)- (e))	157
27	S5.C.5.b.vi.(f)	Achieved at least 80% of required construction-related inspections? (S5.C.5.b.vi.(f))	Yes
28	S5.C.5.b.vii	Made online links to Ecology's Construction Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent, the Industrial Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent, and the registration requirements for Underground Injection Control (UIC) wells available to representatives of proposed new development and redevelopment? (S5.C.5.b.vii)	Yes
29	S5.C.5.b.viii	All staff whose primary job duties are implementing the program to control stormwater runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites are trained to conduct these activities? (S5.C.5.b.viii)	Yes
30	S5.C.6.a	Continued to convene an interdisciplinary team to inform and assist in the development, progress, and influence of the stormwater planning program? (S5.C.6.a)	Yes
36	S5.C.6.c.i	Continue to design and implement local development-related codes, rules, standards, or other enforceable documents to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff, where feasible? See S5.C.6.c.i. (Required annually)	Yes

37	S5.C.6.c.i.(a)	From the assessment described in S5.C.6.c.i. (a), did you identify any administrative or regulatory barriers to implementation of LID Principles or LID BMPs? (Required annually)	No
39	S5.C.6.d.i	Counties Only: Described in your SWMP how the watershed-scale stormwater plans (developed in the 2013-2019 Permit) are being used to inform S5.C.7 project prioritization and selection? (S5.C.6.d.i)	Yes
42	S5.C.7.c	Attach a list of planned, individual projects scheduled for implementation during this permit term for the purpose of meeting S5.C.7.d, with the information and formatting specified in Appendix 12? (S5.C.7.c)	Q42_S5.C.7.c_MS4_2024_Appendix_42_03262025163348
44	S5.C.8.b	Updated inventory to identify commercial and industrial properties which have the potential to generate pollutants to the Permittee's MS4 per S5.C.8.b? (Required once every five years.)	Yes
44a	S5.C.8.a	Number of total sites identified for inventory?	643
45	S5.C.8.a-d	Attach a summary of actions taken to implement the source control program per S5.C.8.a.-d.	Q45_S5.C.8.a_Source Control Su_45_03272025134023
46	S5.C.8.b., c.	Attach a list of inspections per S5.C.8.b, organized by the business groups, noting the number of times each business was inspected, and if enforcement actions were taken, per S5.C.8.c.i.-v.	Q46_2024 PC Inspections by NAI_46_03262025111253
47	S5.C.8.e.	Implemented an ongoing source control training program per S5.C.8.e?	Yes
48	S5.C.9.b	Continued to implement the regulatory mechanisms to effectively prohibit illicit discharges into the MS4 per S5.C.9.b.	Yes
50	S5.C.9.c.i	Implemented procedures for conducting illicit discharge investigations in accordance with S5.C.9.c.i?	Yes

50a	S5.C.9.c.i	Cite field screening methodology used in the Comments field.	<p>Pierce County confirms that specific field screening methodologies outlined in section S5.C.9.i of the 2024-2029 Phase 1 MS4 Permit are crucial for detecting and eliminating illicit discharges. These methods aim to identify non-stormwater contamination sources to maintain water quality standards.</p> <p>Field screening procedures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basin, ditch, and outfall inspections - Olfactory-visual indicators - Source control inspections - Catch basin maintenance staff observations - Sampling for E. coli, pH, flow, conductivity, turbidity, temperature, ammonia, surfactants, total metals, etc. When needed - Public reports via See-Click-Fix, email, or phone. <p>In 2024, field screening will be based on weighted criteria in chosen drainage basins, guided by the IDDE Drainage Basin Prioritization Map. Pollutant indicators found will trigger source tracing investigations in related areas, with a stronger emphasis on source control inspections in 2025.</p>
51	S5.C.9.c.i(a)	Provide the percentage of MS4 screened in reporting year per S5.C.9.c.i(a). (Required to screen 12% each year.)	69

51a	S5.C.9.c.i(a)	Cite field screening techniques used to determine percent of MS4 screened.	Pierce County IDDE and M&O inspects and maintains Pierce County MS4 catch basins, pipes, county ponds, and other infrastructure throughout the year. IDDE Staff screened 100 percent of MS4 Bacteria Field Screening areas in 2024 which accounts for 13 percent of total MS4 catch basin drainage assets in Pierce County. M&O screens MS4 catch basins throughout each year and reports the total number of catch basins inspected in the year. A percentage was calculated from the total number of catch basins inspected and the total number of catch basins in Pierce County. This number was added to the IDDE screening numbers. This year IDDE screened 13 percent of the MS4, and M&O screened 56 percent of the MS4. This gives Pierce County a total of 69 percent screened in 2024.
52	S5.C.9.c.ii	Describe how you publicized a hotline telephone number for public reporting of spills and other illicit discharges in the Comments field (S5.C.9.c.ii).	Pierce County's pollution hotline as well as reporting pollution using See Click Fix is posted on the Pierce County website and is printed on various outreach materials for distribution to the community. All Pierce County staff take a spill response training which includes the pollution hotline phone number for reporting illicit discharge concerns.
53	S5.C.9.c.iii	Implemented an ongoing illicit discharge training program for all municipal field staff per S5.C.9.c.iii?	Yes
54	S5.C.9.d	Updated an ongoing program to address illicit discharges, including spills, and illicit connections into the MS4 per S5.C.9.d?	Yes
55	S5.C.9.e	Implemented an ongoing illicit discharge training program for all staff responsible for the procedures and program, per S5.C.9.e?	Yes

56	S5.C.9.f	Participated in a regional emergency response program, or implemented procedures to investigate and respond to spills and improper disposal? (S5.C.9.f)	Yes
57	S5.C.9.g	Attach a report with data describing the actions taken to characterize, trace, and eliminate each illicit discharge reported to, or investigated by, the permittee as described in S5.C.9.g. The submittal must include all of the applicable information and must follow the format described in Appendix 14.	WAR044002-2024-ImportedIDDEs_03272025110428
58	S5.C.10.a	Implemented maintenance standards that are as protective, or more protective, of facility function than those specified in the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, or a Phase I program approved by Ecology? (S5.C.10.a)	Yes
60	S5.C.10.a	Applied a maintenance standard for a facility or facilities which do not have maintenance standards specified? If so, note in the Comments field what kinds of facilities are covered by this alternative standard. (S5.C.10.a)	Not Applicable
61	S5.C.10.a.ii	Verified that maintenance was performed, per the schedule in S5.C.10.a.ii, when an inspection identified an exceedance of the maintenance standard.	Yes
61a	S5.C.10.a.ii	Attach documentation of maintenance time frame exceedances that were beyond the Permittee's control.	Q61a_S5.C.10.a.ii_2024 Summary_61a_03132025135951
63	S5.C.10.b.ii	Implemented an ongoing inspection program for stormwater facilities regulated by the Permittee per S5.C.10.b.ii.	Yes
63a	S5.C.10.b.iii	Are you using a reduced inspection frequency? (S5.C.10.b.iii)	No
63b	S5.C.10.b.iii	If using a reduced inspection frequency on stormwater facilities regulated by the Permittee for the first time during this permit cycle, attach documentation per S5.C.10.b.iii.	Not Applicable
64	S5.C.10.b.iv	Achieved at least 80% of inspections required? (S5.C.10.b.iv)	Yes
65	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of known stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities owned or operated by the Permittee? (S5.C.10.c.i)	1887
65a	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of these BMPs/facilities inspected during the reporting period?? (S5.C.10.c.i)	1887
65b	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of these BMPs/facilities for which maintenance was performed during the reporting period?? (S5.C.10.c.i)	530
66	S5.C.10.c.ii	If using reduced inspection frequency for municipally owned or operated stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities for the first time during this permit cycle, attach documentation per S5.C.10.c.ii.	Not Applicable
67	S5.C.10.c.iii	Conducted spot checks and inspections of potentially damaged stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities after major storm events? (S5.C.10.c.iii)	Not Applicable

68	S5.C.10.c.iv	Achieved at least 95% of required inspections per S5.C.10.c.iv?	Yes
69	(S5.C.10.d.i	Inspected catch basins owned or operated by the Permittee every year or used an alternative approach? (S5.C.10.d.i)	Yes
69a	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of known catch basins and inlets?	28595
69b	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of catch basins and inlets inspected during the reporting period?	16217
69c	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of catch basins and inlets cleaned during the reporting period?	7124
70	(S5.C.10.d.i	Attach documentation of alternative catch basin inspection approach, if used. (S5.C.10.d.i.)	Q70_S5.C.10.d.i_Alt CB Insp Fr_70_0313202513595 2
71	S5.C.10.d.ii	Disposed of decant water in accordance with the requirements in Appendix 6 – Street Waste Disposal. (S5.C.10.d.ii)	Yes
72	S5.C.10.e	Implemented practices, policies, and procedures to reduce stormwater impacts associated with runoff from all lands owned or maintained by the Permittee, and road maintenance activities under the functional control of the Permittee per S5.C.10.e.	Yes
78	S5.C.10.g	Implemented a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities, owned or operated by the Permittee in areas subject to this Permit that are not required to have coverage under an NPDES permit that authorizes stormwater discharges associated with the activity per S5.C.10.g?	Yes
79	S5.C.10.h	Implemented an ongoing training program for employees of the Permittee whose primary construction, operations or maintenance job functions may impact stormwater quality per S5.C.10.h?	Yes
80	S5.C.11	Did you choose to adopt one or more elements of a regional program? (S5.C.11)	Yes

80a	S5.C.11	If yes, list the elements, and the regional program.	<p>Puget Sound Starts Here - Pierce County participates in the regional PSSH advertising campaign augmenting Facebook, Instagram and YouTube ads with auction-based DSP (Digital Video & Display). PSSH Month took to the roads with a digital campaign focused on actions (inflating tires) that can help reduce water pollution. Pierce County targeted residents through the social marketing campaign. This campaign delivered millions total media impressions.</p> <p>Stormwater Outreach for Regional Municipalities (STORM) - Pierce County participates in a regional coalition of municipalities working together to address polluted runoff by advancing broad-scale behavior change and general awareness.</p> <p>Stormwater Outreach for Regional Municipalities (STORM) is a coalition of 81 Western Washington jurisdictions that work together to create effective, regionally consistent, and cost-efficient education and outreach programs and messaging. STORM services help jurisdictions meet their Municipal Stormwater Permit requirements and provide professional development opportunities to staff. The group offers facilitation of collaboration and resource sharing through quarterly meetings, the annual symposium, workgroups, and an online resource reservoir.</p>
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81	S5.C.11.a.i	Attach description of public education and outreach general awareness efforts conducted, including your priority audiences and subject areas, per S5.C.11.a.i.	Q81_2024_Puget_Sound_Starts_He_81_03262025112839
85	S5.C.11.a.iii	Provided, partnered, or promoted stewardship opportunities to encourage resident or business participation in activities such as those described in S5.C.11.a.iii?	Yes
85a	S5.C.11.a.iii	Attach a list of stewardship opportunities.	Q85a_2024_Puget_Sound_Starts_H_85a_03262025112839
86	S7.A	Complied with the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)-specific requirements identified in Appendix 2? (S7.A)	Yes
86a	S7.A	List any requirements that were not met.	Not Applicable
87	S7.A	For TMDL listed in Appendix 2, attach a summary of relevant SWMP and Appendix 2 activities to address the applicable TMDL parameter(s). (S7.A)	Q87_S7.A_2024_Appendix 2_Activ_87_03262025160556
88	S8.A	Submitted payment for cost-sharing for Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) status and trends monitoring no later than December 1, 2024 (S8.A.1); and no later than August 15 of each subsequent year? (S8.A.2.a)	Yes
89	S8.A.2	Notified Ecology by December 1, 2024 which option you selected: S8.A.2.a, or S8.A.2.b?	Yes
90	S8.B.2	Submitted payment for cost-sharing for SAM effectiveness and source identification studies no later than December 1, 2024 (S8.B.1); and no later than August 15 of each subsequent year? (S8.B.2.a or S8.B.2.c)	Yes
91	S8.B.2	Notified Ecology by December 1, 2024 which option you selected: S8.B.2.a, or S8.B.2.b, or S8.B.2.c?	Yes
94	S8.B.2.c.ii.(c)	If conducting a study per S8.B.2.c, began full implementation of the effectiveness in accordance with the schedule in the approved QAPP, and submitted required reports? (S8.B.2.c.ii.(c))	Not Applicable
98	G3	Notified Ecology in accordance with G3 of any discharge into or from the Permittee's MS4 which could constitute a threat to human health, welfare or the environment? (G3)	Yes
99	G3.A	Took appropriate action to correct or minimize the threat to human health, welfare, and/or the environment per G3.A?	Yes
100	S4.F.1	Notified Ecology within 30 days of becoming aware that a discharge from the Permittee's MS4 caused or contributed to a known or likely violation of water quality standards in the receiving water? (S4.F.1)	Yes
101	S4.F.3.a	If requested, submitted an Adaptive Management Response report in accordance with S4.F.3.a?	Not Applicable

102	S4.F.3.d	Attach a summary of the status of implementation of any actions taken pursuant to S4.F.3 and the status of any monitoring, assessment, or evaluation efforts conducted during the reporting period? (S4.F.3.d)	Q102_S4.F.3.d_Signed_20250331_102_0327 2025131600
103	G20	Notified Ecology of the failure to comply with the permit terms and conditions within 30 days of becoming aware of the non-compliance? (G20)	No
104	G20	Number of non-compliance notifications (G20) provided in reporting year? List permit conditions described in non-compliance notification(s) in Comments field.	2 Comment: In 2024, Pierce County submitted notification for two missed G3 reports. These reports pertained to the repeated dumping of sewage into a catch basin. The first incident was reported. All discharges were responded to and cleaned up immediately. A G20 was subsequently submitted to address these issues and describes procedure revisions to avoid missing submission deadlines in the future.

I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Maureen Meehan

3/27/2025 4:24:51 PM

Signature

Date