



# Sediment Quality in Puget Sound

## Focus on Story Map Collection

### Monitoring Marine Sediments

The Department of Ecology's Marine Sediment Monitoring Team has studied Puget Sound sediments since 1989 as part of the Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program (PSEMP), with the goal of addressing the following key questions:

- What is the condition of the benthic habitat and associated invertebrate organisms?
- How do the habitats and communities change over time?
- What are the relationships between benthic invertebrates and environmental parameters measured, such as nutrients, chemical pollutants, and climate-related pressures?

### Story maps - an interactive way of reporting

We have created a [collection of interactive story maps](#)<sup>1</sup> that describe our sediment monitoring program and findings. This story map collection allows readers to target the information they want, from background information on our programs to specific monitoring results. The introductory, overview, and resource story maps are described here.

### Using the collection and resources

This story map contains an instructional video and navigation tips on how to interact with, and get the most out of, our story maps. A glossary of terms and staff contact information are also provided.

This story map provides a graphic visualization of the Driver-Pressure-State-Impact-Response (DPSIR) conceptual model adopted for Ecology's Marine Sediment Monitoring Program (MSMP).

### The "scoop" on what we do

The "scoop" provides an overview of how sediments are collected for the MSMP and information on how and why we examine the physical, biogeochemical, and chemical contaminant properties of the sediments.

### Urban Bays Program

This story map provides an overview of the Urban Bays component of the MSMP, including a summary of characteristics of our six urban bay study areas: Bellingham Bay, East Possession Sound, Elliott Bay, Bainbridge Basin, Commencement Bay, and Budd Inlet.

### More to come!

Future "Sediment Quality in Puget Sound" story maps will focus on the Marine Sediment Monitoring Team's annual Long-term surveys of 50 stations located throughout Puget Sound and intensive surveys of individual urban bays.

### Marine Sediment Monitoring web site

[Marine sediments - Washington State Department of Ecology](#)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup><https://storymaps.arcgis.com/collections/aaec1a6656ff43e098d209c75ce00244>

<sup>2</sup><https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Puget-Sound/Sound-science/Marine-sediments>



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To request an ADA accommodation, visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility> - or call Ecology at 360-407-6764.