



Designing a Program for our Local Climate and Conditions

June 2003 Public Workshops Planned

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How to Stay Informed

Visit the project web site at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater, click on Eastern Washington Stormwater News.

Remember to check back periodically for updated information. If you have questions, call Ross Dunfee, Steering Committee Chair at (509) 786-5611, or

Karen Dinicola, Ecology Project Manager at (360) 407-6550.

To be added to the project mailing list, contact Sarah Hubbard-Gray at (509) 465-9410, or via email at shgray@qwest.net

Get an update on the project, learn about the Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington, and share your comments

Since June 2001, the Washington State Department of Ecology has been working with Eastern Washington communities and stakeholders to develop a Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington and a Model Municipal Stormwater Program for Eastern Washington. These documents are being specifically designed for Eastern Washington's climate, soils, and conditions, with the intent of helping communities manage their stormwater and helping regulated communities comply with new permit requirements.

A series of public workshops was held in October 2002 to gather public comments, insights and concerns regarding the first drafts of the Stormwater Management Manual and Model Program. During the public comment period, which extended through November 2002, a total of 950 comments and questions were received. The majority (925 or 97 percent) of the comments and questions related to the Stormwater Management Manual. The project Steering Committee, subcommittees, and Ecology reviewed and considered all of the comments and questions, developed responses, and updated the documents during the first half of 2003.

The Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington is now available for a final round of review and comment. The comments received on the Model Program were relatively minor and are being incorporated into the final version, which will be available in late July or early August 2003.

A second series of public workshops will be held in June 2003. At these workshops, the project team will explain how they responded to comments received on the first drafts of the Stormwater Management Manual and the Model Program. Specific information on changes made in the Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington will be presented, along with information on how to provide comments. Be sure to attend one of these meetings.

Public Workshops

Spokane • Monday, June 23, 2003

WSU Spokane County Cooperative Extension
222 N. Havana St.
Spokane, WA
4:30 to 6:30 pm

Clarkston • Tuesday, June 24, 2003

Walla Walla Community College
Clarkston Center, Multi-purpose Room
1470 Bridge Street
Clarkston, WA
4:30 to 6:30 pm

Tri-Cities • Wednesday, June 25, 2003

Benton County PUD Building, Auditorium
2721 W. 10th Avenue
Kennewick, WA
4:30 to 6:30 pm

Ellensburg • Thursday, June 26, 2003

Ellensburg Inn
Great Northern Room
1700 Canyon Road
Ellensburg, WA
4:30 to 6:30 pm

Project Activities and Accomplishments Since October 2002

What the project Steering Committee and subcommittees have accomplished since receiving comments on the first draft documents

The Eastern Washington Stormwater Management project has made significant progress since the September 2002 drafts of the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington and Model Municipal Stormwater Program for Eastern Washington were available for public review and comment. Some comments were provided at the October 2002 public workshops, and over 900 additional written comments were received on the two documents, with the majority of the comments relating to the Manual. Most of the comments requested changes. Others indicated support for the draft documents and approach, or had to do with the project process and implications.

Since January 2003, seven Manual Subcommittee meetings and one Model Program Subcommittee meeting were held in Moses Lake. During this time, all of the public comments received were compiled and reviewed by the subcommittees, Ecology, and the project consultants. The subcommittees prepared responses to all of the comments, and the consultants edited the documents, section by section and

chapter by chapter, based on the subcommittees' responses to comments. Here are the highlights on the status of the project:

Model Municipal Stormwater Program for Eastern Washington

Only 25 comments were provided on the September 2002 Draft Model Municipal Stormwater Program for Eastern Washington. The Model Program Subcommittee reviewed and developed responses to the comments, which were able to be resolved through minor editing of the document. The Model Program document is currently being finalized; the final document should be available in late July or early August 2003. A summary of the comments received on the draft document can be accessed on the project web page at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/eastern_manual/mod_prog_sum_comments.pdf. The Federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II municipal stormwater permit requirements, which will affect smaller urbanized municipalities, will be

incorporated into a Washington State general permit. There will be additional opportunities for public review and comment on municipal stormwater requirements during the development of this permit. You can track this process by visiting the project web site at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/phase_2/index.html or by calling Karen Dinicola at (360) 407-6550.

Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington

Extensive comments were provided on the September 2002 Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington, and the subcommittee held numerous meetings to consider the comments, develop responses, and revise the Stormwater Manual into a final draft format. This draft is now available for a second and final round of public review and comment (see article on page 3 and information on how to obtain a copy below). A summary of the comments received on the draft document can be accessed on the project web page at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/eastern_manual/manual_sum_comments.pdf.

Underground Injection Control Rule Being Revised by the Washington State Department of Ecology

Learn about the rule revision and how to track and access associated information

One of the goals of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act is to protect underground sources of drinking water. The Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program was established to protect underground sources of drinking water by regulating the discharges of fluids into the ground (subsurface) by underground injection wells. In 1984, Ecology adopted regulations (Chapter 173-218 WAC) to implement the UIC program.

In the UIC regulations, subsurface infiltration systems, such as drywells, are classified as Class V injection wells. The two

requirements of the UIC program are:

- A discharge must not endanger an underground source of drinking water.
- All UIC facility owners/operators must provide inventory information by registering the facilities.

Under the Federal UIC regulations, the definition of an underground injection well is a bored, drilled, or driven shaft whose depth is greater than the largest surface dimension; or a dug hole whose depth is greater than the

largest surface dimension; or an improved sinkhole; or a subsurface fluid distribution system which includes an assemblage of perforated pipes, drain tiles, or other similar mechanisms intended to distribute fluids below the surface of the ground. Examples of a UIC well or a subsurface infiltration system are drywells, drain fields, pipe or french drains and other similar devices that discharge to ground.

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Major Revisions to Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington

Changes that were made to address issues raised during the first public comment period

The public comment period for the first draft of the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (Manual) ended on November 30, 2002. Since then there has been a tremendous amount of work done by the Manual Subcommittee, Ecology, and the Consultant Team to respond to those comments and to produce a Final Draft Manual for a second and final round of public comments. These efforts have included:

- Two additional consultants were hired to provide expertise and feedback in two important areas: 1) the selection of the design storm and hydrologic modeling approach; and 2) the question of whether flow control should be required in Eastern Washington.
- One consultant reviewed the design storm distributions that were proposed in the first draft of the Manual. The consultant also reviewed computer applications that could model these storms. His work resulted in a significant rewrite of Chapter 4 of the Manual.
- Another consultant conducted a literature review and provided a scientific basis for requiring flow control to protect Eastern Washington streams. The consultant's report recommends that flow control be required for stormwater discharges to

smaller streams in Eastern Washington. This recommendation is reflected in Chapter 2 of the Final Draft Manual under Core Element #6.

- Seven Stormwater Manual subcommittee meetings were held in Moses Lake between January and May 2003 to review and develop a response for each public comment submitted. Many comments resulted in significant changes to the Manual, which are reflected in the Final Draft. Here is a quick list of some of those changes and additions:
 - Switched and renamed Chapters 5 and 6 to coincide with Core Elements 5 and 6.
 - Recommended use of the SCS Type IA storm (or a modified version of the custom design storms proposed in the first draft) rather than the currently-used SCS Type II storm for sizing and design of treatment and flow control facilities.
 - Used Average Daily Traffic counts and trip ends to define pollutant-loading thresholds from traffic areas.
 - Enhanced the definition for redevelopment projects.
 - Proposed a risk-based approach for determining treatment requirements at redevelopment sites.

- Developed guidance for using existing wetlands to control flows and treat runoff.
- Added guidance for using constructed wetlands to treat runoff.
- Added guidance for using Natural Dispersion as a BMP.
- Developed a new framework for evaluating pre-treatment requirements for drywells and other Underground Injection Control facilities.
- Added more information on arid- and cold-weather considerations for BMP operation and design.
- Analyzed costs for applying the Manual to typical projects in Eastern Washington.

A summary of the Manual Subcommittee's discussion and responses to each of the comments received during the first public comment period is included in the Final Draft Manual document. Additional information will be provided at the June 2003 public workshops (see article on page 1). Information on how to obtain a copy of this Final Draft Manual is provided on page 4.

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Ecology is proposing to revise the existing UIC rule (Chapter 173-218 WAC). The proposed changes to the rule include:

- Grandfathering existing wells, provided that a risk assessment determines that a well is not contributing to a water quality problem.
- Allowing discharge of properly managed stormwater from defined sources to new subsurface infiltration systems without requiring a permit. For Eastern Washington, proper management would

be based on applicable best management practices as described in the final stormwater manual or an approved equivalent manual.

- For new UIC facilities, a framework is proposed in the final draft manual for evaluating the pollutant loading of the intended land use and the treatment capacity of the vadose zone below the facility. If the treatment capacity is not sufficient for the proposed pollutant loading, pre-treatment is required.

- Allowing local jurisdictions to develop alternative requirements for UIC facilities within their jurisdictions.
- A new format for registering UIC facilities with the Department of Ecology.

For more information about the rule revision, contact Mary Shaleen-Hansen at maha461@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-6143. Information on the UIC Rule can also be accessed through Ecology's website at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/grndwtr/uic.

What's Next

August 18, 2003

End of public comment period on Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington.

Summer 2003

Final Model Municipal Stormwater Program available.

Late 2003 or Early 2004

Final Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington expected to be available. The final date of completion will depend on the volume and content of the comments received during this public comment period.

Spring 2004

Begin drafting NPDES Phase II Municipal Stormwater General Permit for Eastern Washington.

Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington Available For Public Review

How to obtain the document and provide comments

To obtain a copy of the Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington:

- **Internet** The document can be downloaded from Ecology's web page: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater, follow link to Eastern Washington Stormwater News.
- **Washington State Department of Printing** A printed copy of the document can be purchased from Department of Printing after June 10, 2003. If you have a credit card, you can order a printed copy on the Internet at <https://wvs2.wa.gov/prt/printwa/wsprt/default.asp>. You can also use this Internet site to get price information and then send a check or money order payable to "Department of Printing" at the following address: Department of Printing, P.O. Box 798, Olympia, WA 98507-0798. Include your name, mailing address, phone number, and the publication name (Final Draft Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington). Allow about two weeks for delivery. Call the Department of Printing at (360) 570-5555 for cost information or if you have other questions.
- **June 2003 Public Workshops** If you attend one of the June 2003 workshops, you can get a copy on a CD for free.
- **Public Libraries** Copies of the final draft document will also be available for review after June 16, 2003 at the following libraries: Central Washington University, Eastern Washington University, Gonzaga University, Mid-Columbia Library, Richland Public Library, Spokane Public Library, Washington State University, Wenatchee Public Library, Whitman College, and Yakima Valley Regional Library.

The public comment period ends August 18, 2003. You may provide comments at the June 2003 public workshops or send written comments to Karen Dinicola, Department of Ecology Water Quality Program, P.O. Box 47696, Olympia, WA 98504-7696, e-mail kdin461@ecy.wa.gov, fax (360) 407-6426.

Comments received will be considered by the project Steering Committee and the Department of Ecology as the document is finalized. For additional project information, visit the project Web page: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/, follow the link to Eastern Washington Stormwater News. The final Model Municipal Stormwater Program for Eastern Washington will be available on Ecology's website by the end of July 2003 and from the Department of Printing by mid-August 2003.

Ecology is an equal opportunity agency. If you have special accommodation needs, please call us at (360) 407-6401 (Voice) or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY).



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