



# Focus on **Central Regional Office** **Water Quality Program**

## Overview

The mission of the Department of Ecology's Water Quality Program (WQP) is to protect and restore Washington's waters.

As one of the primary subdivisions of Ecology, the WQP is guided by three major program mandates:

- The WQP administers the State Water Pollution Control Act (R.C.W. 90.48), which requires the prevention and control of pollution to streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, marine waters, ground water, and other waters of the state.
- The WQP implements the federal Clean Water Act (U.S.C. s/s 1251 et seq.) In this capacity, the WQP develops and administers surface water quality standards, monitors and assesses water quality, manages the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater discharge permit program, administers nonpoint pollution source control programs, and develops Water Cleanup Plans\* (also known as Total Maximum Daily Loads or TMDLs) for the recovery of impaired waters in the state of Washington.
- Section staff supports up to six watersheds under the Watershed Planning Act (RCW 90.82). They include coordination with watershed planning units, and salmon recovery groups in the Yakima, Wenatchee, Entiat, Klickitat, Moses Coulee/Foster Creek, Methow, and Okanogan watersheds.

\* A Water Cleanup Plan, or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) determination, is a science-based approach to cleaning up polluted water so that it meets approved state water quality standards.

## Central Regional Office (CRO)

The WQP at the CRO is subdivided into two units that support the program's mission. The following is a descriptive list of the specific responsibilities and related activities for each unit followed by the name of each unit's manager with phone and E-mail contact information:

### Watershed Unit

**Jeff Lewis, (509) 454-7207, [jlew461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jlew461@ecy.wa.gov)**

#### Non-point Source Management

- Non-dairy Agriculture
- Forest Practices
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Pesticides
- Education and Outreach
- TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads)

#### Stormwater

- General Permits
- Stormwater Manuals
- Wa. State Dept. of Transportation

#### Financial Assistance

- General Support (combined activities, training, etc.)
- New Grant/Loan Awards
- Existing Grant and Loans

#### Other

- SEPA
- Channel Morphology

## Technical Unit

Rick Frye, (509) 575-2821, [rfry461@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:rfry461@ecy.wa.gov)

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### Point Source Management

- National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permits
- State Permits
- General Permits (Sand and Gravel, Fresh Fruit, and Upland Hatcheries)
- Compliance, Enforcement, and Inspections
- Regulatory Support (Operator Certification, GMA, Technical Support, etc.)
- Pretreatment
- Ground water/Surface water/UIC
- Water Quality Permit Life Cycle Systems (WPLCS)
- Operator Training – Technical Assistance

## For More Information...

Please contact the Water Quality Program at the Department of Ecology's Central Regional Office at 15 West Yakima Avenue Suite 200 Yakima WA 98902; you may also reach the following individuals by telephone or E-mail:

### **Cindy Huwe, Permit Coordinator**

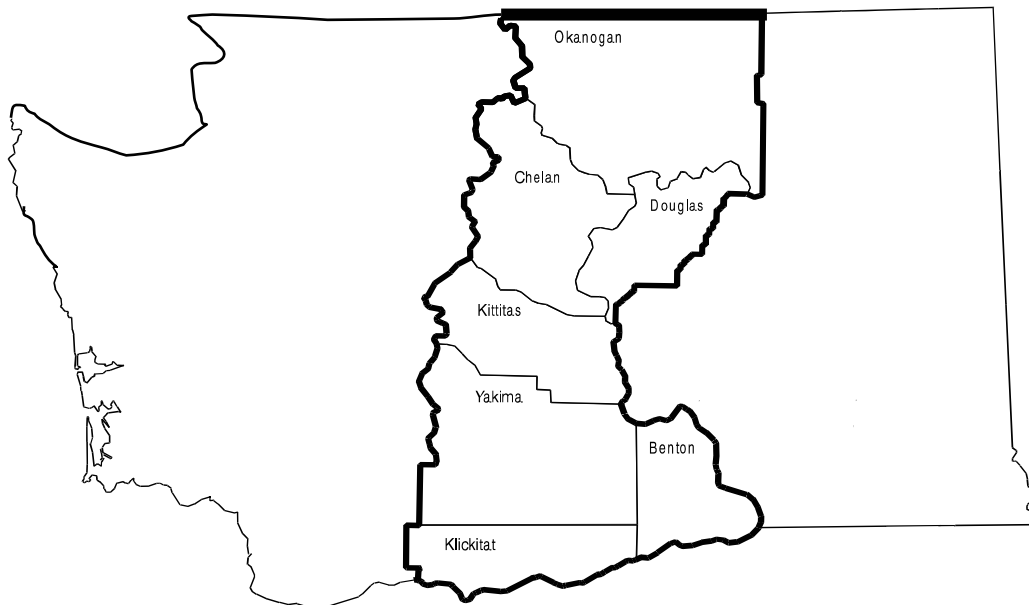
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