



Update

Best Available Science for Wetlands

The following is an update on the status of Wetlands in Washington State - Volumes 1: A Synthesis of the Science and Volume 2: Guidance for Protecting and Managing Wetlands. This update also provides information on training being planned on wetland topics.

The Final Versions of Volumes 1 and 2 Are Now Available

The final version of both Volumes 1 and 2 are now available. As you may remember, Volume 1 is the synthesis of the science regarding freshwater wetlands in Washington, and Volume 2 contains guidance for protecting and managing our wetlands. Both of these volumes, previously available as drafts for public review, have now been completed. In addition, responses to the comments we received during the public review of both documents have also been completed. All four documents have been posted on the Web. Printed copies of Volume 1 and the corresponding responses to comments can now be ordered. Printed copies of Volume 2, the responses to comments for that document, and CDs containing all four documents will soon be available. Go to the project's Web site to download the documents (see direct links below) and for updates on the availability of printed versions: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/bas_wetlands. (Instructions for ordering printed copies and CDs follow.)

Volumes 1 and 2 were jointly sponsored by the state departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife and funded in part by the U.S. Environmental

On the Web site, the volumes are divided into separate pdf files for each chapter that can be individually downloaded due to their large sizes: Individual chapters of Volume 2 can be downloaded at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/bas_wetlands/volume2final.html. The entire document is also available in one file: www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0506008.html. Volume 1 can be downloaded at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/bas_wetlands/volume1final.html for separate chapter files and www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0506006.html for the entire document. The Responses to Comments on the draft of Volume 1 can be downloaded directly at www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0506007.html and on the draft of Volume 2 at www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0506009.

We encourage you to download these documents from our web page to save on postage and other resources. A second resource-saving option is to order a CD. Lastly, you can request paper copies. You can order CDs and paper copies by contacting the Ecology Publications Distribution Office. They are free of charge except for those living and working outside of Washington State.

When requesting publications from our distribution office, please use the contact information below and indicate the publication #(s) of the document(s) you are requesting. Also specify whether you want a CD or printed copies.

Ecology Publications Distribution Office, Jean Witt, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600, (360)407-7472, jewi461@ecy.wa.gov.

- Wetlands in Washington State: Volume 1 - A Synthesis of the Science (Publication # 05-06-006)
- Responses to Comments on Volume 1 (Publication # 05-06-007)
- Wetlands in Washington State: Volume 2 - Guidance for Protecting and Managing Wetlands (Publication #05-06-008)
- Responses to Comments on Volume 2 (Publication # 05-06-009)

Thanks to everyone involved in developing these documents!

Training on Wetland Topics Is Being Planned

We are currently developing a strategy and curriculum for training on several wetland topics to address the many requests for training we have received. Local governments will be one of the targeted audiences for the training due to the updates they are making to their critical areas ordinances and their wetland protection programs. In preparation for developing Ecology's training curriculum, a survey was distributed to local governments in the fall of 2004 to determine their needs and other issues such as optimal locations for training etc. The result is that training will cover a wide variety of topics including the science related to wetlands, wetland analysis (rating and function assessment), and the protection and management of wetlands (buffers and compensatory mitigation, etc). The training will be offered in multiple locations around the state. *The development of wetland curriculum is funded in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.*



We plan to start offering various components of the curriculum some time in the Fall of 2005. However because of the huge demand, we have already scheduled training sessions this spring in Bellevue, Olympia, Vancouver and Yakima on the revised rating systems for eastern and western Washington. The training was restricted to 2 people from organizations associated with wetland protection at the local government level. These sessions are already filled and have long waiting lists. Additional training in the rating systems will be offered in the fall. The revised rating system for western Washington can be downloaded at www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0406025.html and eastern Washington at www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0406015.html.

We will be notifying you via future Updates when our plan for training has been completed and dates and locations identified. At that time we will mail out one Update. In the future, however, we will be minimizing the paper distribution of updates. Therefore, we encourage you to send us your email address, if you have one, to receive more frequent mailings. Send your email address or any corrections to your address to Dana Mock at dmoc461@ecy.wa.gov or call her at 360-407-6947 or sign-up for the mailing list on-line at www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/bas_wetlands/maillist.html.

If you have any questions or comments you can email or call Dana or Teri Granger at tgra461@ecy.wa.gov 360-407-6857. Please forward this update to other interested parties. Thanks.

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please contact Ecology's SEA Program at 360-407-6096. For persons with a speech or hearing impairment call 711 for relay service or 800-833-6388 for TTY .