



- Visit our
website to
learn more**



Assistance available

Leave a message at 360-255-4406 and we will return your call.

WRIA 1 Adjudication

Si necesita ayuda para entender esta información, ofrecemos servicios gratuitos de traducción e interpretación, así como Braille y ASL para personas con discapacidades. Para solicitar estos servicios, llame al 360-255-4406.

Eсли вам нужна помощь в понимании этой информации, мы предоставляем бесплатные услуги письменного и устного перевода, а также информацию шрифтом Брайля и на американском языке жестов (American Sign Language, ASL) для людей с инвалидностью. Чтобы записаться эти услуги, позвоните по телефону 360-255-4406.

हैव डाऊँ हिम मारबो ठुं महर हिए हेर दी डूउं, मम मड मंडरे मड हैम्हिण्डा हैवे वर दे मड ले गी ममावर लव लरा वैल मन्दीवा मड रूम (American Sign Language, ASL) ए दुयसभ वठ्ठा। विठान् माहेर दि बिजि वाठन जेरी, 360-255-4406 उ बाल वढी।

Accommodation Requests: To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, visit ecology.wa.gov/accessibility or call Ecology at 360-255-4406. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-

(833)-634-1191.

If you use water from a well, stream, or lake, adjudication affects you



Adjudication is a legal process in Whatcom County Superior Court between the Washington Department of Ecology and all local water users. This process requires water users to self-report their water use in a form online or on paper. The court will make a decision that lists water uses in priority (old to new), including where and how much water is legal on each parcel of land. It does not involve criminal proceedings or penalties. It does not change the current law on water use.

Certified mail is coming your way

Ecology is sending a large 9"x12" envelope by certified mail via the U.S. Postal Service to all land owners in Water Resources Inventory Area 1 who are within the area of a recorded water right or outside a public water system service area. If you receive this mailing, our records show you may be a water right holder or claimant.

Here are things to know:

- Certified mail can't be left in a mailbox or on a doorstep; an adult must sign for it upon delivery.
- You and your neighbors may receive the mailing at different times, typically within one to five days.
- Ecology will publish a list of people who didn't sign for their certified mail in a local newspaper.

Ecology will have extra claim forms and instructions available.

Assistance available

Leave a message at (360) 255-4406 and we'll call you back.

Email us at WRadjudications@ecy.wa.gov

March 2025 Publication Number 25-11-003

Tell us about your water use

Get ready to receive over 30 pages of essential documents. Inside the envelope, you'll find a summons, court claim form, and detailed instructions. The summons officially notifies you that a legal process is underway.

Fill out the claim form describing your past and current water use. The instructions will guide you through the claim form explaining the required information and how to provide it.

File your completed form online or hand-deliver or mail it to the Whatcom County Superior Court.

Not filing can result in losing your right to legally use water in the future.

Resources

Ecology's website:
ecology.wa.gov/nooksack-adjudication

Ecology's monthly e-newsletter:
ecology.wa.gov/nooksack-adjudication-list

Whatcom County's informational sessions and water use calculators:
whatcomcounty.us/adjudication

Public meetings for homes with wells (late Spring 2025), in-person clinics, and instructional videos.