

**National Estuary Program (NEP)**

**Toxics and Nutrients**

**Chemicals of Emerging Concern**

**Grant Application**

This NEP Toxics and Nutrients Grant Program

Application Form is available at:

[www.ecy.wa.gov/puget\_sound/grants\_fed\_toxics.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/grants_fed_toxics.html)

*If you need this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Water Quality Program at 360-407-6502. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.*

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**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

## Application Resources

Important requirements and an overview of the grant program can be found in the *National Estuary Program Toxics and Nutrients Grant Program Funding Guidelines for 2012-2013*. The funding guidelines can be found at: [www.ecy.wa.gov/puget\_sound/grants\_fed\_toxics.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/grants_fed_toxics.html).

## Funding program overview

Between 2007 and 2011 the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) conducted an Assessment of Selected Toxic Chemicals in the Puget Sound Basin (available at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1103055.html>). This assessment focused on 17 toxic chemicals and chemical groups that 1) had potential to harm the health of people, fish, and Puget Sound and 2) were representative of different delivery pathways. Chemicals assessed included: arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury, zinc, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, petroleum-based compounds, polybrominated phenyl ethers, phthalates, polychlorinated biphenyls, dioxins/furans, triclopyr and nonylphenol. The assessment did not address thousands of other chemicals currently used in the Puget Sound basin. Given the vast array of chemicals used today, it is not possible to conduct comprehensive testing. Therefore, the scope of this grant opportunity is narrowed to focus on persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic chemicals, and chemicals that have endocrine disruption properties. Pharmaceuticals, chemicals present in personal care products, chlorinated paraffins, flame retardants such as hexabromocyclododecane are a few examples of classes of chemicals that have limited information on occurrence and biological impacts on Puget Sound.

Most of the investigations to date in Puget Sound related to chemicals of emerging concern (CECs) have taken a largely empirical, exposure-based approach through monitoring of selected chemicals in various media. Reliance on chemical monitoring alone cannot provide a complete understanding of the impact of toxic chemicals. More effects-based information is needed to evaluate the biological impacts of a wide range of chemicals on the Puget Sound ecosystem. There is a need to incorporate effects-based monitoring to complement chemical-based approaches.

This grant opportunity is targeted at providing data to further development of an effects-based monitoring program in Puget Sound that combines measures of exposure and biological impacts for toxic chemicals. The primary objectives of this grant include collecting information in two theme areas:

1. Collect data on the presence of currently used CECs that can be used to further characterize a class of chemicals, an important delivery pathway (e.g. rivers/stream, municipal/industrial discharges, etc), or a geographic area in Puget Sound.
2. Using biological indicators assess impacts from currently used CECs in terms of baseline and impacted conditions. A wide range of biological indicators are potentially available that could be used in this work. A few examples of include vitellogenin, histopathological examination, growth and metabolism hormones, lipid content, and condition index.

Proposals are encouraged to incorporate a component of both theme areas listed above. The data generated should build on existing information by filling important data gaps for currently used CECs in Puget Sound rather than duplicating past efforts. Rationale should be provided for selection of the target analytes and include a discussion of the sensitivity and performance of proposed analytical methods.

## Available funding

Total funding amount: $500,000.

Maximum funding per project: $500,000.

Minimum funding per project: $250,000.

Applicants are encouraged to apply for the total funding amount.

## Eligibility

State and federal agencies, institutions of higher learning, tribal governments and technical consortia, local governments, special purpose districts, conservation districts, watershed planning units, local management boards, salmon recovery lead entities, regional fisheries enhancement groups, and non-profit entities are eligible to apply.

Eligible applicants may partner on projects with ineligible entities. The eligible applicant must be the lead agency on the application and the agreement. It is the lead agency’s responsibility to ensure all project activities are completed and will collaborate and coordinate with their identified partners.

To be eligible, the project must:

* Be ready to use the funds beginning January 21, 2013.
* Complete the work by January 31, 2015.
* Must address at least one of the primary objectives of this proposal:
	+ (1) Collect data on the presence of currently used CECs that can be used to further characterize a class of chemicals, an important delivery pathway (e.g. rivers/stream, municipal/industrial discharges, etc), or a geographic area in Puget Sound.
	+ (2) Using biological indicators assess impacts from currently used CECs in terms of baseline and impacted conditions. A wide range of biological indicators are potentially available that could be used in this work. A few examples of include vitellogenin, histopathological examination, growth and metabolism hormones, lipid content, and condition index.
* Submit environmental data to Ecology’s Environmental Information Management (EIM).
* Provide a written report to Ecology at the completion of the work summarizing the results of the project.
* All monitoring, modeling, and data analysis must be conducted under an Ecology-approved Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Monitoring, modeling, and data analysis activities may not begin and will be ineligible for reimbursement until the QAPP is approved.
* All NEP grants come with extensive reporting and accountability requirements (see attachment). Potential applicants should read and understand these requirements before applying for the grant.

The priority outcomes are:

* Provide information that fills important data gaps in our understanding of the biological impacts or occurrence from currently used CECs that can be used to develop a more comprehensive effects-based monitoring program for Puget Sound.
* Support development of biological characteristics/indicators that are predictive of contaminant exposure.
* Support improvement of the Puget Sound vital signs and associated targets for toxic chemicals.

## Application Submittal Information

Applications must include all of the following:

* One original application with signature.
* One electronic version of the application in Microsoft Word format. The applicant may submit maps and other attachments in PDF format with the electronic version. E-mail electronic versions to sarah.ralph@ecy.wa.gov and andrew.kolosseus@ecy.wa.gov.

All application material **must be received** at the Department of Ecology (Lacey headquarters office) **no later than 5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2012**. Postmarks are **not** accepted. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

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| ***U.S. Postal Mailing Address:*** | ***Overnight Mail or Hand Delivery Address:*** |
| Department of Ecology Water Quality Program Financial Management Section P.O. Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504-7600 | Department of EcologyWater Quality Program Financial Management Section 300 Desmond Drive Lacey, WA 98503 |

For more information, contact Sarah Ralph, 360-407-6703, e-mail sarah.ralph@ecy.wa.gov for financial questions or Andrew Kolosseus, 360-407-7543, e-mail andrew.kolosseus@ecy.wa.gov for technical questions.

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| **Grant Funding Cycle Schedule**  |
| Application submittal deadline  | November 20, 2012 |
| Rate and rank applications  | November 20-30, 2012 |
| Award notification  | December 3, 2012 |
| Funding agreements signed  | January 30, 2013 |

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For Ecology Use Only:

**Application No.**

# Background Information

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| **PROJECT TITLE:**  *(Please keep the project title to five words or less.)* |
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| **APPLICANT NAME:** *(Public body or private not-for-profit per IRS 501 (C) (3))* |
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| APPLICANT DATA:  |
| Federal ID No.:       |

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| **APPLICANT SIGNATORY:** *(The person whose name is listed here must sign this application)*  |
| Name:       |
| Title:       | Telephone Number:       Fax Number:       | E-Mail Address:       |
| Mailing AddressAgency:      Address:      City:       State:       Zip Code:       |

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| **APPLICANT PROJECT MANAGER:** *(The person whose name is listed here is the main contact for the project)* |
| Name:       |
| Title:       | Telephone Number:       Fax Number:       | E-Mail Address:       |
| Mailing AddressAgency:      Address:      City:       State:       Zip Code:       |

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| **PROJECT DURATION** (Note: Projects must be completed by January 30, 2015) |
| Estimated Start Date:        |
| Estimated Completion Date:       |

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| **GEOGRAPHIC AREA:** |
| **Where is the project area?** Please attach a map of the project area. |
| Provide **Latitude/Longitude coordinates in** **Decimal Degrees** (e.g., 45.3530/-120.4510) of your PROJECT location and the affected water body. The PROJECT location is the approximate center of where you will be working. Latitude/Longitude coordinates can be located at: <http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html>. |
| Location | **Primary Site** | **Secondary Site** | Tertiary Site |
| PROJECT Location (Lat/Long): |       |       |       |
| Water Body Name: |       |       |       |

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| EXECUTIVE SUMMARY |
| In 250 words or fewer, describe the problem to be addressed, the scope of the project, its water quality benefits, and how the project addresses the identified problem.      |

# Project Purpose (20 points)

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| Scoring Guide:* Does the proposal address one or preferably both of the primary objects of the proposal?
	+ Collect data on the presence of currently used CECs that can be used to further characterize a class of chemicals, an important delivery pathway (e.g. rivers/stream, municipal/industrial discharges, etc), or a geographic area in Puget Sound.
	+ Using biological indicators assess impacts from currently used CECs in terms of baseline and impacted conditions. A wide range of biological indicators are potentially available that could be used in this work. A few examples of include vitellogenin, histopathological examination, growth and metabolism hormones, lipid content, and condition index.
* Will the project provide new information on a particular class of chemicals or delivery pathway to Puget Sound?

In two pages or fewer, describe the purpose of project.      |

# Scope of Work (25 points)

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| Scoring Guide:* Are the project goals clearly presented?
* Is the project well-structured?
* Does the project describe what data gap is being targeting and how the project will address the gap?
* For chemical testing: (1) is a rationale provided for the selection of the target chemicals, and (2) is a description of analytical methods included?
* For biological effects testing: (1) Does the proposal include comparison of baseline and impacted areas? (2) Is there a link (or will the proposal search for a link) between the biological effects and exposure to CECs?
* Does the proposal include a schedule that is reasonable and achievable?

*Task 1 is standard for all grant projects. Follow the format provided below for the additional tasks in your scope of work. Limit answer to four pages or fewer.* **Task 1- Project Administration/Management:**Budget for Task 1: $     Completion Date for Task 1:      1. The RECIPIENT will administer the project. Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to: maintenance of project records; submittal of payment vouchers, fiscal forms, and progress reports; compliance with applicable procurement, contracting, and interlocal agreement requirements; application for, receipt of, and compliance with all required permits, licenses, easements, or property rights necessary for the project; and submittal of required performance items.
2. The RECIPIENT must manage the project. Efforts will include conducting, coordinating, and scheduling project activities and assuring quality control. Every effort will be made to maintain effective communication with the RECIPIENT's designees; Ecology; all affected local, state, or federal jurisdictions; and any interested individuals or groups. The RECIPIENT must carry out this project in accordance with any completion dates outlined in this agreement.
3. The RECIPIENT must ensure this project is completed according to the details of this agreement. The RECIPIENT may elect to use its own forces or it may contract for professional services necessary to perform and complete project-related work.
4. Required Performance:
	1. Effective administration and management of this grant project.
	2. Maintenance of all project records.
	3. Timely submittal of all required performance items including the Post Project Assessment Plan, progress reports, and financial vouchers.
	4. Write and submit a one to two page summary of project accomplishments and outcomes at project completion, including pictures, to be published by Ecology.

**Task 2-**      **:**Budget for Task 2: $     Completion Date for Task 2:      Description:      **Task 3-**      **:**Budget for Task 3: $     Completion Date for Task 3:      Description:      **Task 4-**      **:**Budget for Task 4: $     Completion Date for Task 4:      Description:      **Task 5-**      **:**Budget for Task 5: $     Completion Date for Task 5:      Description:      **Task 6-**      **:**Budget for Task 6: $     Completion Date for Task 6:      Description:       |

# Proposed Budget (10 Points)

Scoring Guide:

* Is the budget complete and consistent with the scope?

Budget examples can be found in Appendix A of *Administrative Requirements for Recipients of Ecology Grants and Loans,* “The Yellow Book,” found at: [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/cycles/2013/index.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/funding/cycles/2013/index.html). Detailed budgets can be attached and submitted with the application.

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| **Total PROJECT Cost**This amount represents the full cost of the PROJECT  | $      |
| **Eligible PROJECT Cost**This amount represents the portion of the project costs that are grant eligible.  | $      |

**TOTAL Eligible Cost by Budget Object**

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| Salaries: $     Benefits: $     Indirect costs: $      (May include up to 25 percent of employee salaries and benefits; some exemptions apply)Contracts: $     Materials, goods, andservices (list major item):      $     Equipment (list major items): $           $           $     Travel: $     Other (please outline):       $           $     **Total Eligible Cost:** $      |

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| Describe how costs were estimated. Explain how you calculated each budget item and why it is necessary for the project. Include the steps taken to ensure the accuracy of cost estimates.      |

# Programmatic Capability (10 points)

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| Scoring Guide:* Does the applicant have the capacity, expertise, and demonstrated ability to successfully complete the project?

In a half page or less, describe the applicant’s capability to conduct the project.      |

# Project Outputs and Outcomes (25 Points)

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| Scoring Guide:* Are the project outputs and outcomes clearly defined and do they address the primary objectives of this grant opportunity?
* Does the project have application to the Puget Sound Toxics vital signs and associated targets?
* Does the project identify and fill important data gaps for currently used CECs in the Puget Sound basin?

In one page or less, provide a description of the project’s outputs and outcomes. **Outputs** (Outputs are the major products and/or the substantial and completed processes that will be created to reach outcomes. They are the anticipated accomplishments funded through the grant, and they are directly under the grantee’s control. The outputs occur “in order to achieve” an intended outcome. Outputs should be numeric whenever possible.)     **Outcomes** (Outcomes are the desired environmental changes or results that the proposed project will eventually accomplish. The follow from the outputs and identify the anticipated change that is the goal of the grant.)      |

# Application Certification

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| I CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND THAT I AM THE **LEGALLY AUTHORIZED SIGNATORY** OR DESIGNEE FOR THE SUBMITTAL OF THIS INFORMATION ON BEHALF OF THE APPLICANT. |
|        |  |
| Printed Name | Signature |
|        |       |
| Title | Date |