

**Updated web page links for the
Washington Wetland Rating System for Western Washington**
(As of 6/13/23)

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Information required for documenting a new rare plant location can be found at:
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf.

Additional information about rare plant locations can be found at:
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPfieldguide>

Resources to assist in classifying the plant community can be found at:
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPwetlands>

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US Army Corps of Engineers National Wetland Plant List (NWPL):
http://wetland-plants.usace.army.mil/nwpl_static/v33/home/home.html

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D 3.1, D 3.2, R 3.1, L 3.1, L 3.2, S 3.1, S 3.2: To answer this question you will need to access the Department of Ecology's website that lists all the bodies of water that do not meet water quality standards: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/ApprovedWQA>

Water Quality Atlas Map: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/waterqualityatlas/map.aspx>

To view listed waters, go to "Add Map Data," check the box next to "Assessed Waters/Sediment," and select "Go." Use the "Filter Data" tab to select Category 5 waters under "Assessed Water/Sediment."

To determine if the wetland is in the basin of a listed water, look in an area approximate to a 12-digit Hydrologic Unit (4-40 sq mi, for more information see Federal Standards and Procedures for the National Watershed Boundary Dataset at https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/11/a3/pdf/tm11-a3_4ed.pdf).

View 12-digit HUCs on the Water Quality Atlas Map by going to "Add Map Data," checking the box for "Sub-Watershed (12-digit HUC)," and selecting "Go."

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D 3.3, R 3.2, R 3.3, L 3.3, S 3.3: The Department of Ecology's website lists all the bodies of water that have TMDLs:

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-quality/Water-improvement/Total-Maximum-Daily-Load-process/Directory-of-improvement-projects>

See also the Water Quality Atlas Map: <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/waterqualityatlas/map.aspx>

To view listed waters, go to “Add Map Data, check the box next to “Assessed Waters/Sediment,” and select “Go.” Use the “Filter Data” tab to select Category 4 waters under “Assessed Water/Sediment.” You can also view TMDLs at the watershed level by selecting “WQ Improvement Projects” when adding map data. Click on the map for a pop-up with more information and links to reports.

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D 4.3: If you are unfamiliar with the methods for mapping contributing basins, the procedure is described in a fact sheet by the NRCS, *How to Read a Topographic Map and Delineate a Watershed*:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/sea/Wetlands/ratingSystemLinks/NRCSwatershedDelineation.pdf>

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D 6.1: Flooding from groundwater – See USGS information for Puget Sound:

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2000/0111/report.pdf>

For additional resources to determine if flooding problems occur, NOAA publishes a searchable database of storms that caused damage at: <https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/stormevents/>

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R 2.1, R 2.2, R 5.2: Maps of UGAs and urban areas can be found on the Washington Coastal Atlas: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/coastalatlasmap>

Go to “Contents,” “Administrative/Regulated,” check the boxes for “City” and “Urban growth area (UGA)” and select “Go.”

R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.3: Additional resources for mapping the contributing basin include:

- Washington Coastal Atlas Map: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/coastalatlasmap>
 - Go to “Contents,” “Shoreline,” check the box for “Sub-basins,” “Watershed,” or both, and select “Go.”
- USGS StreamStats: <https://water.usgs.gov/osw/streamstats/>
- Washington Department of Natural Resources Lidar Portal: <https://lidarportal.dnr.wa.gov/>

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R 2.3, H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3: Additional resources for land cover mapping in western Washington include:

- County web maps
- WSDA Agricultural Land Use:
<https://nras.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=3d61db30686d467ea6f5e0197be32b25>
- Northwest Large Fire Interactive Map:
<https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/information/firemap.aspx>
- Land cover mapping in western Washington by NOAA C-CAP land cover atlas:
<https://coast.noaa.gov/ccapatlas/>
- National Land Cover Database Land Cover map viewer available from the Multi-Resolution Land Characteristics Consortium: <https://www.mrlc.gov/viewer/>

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Fetch calculator can be accessed from: <http://csherwood-usgs.github.io/jseed/Fetch%20and%20Depth%20Limited%20Waves,%20USGS.html>

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S 4.1 Rationale for indicator box U.S. Geological Service reference:
<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/urbaneffects.html>

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H 3.1 Additional resources for identifying habitat for Threatened or Endangered (T/E) species include: US Fish and Wildlife Service Critical Habitat for Threatened & Endangered Species:
<https://fws.maps.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=9d8de5e265ad4fe09893cf75b8dbfb77>

For information on plants, contact the Natural Heritage Program at Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR): <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPlists>

Is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by WDNR. (See question SC 2.0 under Wetlands with Special Characteristics; Chapter 6): <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata>

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SC 2.0 More up-to-date information may be available on the WNHP website:

<https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata>

The latest list of land sections with such wetlands is available on the WDNR website:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata>

Contact information is also available at

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/natural-heritage-program>

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References Cited

Donaldson, S., & Hefner, M. (2005). Impacts of Urbanization on Waterways [Audiovisual-05-14]. Reno, NV: University of Nevada Cooperative Extension. Link to publication no longer active. [11]

Granger, T., Hruby, T., McMillan, A., Peters, D., Rubey, J., Sheldon, D., . . . Stockdale, E. (2005). Wetlands in Washington State. Volume 2: Guidance for Protecting and Managing Wetlands. (Publication #05-06-008). Olympia, WA: Washington Department of Ecology. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0506008.pdf>. [4]

Hruby, T. (2004a). Washington State Wetland Rating System for Eastern Washington - Revised. (Publication #04-06-015). Olympia, WA: Washington Department of Ecology. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0406015.pdf>. [4]

Hruby, T. (2004b). Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington - Revised. (Publication #04-06-025). Olympia, WA: Washington Department of Ecology. <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/0406025.pdf>. [4]

Page 16 of the rating form

SC 2.3 Is the wetland in a Section/Township/Range that contains a Natural Heritage wetland?

SC 2.0 Revised Key:

SC 2.1. Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare & high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP [Data Explorer](#)?¹ Yes = **Category I** No – Go to **SC 2.2**

SC 2.2. Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements.

Yes – [Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination](#),² Go to **SC 2.3**

No = **Not a WHCV**

SC 2.3. Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria?

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The 2014 National Wetland Plant List can be accessed here: http://wetland-plants.usace.army.mil/nwpl_static/data/DOC/lists_2014/National/National_2014v1.pdf

Note that the NWPL has been updated and plant names may have changed. Access the most current list from the Army Corps of Engineers NWPL website located here: http://wetland-plants.usace.army.mil/nwpl_static/v33/home/home.html

¹ <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata>

² https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf