

**Improving Watershed Management &
Salmon Recovery:**

**Integrating
Stormwater NPDES Monitoring**

Governor's Forum on Monitoring
April 4, 2006

Today's Presentation

- How Local Governments Can Help
- Why should the Forum care about stormwater NPDES monitoring?
- Local Governments Can Help
- What is success?
- Integrated Monitoring Proposal
 - Integrated Stormwater Approach
 - Consistency with ESA Efforts
- Next Steps

How Local Governments Can Help Meet Forum Goals

- Experience
 - Monitoring
 - Front Line Implementation
- Volunteers
- Local Funding, Local Actions
- “Bottom-up” Approach

Need for Local Support



Photo by King County



Stormwater Monitoring– Why Should You Care?

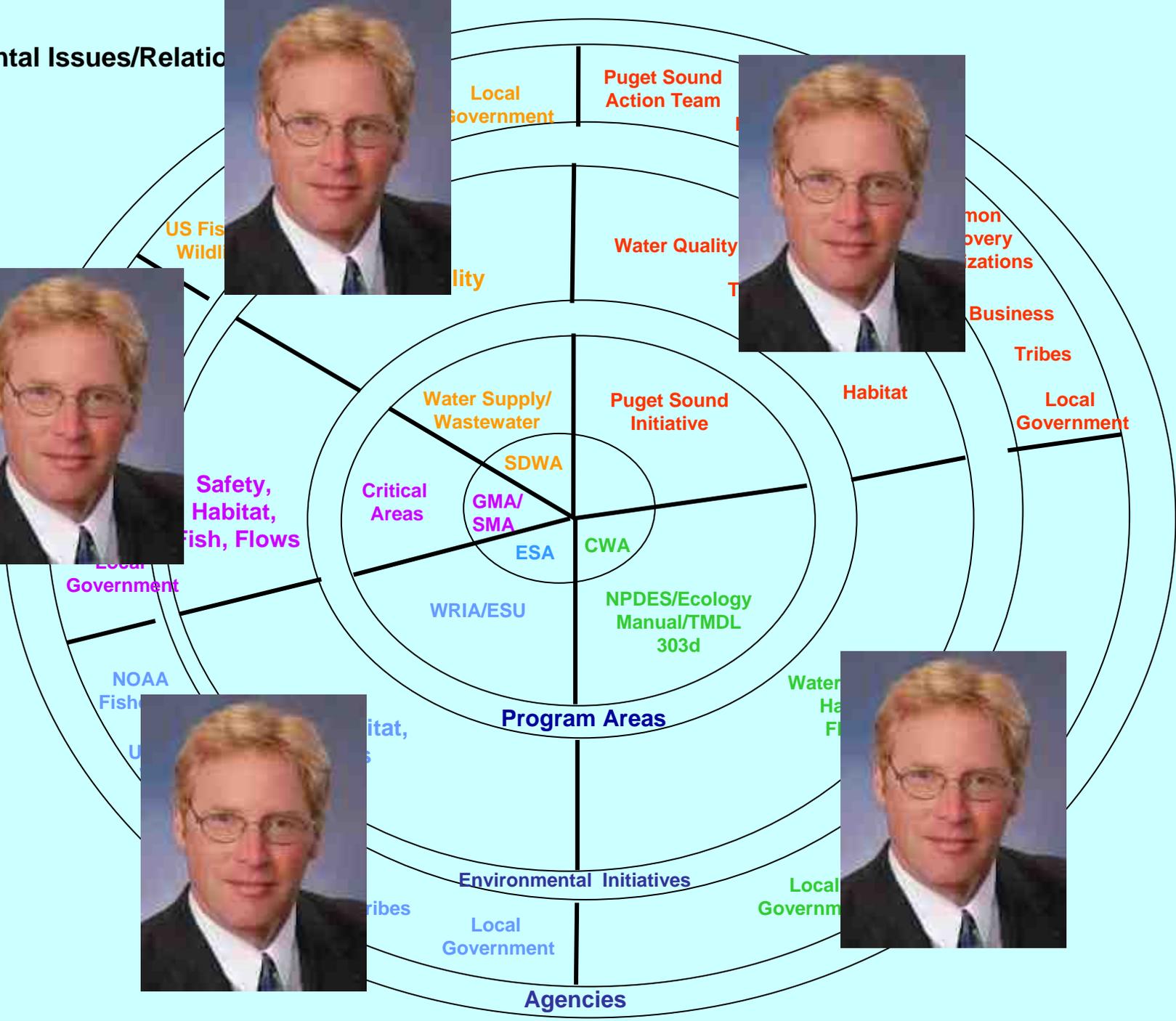
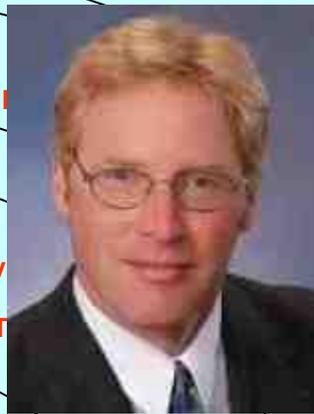
- Stormwater Management Affects Many State & Federal Initiatives
 - Clean Water Act/ TMDLs
 - Puget Sound Initiative
 - Water Supply & Instream Flows
 - Public Health & Recreation
 - Funding Availability
- Local Support Critical
- Work Together For Success



Local Governments Can Help Develop:

- Integrated Analysis & Reporting
- Easily Understood Measures
- Trend Indicators
- Standardized Measures
- Process for Future Coordination
- Volunteer Monitoring Programs

Environmental Issues/Relatio



Success Is

- Meeting Goals:
 - Salmon Recovery
 - Clean Water Act
 - Puget Sound Initiative
- Adaptive Management is Working
- Demonstrating Wise Spending
- Increasing Community Confidence

Integrating Monitoring

- Stormwater Peer Advisory Committee
- Common Monitoring Principles
- Compliance, Effectiveness, Trends
- Share the Tasks
- Learn, Incorporate, Move On
- Adaptive Management Focus

Watershed Condition Trend Assessment

Physical
Biological
Chemical

T
R
E
N
D

Puget Sound Initiative
?

TMDL
Effectiveness
Compliance

ESA
Effectiveness
(projects, acquisition, programs)
Compliance

E
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NPDES Stormwater Management

Ph I –
Effectiveness
Compliance

Ph II – Compliance
(next permit?)

GMA
Critical Areas
??

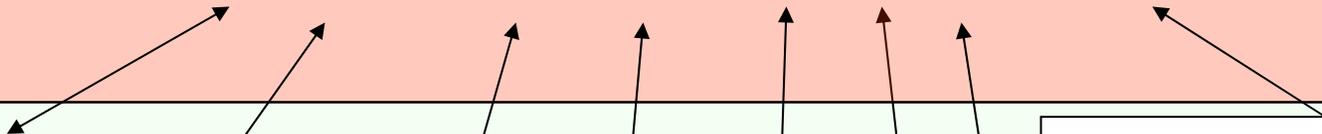
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Compliance
Effectiveness?

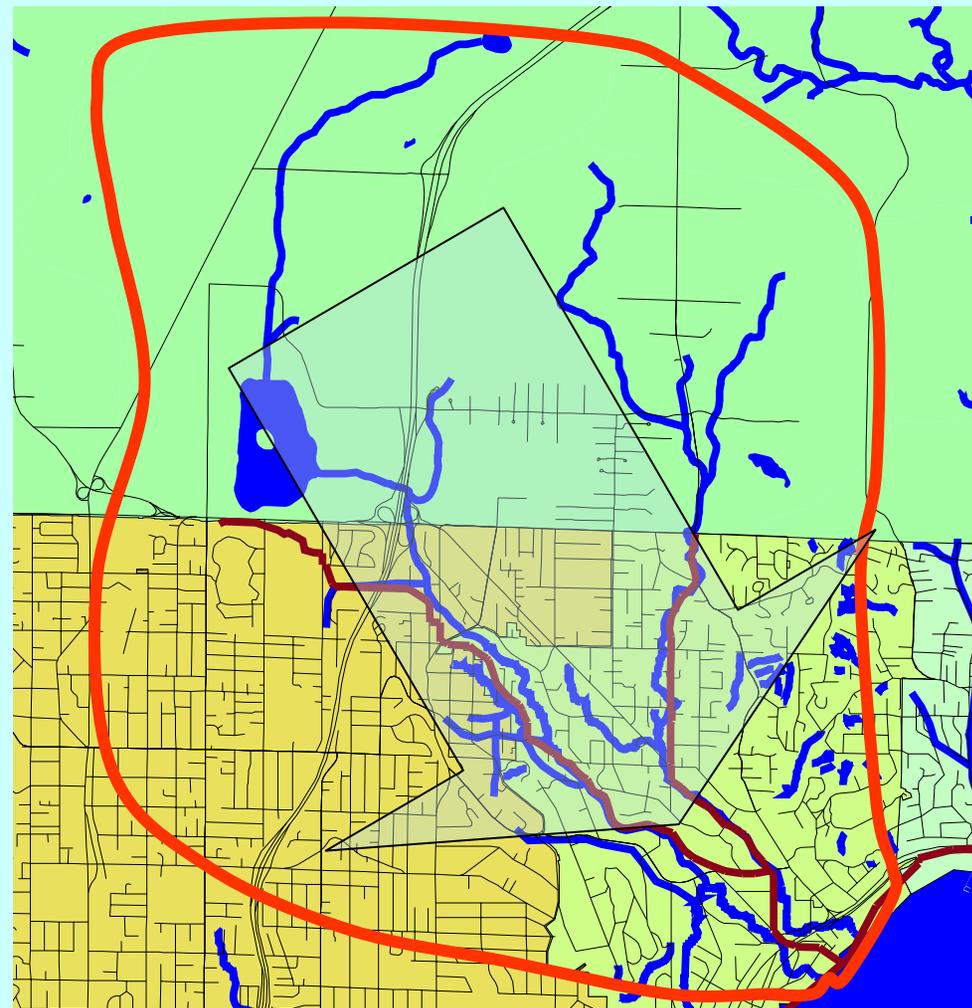
SMA
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Stormwater (Like Salmon) Knows No Borders



Monitoring at Watershed/ State Level for NPDES

- Appropriate Scale for Environmental Goals
- Promotes Efficiency
- Cost Effective
- Greater Statistical Power – Greater Confidence
- Data Available to Everyone
- Legal Liability for Own Program

Consistent with ESA Efforts

ESA

Trend Assessment

- State Needs State Level Trend Indicators
- State Needs Some Watershed Level Trend Indicators
- Watershed Groups May Add More
- Recovery Plans Include Stormwater
- Local Government only Responsible for Habitat

NPDES

Trend Assessment

- State Needs State Level Trend Indicators
- State Needs Some Watershed Level Trend Indicators
- Jurisdictions May Add (e.g. Urban/Rural) Level Indicators
- Individual Programs Usually Only Affect Local Water Quality

Consistent with ESA Efforts

ESA

Project Effectiveness

- Select test cases from combined project list
- Different types of projects monitored
- Not all projects monitored
- Evaluate effectiveness over time

NPDES

Program Actions Effectiveness

- Select test cases from NPDES program BMP list
- Different types of BMPs monitored
- Not all monitor BMPs
- Evaluate effectiveness over time

Stormwater NPDES, ESA, and the Puget Sound Initiative

- All Need Better Information
 - **Are things getting better or worse?**
 - **Are the actions working as expected?**
 - **Are we choosing the right actions?**
 - **Can we improve our actions?**
- All Affected by Increasing Population
- All Require Cooperation/ Local Efforts
- Not Enough Funding

Summary

- State Framework is Key
- Integrating Monitoring Makes Sense
- Stormwater Experts Can Help State
- Can't Do Everything – Do What's Smart
- Monitor for Practical Outcomes

Next Steps

- Peer Advisory Group Work with Ecology (April-May)
 - **Refine Monitoring Proposal**
 - **Build on Initial Efforts**
 - **Develop Long Term Partnership**
- Return to Forum (July?)
 - **Evaluate Scope/Approach For Coordinating Monitoring**



Mark Cheney, Kelsey Creek, Bellevue, 1998