

# City of Redmond

City of Redmond offers the following comments on the 2023 Phase II Preliminary Draft language (due March 23, 2023). We look forward to full draft permit language.

1. Redmond supports the use of an Equivalent Area Calculation approach to "prorate" flow control, treatment, and LID retrofits.
2. Please clarify the statement that indicates permittees may include projects that have "not yet started but [are] fully funded by June 30, 2029." Does "fully funded" mean that construction has been fully funded?
3. All 12 SSC qualifying project types should be eligible for inclusion in non-SMAP (i.e., opportunistic) watersheds. Our SMAP watershed is not the only high priority watershed in the City and we would not want permit compliance to frustrate/override taking these actions in other watersheds.
4. Please explain how collaborative projects/15% work. Does this indicate that only 15% of our individual obligation can be met via a regional collaboration or that regional collaborations at the ILA/committed funding stage can be used to establish an EAC = 15% of acreage?
5. How is EAC for collaborative projects calculated? Is it based on percentage of land owned by each jurisdiction located in the watershed? How does this work if not all jurisdictions sign onto an ILA? Can a jurisdiction participating in a regional collaboration count a regional project/facility if the contributing sub-basin is outside the jurisdiction's limits (e.g., jurisdiction is located downstream of the retrofitted facility)?
6. Please clarify the statement: "Projects may be implemented outside of permit coverage area so long as the receiving waters within permit coverage area will benefit." Does "permit coverage area" refer to the overall Phase I/II permit coverage area, or the participating permittee's individual coverage area? The former interpretation makes good sense, the latter interpretation may discourage upper watershed permittees from participating.
7. Expanding the following statement to include the parenthetical will help address Tribal Waters/interests. "Projects may be implemented outside of permit coverage area so long as the receiving waters within permit coverage area [or on Tribal lands] will benefit."
8. Please consider allowing a permittee to "bank" flow control/LID/treatment retrofits undertaken in the 2024-2029 permit cycle and "claim" those improvements in the following permit cycle. If not entirely, perhaps this option can be offered for a portion of the total acreage required in future cycles. Allowing this will help build municipal/leadership support for larger regional facilities that, ultimately, bring about water quality improvements faster and at a larger scale than smaller retrofit projects.