

## Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Rae Eaton)

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Ecology's Water Quality Management Plan to Control Nonpoint Sources of Pollution. It's great to see Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife resources such as the High Resolution Change Detection product highlighted. We wanted to recommend two additional monitoring resources at WDFW that weren't included in the plan but can inform nonpoint work in the state.

The first monitoring resource is Riparian Data Engine, which launched earlier this year. This new tool helps evaluate current riparian conditions across Washington and can be used to identify and prioritize riparian restoration projects that will improve stream conditions. Datasets include variable width riparian management zones, high-resolution land cover, high-resolution change detection, salmon distribution, fish passage barriers, stream temperature, land use (parcel-scale), and others.

The second is the Toxics Biological Observation System. This program is run by a team of scientists at WDFW that monitors the geographic extent and magnitude of toxic contaminants in fish and other organisms living in Puget Sound. Their studies are designed to evaluate and track complex patterns of pollution across Puget Sound by using a number of indicator species representing a wide range of movement patterns and habitats within the sound. Data sets from this program directly support the Puget Sound Partnership's Toxics in Aquatic Life vital sign and are also used by the Stormwater Workgroup and the Stormwater SIL. The team has also worked directly with staff from Ecology on projects as needed to identify probable sources of pollution in waterways used by juvenile salmonids.

We appreciate the opportunity to look over the plan – it was a great overview of all the immense work Ecology does in this space. Please reach out if there are any questions about these resources.