

Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit Update

Tacoma City Council

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August 11, 2020

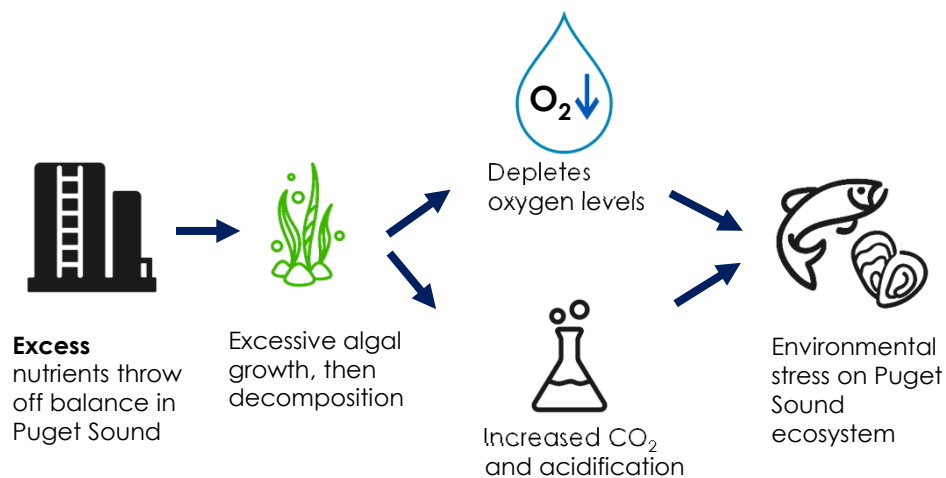


Today's Agenda

- Why we are here
- Where we are going
- General permit overview
- Individual permits
- Addressing regional growth
- Funding
- Q&A

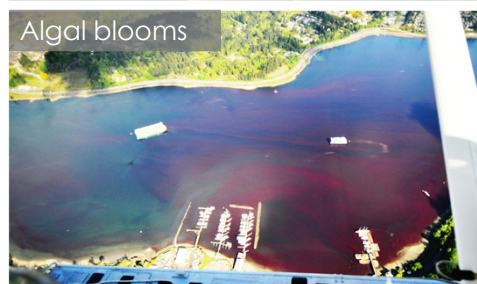


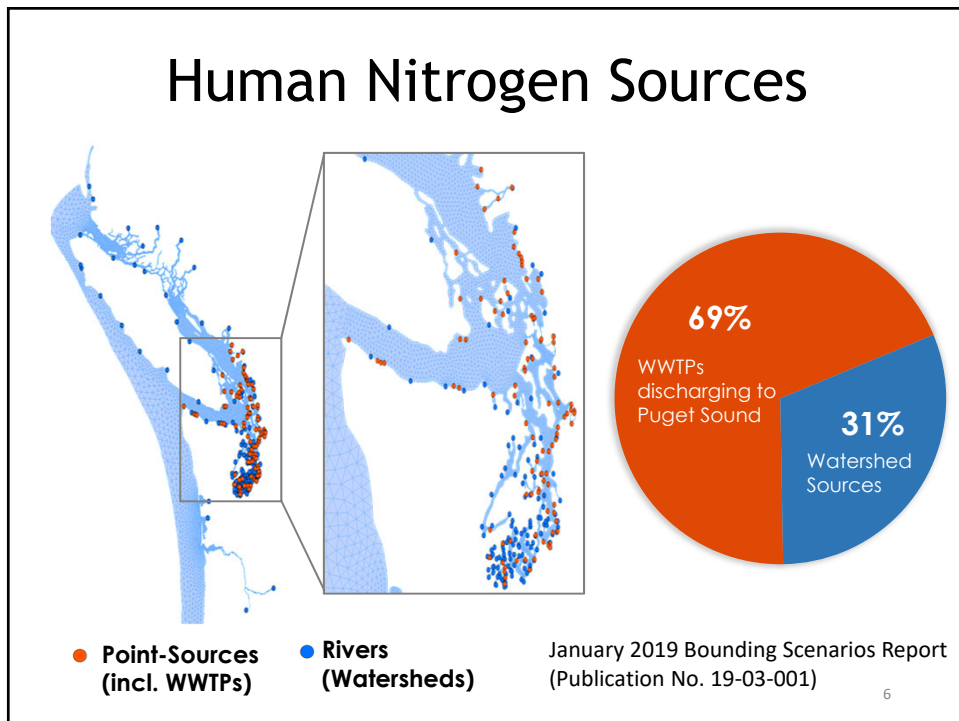
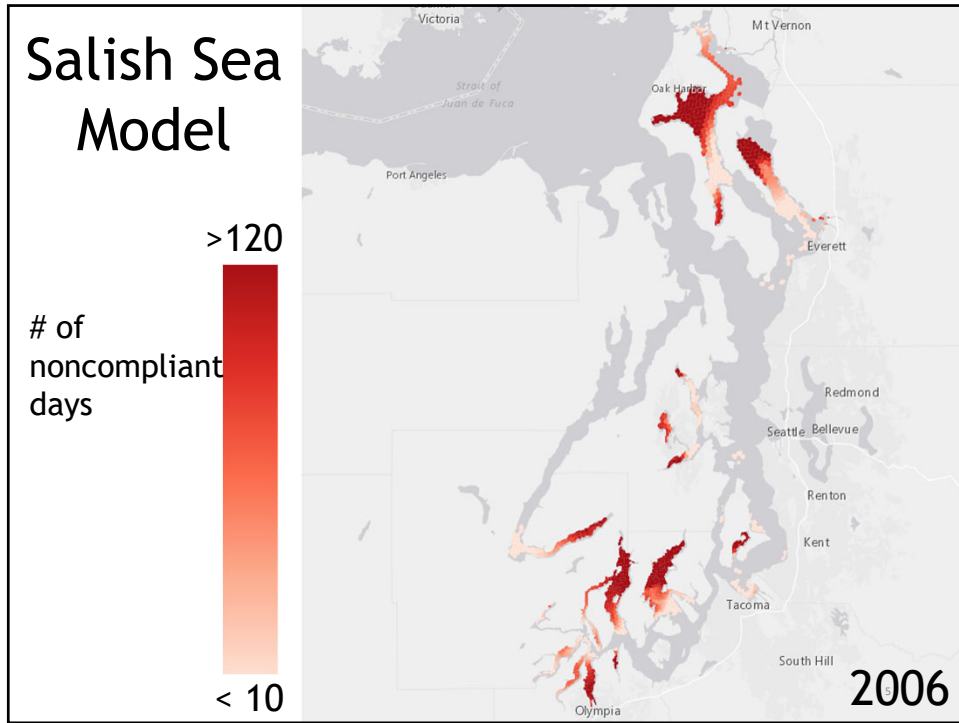
Nutrient Imbalance Impacts Puget Sound



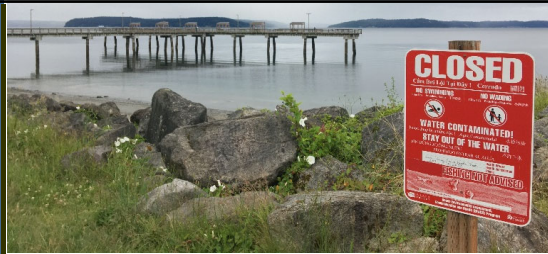
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Visible Indicators





Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Plan



- Strategize actions necessary to achieve dissolved oxygen criteria
- Establish nutrient load targets for both marine point sources and watershed sources
- Monitor for effectiveness and adaptively manage the plan



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Approach to Marine Point Sources

- Nutrients General Permit & Advisory Committee
- Future load reduction targets and nutrient effluent limits
- Exploring water quality trading



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Benefits of General Permit

Timely initiation of nutrient controls Sound-wide.

Robust public involvement process

Increased flexibility for permittees

Shared foundation to work together to achieve nutrient reduction



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How will a General Permit Work?

- Applies to wastewater treatment plants discharging to Puget Sound
- Only focus on controlling nutrients
- In conjunction with individual permits
- Future versions will reflect modeling results



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Accommodating Regional Growth



Current population of Puget Sound is over 4.5 million

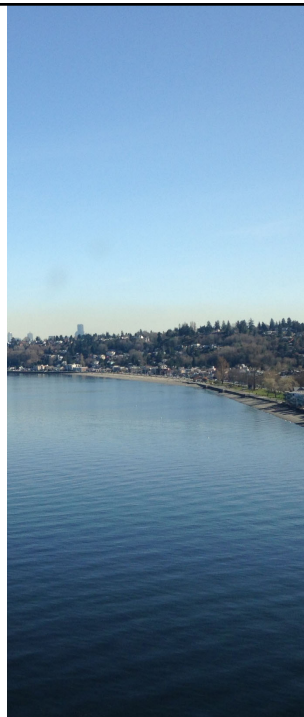
1.8 million more people will move to Puget Sound region by 2050

40% increase in excess nutrients

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1st Permit Term

- Prevent water quality problem from getting worse
- Accommodate approved capacity commitments and encourage smart growth
- Work towards future nutrient reductions



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Future Permit Goals

- Continued reduction in nutrients
- Compliance schedules with achievable milestones
- Achievement of WQBELs

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Purpose of Advisory Committee

To advise us in drafting general permit requirements for WWTP discharging directly to the greater Puget Sound area that will lead towards reducing nutrient loads

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General Permit Schedule



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Individual NPDES Permits

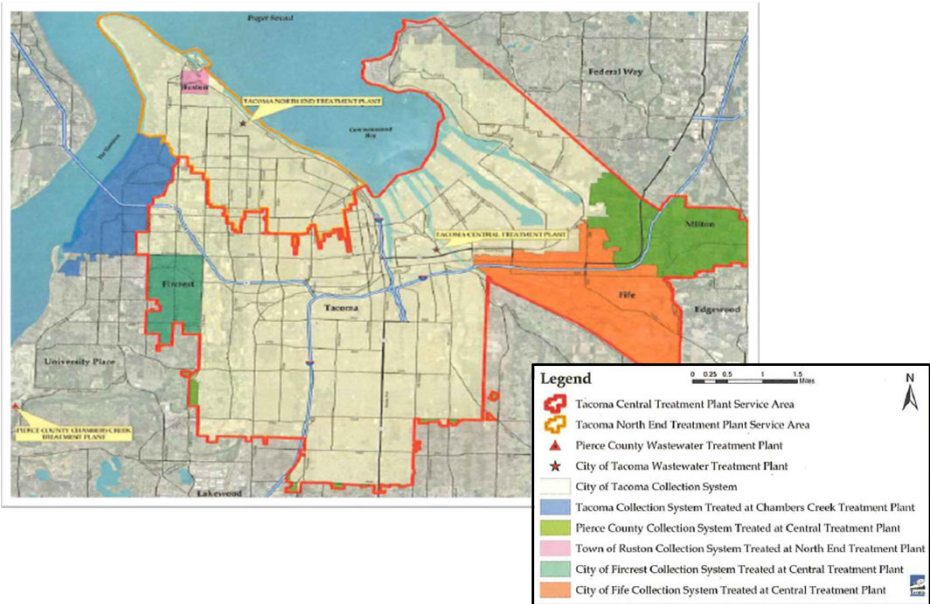
Ecology needs to continue to address other Clean Water Act requirements

General Permit will supersede nutrient controls in reissued individual permits



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Tacoma's Individual Permits



Costs and Financial Assistance



Estimated
funding
needs



Federal and
State grant
and loan
programs



Other funding
opportunities

[Link to August 7 Forum presentation: Funding for Nutrient Reduction](#)

How to stay informed...

Subscribe to Puget Sound
Nutrients General Permit
Listserv:

<http://listserv.ecology.wa.gov/scripts/wa-ECOLOGY.exe?A0=NUTRIENTS-PERMIT>

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Questions?