

## **DEFINITIONS AND ACRONYMS**

**AKART** means all known, available, and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment.

**All known, available and reasonable methods of prevention, control and treatment** refers to the State Water Pollution Control Act, Chapter 90.48.010 and 90.48.520 RCW.

**Applicable TMDL** means a TMDL which has been approved by EPA on or before the issuance date of this Permit, or prior to the date that the Permittee's application is received by Ecology, or prior to a modification of this Permit, whichever is later.

**Beneficial Uses** means uses of waters of the states which include but are not limited to use for domestic, stock watering, industrial, commercial, agricultural, irrigation, mining, fish and wildlife maintenance and enhancement, recreation, generation of electric power and preservation of environmental and aesthetic values, and all other uses compatible with the enjoyment of the public waters of the state.

**Best Management Practices ("BMPs")** are the schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and structural and/or managerial practices approved by the Department that, when used singly or in combination, prevent or reduce the release of pollutants and other adverse impacts to waters of Washington State.

**BMP** means Best Management Practice.

**Bypass** means the diversion of stormwater from any portion of a stormwater treatment facility.

**Common plan of development or sale** means a site where multiple separate and distinct construction activities may be taking place at different times on different schedules, but still under a single plan. Examples include: phased projects and projects with multiple filings or lots, even if the separate phases or filings/lots will be constructed under separate contract or by separate owners (e.g. a development where lots are sold to separate builders); a development plan that may be phased over multiple years, but is still under a consistent plan for long-term development; and projects in a contiguous area that may be unrelated but still under the same contract, such as construction of a building extension and a new parking lot at the same facility. If the project is part of a common plan of development or sale, the disturbed area of the entire plan shall be used in determining permit requirements.

**Component or Program Component** means an element of the Stormwater Management Program listed in S5 Stormwater Management Program for Cities, Towns, and Counties or S6 Stormwater Management Program for Secondary Permittees of this permit.

**Co-permittee** means an operator of a regulated small MS4 which is applying jointly with another applicant for coverage under this permit. A co-permittee is an owner or operator of a regulated small MS4 located within or adjacent to another regulated MS4. A co-permittee is only responsible for complying with the conditions of this permit relating to discharges from the MS4 the co-permittee owns or operates. See also 40 CFR 122.26(b)(1)

**CWA** means Clean Water Act (formerly referred to as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act or Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) Pub.L. 92-500, as amended Pub. L. 95-217, Pub. L. 95-576, Pub. L. (6-483 and Pub. L. 97-117, 33 U.S.C. 1251 et.seq.



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**Detailed Implementation Plan** means the formal implementation plan for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) or water quality clean-up plan.

**DIP** means Detailed Implementation Plan.

**Director** means the Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, or an authorized representative.

**Discharge** for the purpose of this permit means, unless indicated otherwise, any discharge from a MS4 owned or operated by the permittee.

**Entity** means another governmental body, or public or private organization, such as another permittee, a conservation district, or volunteer organization.

**Equivalent document** means a technical stormwater management manual developed by a state agency, local government or other entity that includes the Minimum Technical Requirements in Appendix 1 of this Permit. The Department may conditionally approve manuals that do not include the Minimum Technical Requirements in Appendix 1; in general, the Best Management Practices (BMPs) included in those documents may be applied at new development and redevelopment sites, but the Minimum Technical Requirements in Appendix 1 must still be met.

**40 CFR** means Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, which is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government.

**General Permit** means a permit which covers multiple dischargers of a point source category within a designated geographical area, in lieu of individual permits being issued to each discharger.

**Ground water** means water in a saturated zone or stratum beneath the surface of the land or below a surface water body.

**Heavy equipment maintenance or storage yard** means an uncovered area where any heavy equipment, such as mowing equipment, excavators, dump trucks, backhoes, or bulldozers are washed or maintained, or where at least five pieces of heavy equipment are stored.

**Hydraulically Near** means runoff from the site discharges to the sensitive feature without significant natural attenuation of flows that allows for suspended solids removal. See Appendix 7 Determining Construction Site Sediment Damage Potential for a more detailed definition.

**Hyperchlorinated** means water that contains more than 10 mg/Liter chlorine. Disinfection of water mains and appurtenances requires a chlorine residual of 10 mg/L at the end of the disinfection period. This level is well above the Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level of an annual average of 4 mg/Liter chlorine for potable water.

**Illicit connection** means any man-made conveyance that is connected to a municipal separate storm sewer without a permit, excluding roof drains and other similar type connections. Examples include sanitary sewer connections, floor drains, channels, pipelines, conduits, inlets, or outlets that are connected directly to the municipal separate storm sewer system.



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**Illicit discharge** means any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer) and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities.

**Large Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System** means all municipal separate storm sewer systems located in an incorporated place with a population of 250,000 or more, a county with unincorporated urbanized areas with a population of 250,000 or more according to the 1990 decennial census by the Bureau of Census.

**Low Density Residential Land Use** means, for the purpose of permit section S8 Monitoring, one unit per 1-5 acres.

**Low Impact Development (LID)** means a stormwater management and land development strategy applied at the parcel and subdivision scale that emphasizes conservation and use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small-scale hydrologic controls to more closely mimic pre-development hydrologic functions.

**Major Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Outfall** means a municipal separate storm sewer outfall from a single pipe with an inside diameter of 36 inches or more, or its equivalent (discharge from a single conveyance other than circular pipe which is associated with a drainage area of more than 50 acres); or for municipal separate storm sewers that receive stormwater from lands zoned for industrial activity (based on comprehensive zoning plans or the equivalent), an outfall that discharges from a single pipe with an inside diameter of 12 inches or more or from its equivalent (discharge from other than a circular pipe associated with a drainage area of 12 acres or more).

**Material Storage Facilities** means an uncovered area where bulk materials (liquid, solid, granular, etc.) are stored in piles, barrels, tanks, bins, crates, or other means.

**Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP)** refers to paragraph 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the federal Clean Water Act which reads as follows: Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques, and system, design, and engineering methods, and other such provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.

**Medium Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System** means municipal separate storm sewer systems located in an incorporated place with a population of more than 100,000 but less than 250,000, or a county with unincorporated urbanized areas of more than 100,000 but less than 250,000 according to the 1990 decennial census by the Bureau of Census.

**MEP** means Maximum Extent Practicable.

**MTRs** means Minimum Technical Requirements.

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** means a conveyance, or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains):

- (i) owned or operated by a state, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State Law) having jurisdiction over



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disposal of wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or a designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States.

- (ii) designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater.
- (iii) which is not a combined sewer; and (iv) which is not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking, and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under sections 307, 402, 318, and 405 of the Federal Clean Water Act, for the discharge of pollutants to surface waters of the state from point sources. These permits are referred to as NPDES permits and, in Washington State, are administered by the Washington Department of Ecology.

**Notice of Intent (NOI)** means the application for, or a request for coverage under this General Permit pursuant to WAC 173-226-200.

**Notice of Intent for Construction Activity and Notice of Intent for Industrial Activity** mean the application forms for coverage under the *Baseline General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial Activities*.

**Outfall** means point source as defined by 40 CFR 122.2 at the point where a municipal separate storm sewer discharges to waters of the State and does not include open conveyances connecting two municipal separate storm sewer systems, or pipes, tunnels, or other conveyances which connect segments of the same stream or other waters of the State and are used to convey waters of the State.

**Permittee** unless otherwise noted, the term "Permittee" includes Permittee, Co-Permittee, and Secondary Permittee, as defined below:

- (i) A "Permittee" is a city, town, or county owning or operating a regulated small MS4 applying and receiving a permit as a single entity.
- (ii) A "Co-Permittee" is any operator of a regulated small MS4 that is applying jointly with another applicant for coverage under this Permit. Co-Permittees own or operate a regulated small MS4 located within or adjacent to another regulated small MS4.
- (iii) A "Secondary Permittee" is an operator of regulated small MS4 that is not a city, town or county.

**Physically Interconnected** means that one MS4 is connected to a second MS4 in such a way that it allows for direct discharges to the second system. For example, the roads with drainage systems and municipal streets of one entity are physically connected directly to a MS4 belonging to another entity.

**Pollutant Generating Impervious Surfaces (PGIS)** are surfaces considered to be significant sources of pollutants in stormwater runoff. Such surfaces include those that are subject to vehicular use, industrial activities, or storage of erodible or leachable materials that receive direct rainfall or run-on or blow-in of rainfall. Metal roofs are considered to be PGIS unless



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coated with an inert, non-leachable material. Roofs that are subject to venting of indoor pollutants from manufacturing, commercial or other operations or processes are also considered PGIS. A surface, whether paved or not, shall be considered PGIS if it is regularly used by motor vehicles. The following are considered regularly-used surfaces: roads, unvegetated road shoulders, bike lanes within the traveled lane of a roadway, driveways, parking lots, unfenced fire lanes, vehicular equipment storage yards, and airport runways.

**Process Wastewater** means any water which, during manufacture or processing, comes into direct contact with or results from the production or use of any raw material, intermediate product, finished product, by product, or waste product.

**Qualified Personnel or Consultant** means someone who has had professional training in the aspects of stormwater management for which they are responsible and are under the functional control of the Permittee.

**RCW** means the Revised Code of Washington State.

**Regulated Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** means a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System which is automatically designated for inclusion in the Phase II stormwater permitting program by its location within an Urbanized Area, or by designation by the NPDES permitting authority and is not eligible for a waiver or exemption under S1.C.

**Replaced impervious surfaces** means, for structures, the removal and replacement of any exterior impervious surfaces or foundation; or, for other impervious surfaces, the removal down to bare soil, or base course, and replacement. Exemptions and partial exemptions are defined in Appendix 1 of this Permit.

**Runoff** is water that travels across the land surface and discharges to water bodies either directly or through a collection and conveyance system. See also "Stormwater."

**Shared Waterbodies** means waterbodies, including downstream segments, lakes and estuaries that receive discharges from more than one permittee.

**Secondary Permittee** is an operator of regulated small municipal separate storm sewer system which is not a city, town or county. Secondary Permittees include special purpose districts and other MS4s that meet the criteria for a regulated small MS4 in S1.B.

**Significant contributor** means a discharge contributes a loading of pollutants considered to be sufficient to cause or exacerbate the deterioration of receiving water quality or instream habitat conditions.

**Sediment/Erosion-Sensitive Feature** means an area subject to significant degradation due to the effect of construction runoff or areas requiring special protection to prevent erosion. See Appendix 6 Determining Construction Site Sediment Transport Potential for a more detailed definition.

**Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System or Small MS4** is a conveyance or system of conveyances including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels and/or storm drains which is:

- a. Owned or operated by a city, town, county, district, association or other public body created pursuant to State law having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial



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wastes, stormwater, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer districts, flood control districts or drainage districts, or similar entity.

- b. Designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater.
- c. Not a combined sewer system,
- d. Not part of a Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.2.
- e. Not defined as "large" or "medium" pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(b)(4) & (7) or designated under 40 CFR 122.26 (a)(1)(v).

Small MS4s include systems similar to separate storm sewer systems in municipalities such as: universities, large publicly owned hospitals, prison complexes, highways and other thoroughfares. Storm sewer systems in very discrete areas such as individual buildings do not require coverage under this Permit.

Small MS4s do *not* include storm drain systems operated by non-governmental entities such as: individual buildings, private schools, private colleges, private universities, and industrial and commercial entities.

**Stormwater** means runoff during and following precipitation and snowmelt events, including surface runoff and drainage.

**Stormwater Associated with Industrial and Construction Activity** means the discharge from any conveyance which is used for collecting and conveying stormwater, which is directly related to manufacturing, processing or raw materials storage areas at an industrial plant, or associated with clearing grading and/or excavation, and is required to have an NPDES permit in accordance with 40 CFR 122.26.

**Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington** means the 5-volume technical manual (Publication Nos. 99-11 through 15 for the 2001 version and Publication Nos. 05-10-029-033 for the 2005 version (The 2005 version replaces the 2001 version) prepared by Ecology for use by local governments that contains BMPs to prevent, control, or treat pollution in storm water.

**Stormwater Management Program (SWMP)** means a set of actions and activities designed to reduce the discharge of pollutants from the regulated small MS4 to the maximum extent practicable and to protect water quality, and comprising the components listed in S5 or S6 of this Permit and any additional actions necessary to meet the requirements of applicable

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** means a water cleanup plan. A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the water body can be used for the purposes the state has designated. The calculation must also account for seasonable variation in water quality. Water quality standards are set by states, territories, and tribes. They identify the uses for each water body, for example, drinking water supply, contact recreation (swimming), and aquatic life support (fishing), and the scientific criteria to support that use. The Clean Water Act, section 303, establishes the water quality standards and TMDL programs.



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**Urbanized Area (UA)** is a land area comprising one or more places and the adjacent densely settled surrounding area that together have a residential population of at least 50,000 and an overall population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile. For the year 2000 Census, the U.S. Census Bureau classified "urban" as all territory, population, and housing units located within an Urbanized Area (UA) or an Urban Cluster (UC). It delineated UA and UC boundaries to encompass densely settled territory, which consists of: core census block groups or blocks that have a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile and surrounding census blocks that have an overall density of at least 500 people per square mile. In addition, under certain conditions, less densely settled territory may be part of each UA or UC. The U.S. Census Bureau announced the "Census 2000 Urbanized Areas" on May 1, 2002. More information can be found at the U.S. Census Bureau website.

**Urban/higher density rural subbasins** means any subbasin or portion thereof that is within or proposed to be within the urban growth area (UGA), or any rural area subbasin or portion thereof fifty percent or more of which is comprised of lots smaller than 5 acres in size.

**Vehicle Maintenance or Storage Facility** means an uncovered area where any vehicles are regularly washed or maintained, or where at least 10 vehicles are stored.

**Waters of the State** includes those waters as defined as "waters of the United States" in 40 CFR Subpart 122.2 within the geographic boundaries of Washington State and "waters of the state" as defined in Chapter 90.48 RCW which includes lakes, rivers, ponds, streams, inland waters, underground waters, salt waters and all other surface waters and water courses within the jurisdiction of the State of Washington.

**Water Quality Standards** means Surface Water Quality Standards, Chapter 173-201A WAC, Ground Water Quality Standards, Chapter 173-200 WAC, and Sediment Management Standards, Chapter 173-204 WAC.