

WaterTalk Newsletter

August 2000

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EPA NEWS

Fulfilling Clean Water Act's Goals: Final TMDL Rule

On July 11, 2000, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a final rule to improve the national program for identifying polluted waters, determining the sources of pollution, and designing cleanup plans. This program is known as the **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** program. It provides the framework for EPA to work cooperatively with the States and other key stakeholders to finish the job of cleaning up the nation's polluted waterways and delivering on the promise of 1972's Clean Water Act.

Over 20,000 waterbodies across the country have been identified as polluted; these include over

300,000 river and shoreline miles and 5 million acres of lakes. The new rule is aimed at protecting the health and livelihood of the more than 90 percent of the American population that lives within 10 miles of a polluted body of water. It is geared to address the greatest remaining source of water pollution in the United States -- uncontrolled runoff.

When the rule takes effect, for the first time water pollution problems will be addressed comprehensively on a state-by-state, river-by-river basis. EPA, the States, and local communities will work together to develop cleanup plans tailored specifically to the protection of local water bodies. States and local communities will have maximum flexibility to determine how best to meet cleanup goals by setting their own TMDLs. A TMDL is essentially a "pollution budget" designed to restore the health of the polluted body of water.

In August 1999, EPA proposed changes to its existing regulations to clarify and strengthen the authorities of EPA, States, Territories, and authorized Tribes to implement the TMDL program. The final program comes after extensive consultation with states, tribes, local communities, and agricultural, environmental and industrial groups. EPA considered over 34,000 comments on this proposed rulemaking and talked with hundreds of people in public outreach and information-sharing sessions.

The final TMDL rule will:

- strengthen States' ability to clean up polluted waters by identifying pollution reductions needed to meet clean water goals;
- provide for a comprehensive listing of all the nation's polluted waters;
- encourage cost-effective cleanup by ensuring all sources of pollution are considered in the development of cleanup plans;
- assure that TMDLs include implementation plans that define specific actions and schedules for meeting clean water goals.

For more information, call Bruce Cleland, EPA, at 206/553-2600 or 1-800-424-4372 x2600, or email cleland.bruce@epa.gov. Details about the final TMDL rule, and the rule itself, are available on the web at www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl.

EPA Says Goodbye to Administrator Clarke

After six years with EPA Region 10, **Regional Administrator Chuck Clarke** is leaving the Agency to work as the Deputy Mayor for the City of Seattle. His primary areas of focus will be the environment, utilities, and transportation. We wish Chuck the best of luck in his new career. Chuck Findley, the former Deputy Regional Administrator, will serve as Acting Regional Administrator until a new Administrator is permanently appointed.

EPA To Study Cruise Ship Pollution

In response to a national request from 53 citizen environmental organizations, EPA has decided

to conduct a **National Review on Discharges from Cruise Ships**. This effort is supported by the Coast Guard and other federal agencies. The requesting organizations expressed concern about cruise ship wastewater, and solid and hazardous waste pollution. They suggest that gaps in current laws and regulations governing pollution from cruise ships are a risk to the environment.

Sometimes characterized as “floating cities,” cruise ships can carry as many as 5,000 people and can generate thousands of gallons of wastewater per day. Ships not only generate sewage, wash water, garbage, and oily bilge water, often they also have other waste streams from photo labs, beauty parlors, dry cleaning services, and other recreational resort related facilities.

As part of this National Review, EPA will assess:

- the types and amounts of wastes generated and released from cruise ships
- the impacts of those releases
- the laws and regulations that apply
- and the current state of cruise ship waste management.

EPA may also propose options for correcting or strengthening control measures where inadequacies are found.

In Alaska, a cruise ship initiative already is underway, led by the Department of Environmental Conservation. The initiative work groups are focusing on voluntary measures to improve air emissions, wastewater and solid waste practices, oil spill prevention and response, and environmental leadership. A draft report was issued in May for public review, recommending changes in cruise ship waste management. The report, and more information on the Alaska initiative, is available at <http://www.state.ak.us/dec/press/cruise.htm>. EPA is a participant in the Alaska initiative and will use information gained from that process in the National Review.

Public meetings will be held around the country to solicit comments and information for the National Review. In Region 10, an Open House and meeting/hearing will take place in Juneau, Alaska on Friday, September 8, at Centennial Hall, 101 Egan Drive. The Open House will run from Noon to 6 pm, followed by a Public Meeting/Hearing from 7-10 pm. For details, call Steve Torok, EPA Juneau, at 907/586-7658, or email torok.steve@epa.gov. More information will be available soon on EPA’s web site at www.epa.gov/OW; click on “What’s New.”

New Industrial Storm Water Permit Coming

EPA intends to reissue the national **Multi-Sector General Permit** for storm water discharges from industrial activities by September 29, 2000, the expiration date of the current permit. This permit applies to storm water discharges from certain industrial activities at federal facilities and tribal lands throughout the Pacific Northwest, and in Idaho and Alaska. (In Washington and Oregon, the permitting program is run by the state environmental agencies, not EPA.)

Upon publication of the new permit in the Federal Register, current industrial permittees will have 90 days to submit a new “Notice of Intent” form to EPA for coverage under the reissued permit. If, for some reason, EPA is unable to issue the new permit prior to its expiration, existing permit conditions remain in effect during the interim.

If you have questions about the EPA storm water program, contact Misha Vakoc, Region 10's new Storm Water Coordinator. She can be reached at 206/553-6650 or toll free (800) 424-4372 x6650; E-mail: vakoc.misha@epa.gov

WATERWORDS

Clean Water Action Plan Update

Citizen Roundtables To Focus on Fish, Water, People

Pro-active citizens in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho are invited to participate in three upcoming **Regional Watershed Roundtable Meetings: Creating a Sustainable Future for Fish, Water, and People**. The roundtables are to be held in Portland, Oregon on September 6-7; in Washington's Spokane area (Post Falls, ID) on September 13-14; and in Boise, Idaho on October 3-4. Hosted by the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources, with funding from EPA and the US Forest Service, the roundtables will give attendees a chance to be active participants in consensus building.

The purpose of these meetings is to improve communication and promote collaborative action among local watershed interests, businesses, agricultural producers, tribes, environmental groups, state and federal government agencies, and other stakeholders to manage and restore the region's watersheds. The meetings also seek to (1) identify policies that are barriers to watershed restoration and that threaten healthy relationships and recommend solutions, (2) provide forums for stakeholder feedback to state/federal agencies, (3) help government agencies better understand local perspectives and assist in the development of innovative solutions to water resource problems and (4) serve as a clearinghouse to keep people in touch with innovative ideas, training opportunities and resources for watershed protection.

For more details, visit the Center's web-site at <http://csanr.wsu.edu/> and click on "What's New." Or, contact Don Nelson at nelsond@wsu.edu or 509/335-2922. There is no fee, but you must register.

Watershed Grants: Hurry!

To serve the funding needs of locally-driven partnerships, River Network has teamed up with EPA to institute the Watershed Assistance Grants (WAG) program, a key action under the Clean Water Action Plan. Applications for **Watershed Assistance Grants** for the year 2000 are now being taken, but time is short. The grant criteria and proposal guidelines are available on River Network's web site at: <http://www.rivernetwork.org/wag2000.htm>. Watershed Assistance Grants support the growth and sustainability of local watershed partnerships in the United States. This year, grant awards will range from \$1,500 to \$30,000. Grants will be made to local watershed partnerships in the United States. Grant awards may be made directly to incorporated watershed partnerships. If the watershed partnership is not incorporated, the grant recipient may

be a nonprofit group, tribe and/or local government, or agency that is an active participant in the watershed partnership. Applications must be postmarked no later than August 15, 2000.

Video Spotlights Clean Water Progress

A new video called **Clean Water: Progress Through Partnership** puts the spotlight on our nation's progress in dealing with clean water issues. The video was produced by the Bureau of Land Management National Training Center to showcase the concepts of the Clean Water Action Plan. This 19-minute, non-technical video is targeted to anyone interested in water quality issues. To borrow a copy for free two-week loan, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372.

Atlas of Polluted Waters Published

EPA has released an **Atlas of America's Polluted Waters**. The Atlas consists of a set of maps that depict the waters within each state that do not meet state water quality standards. States listed these waters in their most recent submission to EPA, as required by the Clean Water Act under the Total Maximum Daily Load or TMDL program. The lists include more than 20,000 waters across the country, comprising more than 300,000 miles of rivers and streams and more than five million acres of lakes. To view the atlas, visit <http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/atlas/> on the Internet.

Liquid Assets 2000 Report

A new report showing how the economy depends on clean water is now available from EPA. The report highlights that to provide the powerful boost clean water gives the economy, the U.S. faces significant challenges in cleaning up the nation's remaining polluted waterways. **Liquid Assets 2000: America's Water Resources at a Turning Point** provides a snapshot of the problems we face in the new millennium, and the actions we must take to protect and restore the Nation's water resources. The report also explains the role of a strengthened TMDL (total maximum daily load) program to help clean up the Nation's waters. For a free copy, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372. To find the report on the Internet, visit <http://www.epa.gov/ow/liquidassets>.

Side Box: Liquid Assets

-A third of all Americans visit coastal areas each year, generating new jobs and billions of dollars for our economy. However, our summertime traditions continue to be affected by closed beaches and fish advisories, resulting in lost revenues and public health hazards.

-Although the US has made tremendous progress cleaning up its water by removing billions of pounds of pollutants and doubling the number of waterways safe for fishing and swimming, most

Americans live within 10 miles of a polluted lake, river, stream, or coastal area.

-States have identified almost 300,000 miles of rivers and streams and more than five million acres of lakes that do not meet state water quality goals -- more than 20,000 polluted water bodies.

NMFS Announces Rule to Protect Salmon

In June 2000, the National Marine Fisheries Service published the “**4(d) Rule**,” which aims to protect 14 species of West Coast salmon, including Puget Sound Chinook. This rule prohibits activities that harm or kill (“take”) salmon. The rule also allows for local plans to gain exemptions from this prohibition, and will take effect in December 2000. You can view the 4(d) Rule on the NMFS web page at: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1salmon/salmesa/final4d.htm>. A “plain English” version of the rule, covering its important provisions and effects, can be found at: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1salmon/salmesa/4ddocs/citguide.htm>

Puget Sound Health 2000

The Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team has taken stock of Puget Sound’s condition, and released a report its health. It’s called **Puget Sound’s Health 2000: Status and Trends of Key Indicators of Puget Sound’s Health**. This 16 page newspaper-like report shows that continuing growth is taking its toll on Puget Sound.

The report shows increases in fecal contamination in some areas, increases in the incidence of liver lesions in English sole in Elliott Bay, and declines in the number and diversity of species in Puget Sound. The report answers a number of questions, including:

- Are areas where shellfish can be safely harvested increasing or decreasing?
- Is the quality of water for recreation improving or declining?
- Is the area of contaminated sediments increasing or decreasing?
- Are aquatic nuisance species increasing or decreasing in Puget Sound?
- Is toxic contamination of the marine environment increasing or decreasing?
- Are the size and frequency of oil spills increasing or decreasing?
- Is fish and wildlife habitat increasing or decreasing?
- Are fish and wildlife populations increasing or decreasing?

EPA is a member agency of the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team. For a free copy, call EPA at 1-800-424-4372 or 206/553-1200.

SPOTLIGHT

Washington WaterWeeks Offers Adventure

Washington WaterWeeks invites you to ‘join the adventure!’ WaterWeeks is the statewide series of water-related education and involvement activities that takes place September 1 through October 15. Activities---planned by a wide range of public and private organizations and individuals---include stream restorations, water quality monitoring, children’s activities, shoreline cleanups, and more. For a list of activities near you, check out the Adventure Guide at www.waterweeks.org or call 360/943-3642. EPA is a member of the WaterWeeks board.

EPA still has a number of **Hands On For Healthy Habitats** Guides left over from last year’s WaterWeeks. They contain lots of relevant, useful information and resources related to “keeping Washington’s waters and habitats healthy for people and fish.” For a free copy, call EPA at 1-800-424-4372 or 206/553-1200.

EPA Announces Performance Track Program

A new cooperative program announced recently by EPA will recognize businesses with superior environmental performance and offer incentives to motivate further improvements. Under the **National Environmental Performance Track** program, EPA will reward companies which exceed minimum regulatory requirements and take extra steps to reduce and prevent pollution. The Performance Track is intended for top-performing facilities and companies with a proven record of regulatory compliance, an operational Environmental Management System, and a demonstrated commitment to continued improvement and outreach to the local community and the public. Applications are due September 1 for charter applicants who will be notified in November, and September 30 for notification in December. For an application, or to learn more, visit the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/performancectrack>. Or, for more information, contact Bill Glasser, EPA Region 10, at 206/553-7215, 1-800-424-4372 x7215, or glasser.william@epa.gov.

EPA Launches New Web Page

EPA recently launched its new Internet home page, www.epa.gov. It marks the 30th anniversary of Earth Day. The new design is aimed at making environmental information more accessible. The redesigned [epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov) offers users nine different pathways to access EPA’s information universe.

A collection of regional environmental progress reports, prepared especially for Earth Day 2000, is now available and is linked directly to the home page. The reports are collectively titled “Remember the Past - Protect the Future.” The “Laws and Regulations” button leads the user directly to the major environmental laws and dockets under EPA’s jurisdiction. The “Information” button takes the user to EPA’s many hotlines, list servers and clearinghouses. The “In the News” cover page offers reports of recent events, and EPA updates.

The new site’s more sophisticated search engine enable users to navigate faster and execute searches more easily. The web site retains all of the features that have made it one of the most frequently visited sites among federal agencies.

EPA Has Emergency Response Vehicle

Many people don't know that EPA Region 10's Superfund Emergency Response Unit has a **Mobile Command Post**. It is a vehicle with the proper space and equipment to take and store environmental samples. The vehicle is used by EPA's response team when they go out in the field to investigate incidents involving hazardous waste materials, oil, and natural disasters.

Most recently, the Mobile Command Post was used for air sampling when EPA responded to the Hanford fire emergency. EPA paid for it as part of a national program to enhance response capabilities to hazardous materials, oil, and domestic terrorism incidents. For more information about the command post, call Dan Heister, EPA, at 206/553-1111 or 1-800-424-4372 x1111, or email heister.dan@epa.gov.

TOOLS

Transportation and Sustainability

Transportation projects have emerged repeatedly in this region as major federal actions with a high potential for significant environmental impacts. EPA has recognized the need to help fuel creative efforts of transportation agencies and the public to develop more sustainable solutions to transportation problems than just building roads. According to Regional Administrator Chuck Clarke, "There are other solutions to many of our transportation needs; solutions that are sustainable, minimize or eliminate the environmental impacts intrinsic to road building, meet the transportation needs of the affected communities, and do not require the construction of new roads." A new brochure exploring the issue is now available from EPA, entitled **Transportation Planning in the Northwest: Framework for Sustainability**.

The brochure urges land use and transportation decision makers to:

- Integrate land use planning, transportation planning, and environmental review.
- Acknowledge, evaluate, and discuss the serious environmental, economic, and social impacts often associated with road building and the use of privately owned vehicles.
- Acknowledge and discuss the escalating nature of the road building solution.
- Pursue transportation solutions that shift the focus from addressing mobility only in terms of level of service (speed), to solutions that focus on achieving multi-modal mobility, accessibility, livability, and sustainability.

For a free copy, call EPA's Public Environmental Resource Center at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372. Or, visit the web site at www.epa.gov/r10earth; click on "index," click on "T" for Transportation. For more information about transportation and sustainability, call Elaine Somers, EPA, at 206/553-2966.

Revolving Fund Gives Water Project Loans

Over the last few issues of WaterTalk, we've been featuring information about the **Clean Water State Revolving Fund**. This funding program offers low-interest loans for water quality projects. Groups which might be eligible for funding include communities, individuals, citizen groups, and agricultural and nonprofit organizations.

The City of Port Townsend, Washington, is one example of a local community creatively using revolving fund monies to overcome water quality issues. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund helped Port Townsend meet storm water management objectives and a wetlands preservation directive at the same time. Using an interest-free \$500,000 SRF loan, the city was able to purchase an area known as the Winona Wetlands. The wetlands serve as a critical stormwater basin for the area and provide valuable habitat. Potential development not only threatened the wetlands but also would have caused stormwater management problems. By purchasing the 6.5 acres of wetlands, the city was able to protect a natural stormwater management system as well as a wildlife refuge. A portion of the city's stormwater utility fee charged to households is being used to repay the loan.

For details about Region 10's State Revolving Fund program, call Michelle Tucker at 206/553-1414 or 1-800-424-4372 x1414 or email tucker.michelle@epa.gov; or Dan Steinborn at 206/553-2728 or 1-800-424-4372 x2728 or email steinborn.dan@epa.gov.

Volunteer Monitor Database Coming

University of Washington is building a statewide data bank to hold and display volunteer and student monitoring data - mostly water data at first, but later fish and wildlife - and information on volunteer restoration projects. The database will be up on the NatureMapping website in a couple of months. Although it is designed for easy use, it will offer ample opportunity for reporters to comment on each result and show what method they used. The initial purposes of the database are to provide a convenient, dependable place to store and share data, and to demonstrate to potential data users the wealth and quality of volunteer-collected water information in Washington. To be informed about when the database will be ready for use, send an email with the word "Yes!" to Annie Phillips, Department of Ecology, at aphi461@ecy.wa.gov. Or call 360/407-6408.

Presentation Kit: Climate Change

A CD-ROM kit is now available that provides state and local leaders and others with materials and information to conduct an outreach program on global warming. Called **Climate Change Presentation Kit**, the CD-ROM was produced by EPA's Local Climate Change Program in partnership with NASA and NOAA. It includes a ready-made slide show on climate change, camera-ready background pieces for distribution to the public, and brochures and exhibits that can be ordered. The kit also includes more than 100 information sheets on the science of climate change, its potential impacts on each state, and technologies and policies that result in lower greenhouse gas emissions. Limited supplies are available. To receive a CD-ROM, call EPA at

1-800-424-4372 or 206/553-1200.

Watershed Restoration Funds Available

Watershed program funds are now available. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) are pleased to announce the Fiscal Year 2001 request for proposals in southern Oregon and northern California. Funding is anticipated in four programs:

- Jobs-In-The-Woods;
- Hatfield Restoration Program;
- Partners For Fish and Wildlife; and
- Oregon Resources Conservation Act Program.

Each program has different goals and eligibility requirements for funding. The application package can be obtained either by calling the Klamath Basin Ecosystem Restoration Office at 541/885-8481 or viewing it on the internet at: <http://www.kffwo.org/rfp2001.html>. Technical assistance in developing your proposal is recommended and available by calling the above number. Applications must be received at the Klamath Basin Ecosystem Restoration Office , 6610 Washburn Way, Klamath Falls, OR 97603 by **August 31, 2000**.

King County Provides Salmon Tool

King County, Washington, is attempting to strengthen Puget Sound salmon recovery by helping local groups and agencies develop and fund habitat restoration and education projects. The County has put together a comprehensive funding information packet, which includes:

- A comprehensive list of available funding sources
- Frequently asked questions about the Salmon Recovery Funding ("SuRF") Board process
- Tips on how to write a grant
- Current technical information on factors contributing to salmon decline

Although some of the information is county-specific, folks outside the area may find it useful. You can find this packet on the web at www.salmoninfo.org. Or, call Rob Bingham at 1-877-SALMON-9.

Web Site Gives Financing Info

State and local governments seeking guidance and information on sources of financing may want to check out an EPA web site: www.epa.gov/efinpage/. The site includes a Guidebook of Financial Tools and links to an environmental finance center network.

E-Hazards: They're Out There . . .

EPA has made children's health issues a priority in our agency's work. We recognize children face complex environmental threats from a range of hazards found commonly in our homes, community, and everyday surroundings. They are also more susceptible than adults to many environmental threats. To help provide you with as much information as possible about environmental health threats to kids, EPA is offering a booklet and video called **E-Hazards: They're Out There**. The video's target audience is elementary school age children. The booklet is a supplemental aid for parents, teachers, and volunteers.

Join investigators Lana and Wolf as they carry out their mission to identify environmental hazards in a neighborhood just like yours. Complete with whiz-bang gadgets, mischievous characters, and the latest information for kids, this tale is told in X-Files fashion, full of mystery, discovery, and humor. As kids enjoy this 15-minute video, they will become more aware about how to protect themselves from everyday environmental hazards in and near their homes.

The award-winning video and booklet address:

Household Products
Second-hand Smoke
Pesticides
Ultraviolet Light
Lead
Contaminated Water

To borrow a copy of the video, or to obtain one of your own, call the Region 10 Public Environmental Resource Center at 206/553-1200 or 1-800-424-4372.

ECOSYSTEMS

Beneficial Landscaping: Clearing Your Wooded Lot? Look Before You Leap

During the drier summer months of the Pacific Northwest, the bulldozers are especially active with land clearing and site preparations for new construction. It's a good time to keep in mind that the single most effective beneficial landscaping practice is prevention. By 'prevention,' we mean that landowners can avoid the trouble and expense of restoring native or appropriate non-native vegetation and all the natural amenities it provides, by avoiding or minimizing the clearing of native vegetation in the first place. This preventive action can save you more than time and money; it can prevent heartache and foregone opportunities as well.

Wooded lots in the Pacific Northwest are often logged and cleared prior to development, with the intent of offsetting a portion of the construction costs, establishing a lawn, improving views, or facilitating construction activities. However good these reasons may seem, it is helpful to consider the possible drawbacks before taking action, and to learn how you can avoid, minimize, or mitigate the consequences. Here are a few pointers for those planning to purchase, clear, and develop land:

-If you haven't yet purchased property, consider buying an existing structure on land that is already developed and remodeling the structure or redeveloping the site if needed. This will preclude the need to clear more land.

-Clearing diminishes wildlife habitat, affects watershed hydrology, and may impact sensitive environmental areas. Consequently, depending upon the nature, extent and location of vegetation removal and ground disturbance, and/or the presence of sensitive environmental features, you may need a permit to log, clear, and/or grade the land. Be sure to check with the state and local government before disturbing anything.

-Clearing can cause expensive problems such as soil compaction, erosion, or damage resulting from blowdown of remaining trees. Heavy machinery can damage or kill trees that you may wish to retain. It's a good idea to contact an Extension Forester for advice in preventing many of these problems.

-The greater the land area that is cleared, the greater will be the area needing landscaping and maintenance. Land that is not replanted soon after clearing will be invaded by weeds. Controlling weeds or clearing the land a second time is costly. Plan to clear no more than you are willing and able to maintain.

-Trees on steep slopes are important for stabilizing the soils. The risk of landslide may increase if the trees are topped, heavily pruned, or removed to expose views.

-Trees can add value to property. They provide beauty, protection from the elements, privacy, and more. Retaining them may increase the resale value of your home.

-If your forest is left undisturbed, some or all of your property may be eligible for property tax reductions. Check with your local government to learn if your property qualifies for an open space, forestry, agricultural, or other public benefit tax exemption.

-It's possible to earn income from the land without cutting the trees. There is an increasing market for specialty forest products, such as floral greens and boughs. Cooperative Extension has information about these opportunities.

Remember that it takes only moments to clear land, but many generations and vigilant management for it to become re-established. If you do log or clear your land, plan carefully and seek professional advice if need be. There are many things you can do to protect the integrity of your site and preserve its most beneficial features.

For further information about this and other aspects of beneficial landscaping, contact Elaine Somers at 206/553-2966 or 1-800-424-4372 x2966 or somers.elaine@epa.gov.

Adapted with permission from an article by Elliott Menashe of Greenbelt Consulting, Whidbey Island, Washington.

CALENDAR

August

18: Stormwater 2000, Portland, OR. Environmental Law Education Center, 503/282-5220, hduncan@elecenter.com.

28-31: American Water Resources Association: International Conference on Riparian Ecology and Management in Multi-Land Use Watersheds, Portland, OR. info@awra.org, www.awra.org, 540/687-8390.

September

1-October 15: Washington WaterWeeks. 360/943-3642, www.waterweeks.org.

6: Salmon Homecoming Forum, Seattle Waterfront. NW Indian Fisheries Commission and Seattle Aquarium, 206/275-4791.

8: Public Open House and Meeting on National Review on Cruise Ship Discharges, Juneau, AK. Steve Torok, EPA, 907/586-7658.

6-7: Regional Watershed Roundtable, Portland, Oregon. Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources, Don Nelson, 509/335-2922, nelsond@wsu.edu.

13-14: Regional Watershed Roundtable, Post Falls, Idaho (Spokane area). Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources, Don Nelson, 509/335-2922, nelsond@wsu.edu.

17-19: Biosolids Management Conference: Storms on the Horizon, Confronting Complacency, Ocean Shores, WA. NW Biosolids Management Association, 206/684-1277.

27-28: Taking Action to Prevent Nonpoint Pollution, Everett, WA. Ann Butler, Ecology, 360/407-6480, anbu461@ecy.wa.gov.

October

3-4: Regional Watershed Roundtable, Boise, Idaho. Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources, Don Nelson, 509/335-2922, nelsond@wsu.edu.

16-18: Creating Digital Dividends: Applying Digital Technology to Sustainable Development, Seattle, WA. World Resources Institute, Allen Hammond, 202/729-7777, allen@wri.org, www.digitaldividend.org

19-20: Brownfields Redevelopment: Where Are We Now, Where Are We Going? Seattle, WA. The Seminar Group, 800-574-4852, 206/463-4400.

24-25: Agriculture and Water Quality in the Pacific Northwest: Understanding Each Other and Working Together for a Better Future, Eugene, OR. www.agwaterqualitynw.org

29-November 1: Pacific Northwest Pollution Control Association Conference, Coeur d-Alene, ID. Sue Baumgartner, 503/579-1472.

November

9-11: American Indian Science and Engineering Society National Conference, Portland, OR. Susan Gibson, 303/772-7062 or 505/765-1052.