

Washington State Wetland Program Summary



Photo Title: Wetlands near Mt. Adams, Washington, State
Photo Credit: Wildlife Recreation.org

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Section A. Quick View

Description of State's Wetlands

Palustrine are the most common wetlands in Washington. Palustrine wetlands include palustrine forested wetlands commonly referred to as swamps or coastal swamps. Palustrine emergent wetlands are also known as freshwater marshes, wet meadows, fens, bogs, prairies, potholes, vernal pools, and playas. Lacustrine emergent wetlands and aquatic beds exist in the shallows of lakes throughout Washington. Riverine wetlands consist of the areas of river channels that are occasionally to permanently flooded. Estuarine wetlands are present on the deltas and in the lower reaches of most of the rivers in western Washington. Marine wetlands in Washington consist of beaches and rocky shores.

State Definition of Wetlands

“Wetlands means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from non-wetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands.

Historic Wetland Loss/Gain

Original Wetland Acreage	Remaining Wetland Acreage	Acreage Lost	% Lost
1,350,000	938,000	412,000	31%

Note: Washington Department of Ecology received an EPA grant to conduct new mapping of Western Washington wetlands. Contact the department for a copy of the report.

Primary State Wetlands Webpage

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/Programs/sea/wetlands/index.html>

State Wetland Program Plan

Washington does not have a state wetland program plan at this time; however, the state has been in the process of developing a state wetland program plan (ETA April 2015). The next step will be to collaboratively work with partner agencies to prioritize the work within the plan and develop a timeline and more detailed implementation plan.

No Net Loss/Net Gain Goal

A no net loss goal has been adopted for state agency actions, and is the policy of state action, under executive order EO 89-10. The Order's short-term goal is no net loss of both function and acreage, while the long-term goal is increased both quantity and quality of the state's wetlands. It has not been legislatively adopted. Executive Order EO 90-04 provides direction for government actions in wetlands.

State Budget for Wetland Work

State Name	Core element #1: Regulation*	Core Element #2: Monitoring and Assessment	Core Element #3: Wetland Water Quality Standards	Core Element #4: Voluntary Wetland Restoration
Agency	Washington Department of Ecology (ECY)	Washington Department of Ecology (ECY)	None	Washington Department of Ecology (ECY)
Source(s)	Information unavailable	Information unavailable	Information unavailable	National Coastal Wetland Rest Grants and KELC grants
Amount	Information unavailable	Information unavailable	Information unavailable	Information unavailable
Staffing	18 FTE (statewide for both regulatory and technical assistance)*	3.15 FTE (3 FTE for monitoring mitigation sites; 0.15 FTE for scientific M&A studies)	Information unavailable	1 FTE (Mostly working to secure and manage federal grants)
Agency	DNR	DNR		DNR

Source(s)	Information unavailable	WADOT		Information unavailable
Amount	Information unavailable	Information unavailable		Information unavailable
Staffing	1 FTE (Oversight of forest permitting)	2 FTE (for monitoring of areas of high conservation value – including wetlands)		Information unavailable
Agency		WADOT		
Source(s)		Information unavailable		
Amount		Information unavailable		
Staffing		Information unavailable		

*More regulatory staff is based in Western Washington, where there is a large amount of development currently taking place, than other parts of the state.

State Permitting Fees

State Permitting Fee	State Name
Yes/No	No
Amount (range)	N/A
Agency	N/A

Innovative Features

- Washington State’s local government planning program is unique. A large part of how Washington State delivers wetland protections is through regional planning by local government using best available science with guidance from the state.
- The State is able to issue Administrative Orders under the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act for all wetlands, regardless of whether or not they are under federal jurisdiction. This allows the state to be able to issue an Administrative Order even when there may not be a 404 permit action. The Washington Department of Ecology takes an assistance role in this process.
- The state has emphasized a comprehensive approach. In addition to regulatory programs, this includes: 1) development of a landscape approach to assessing and protecting wetlands; 2) non-regulatory restoration and private landowner stewardship efforts; 3) a mitigation banking certification program; and 4) a training program for local governments through the state’s Coastal Training Program.

Models and Templates

- State developed method for determining credits at mitigation sites and debits at impacted sites (The Credit-Debit Method).

- Washington State has developed a publication designed to assist in selecting mitigation sites for wetland restoration.
- Model local ordinance

Section B. Regulation

How are Wetlands Regulated in the State?

(This sections is currently being edited by state staff, check with staff before citing)

The State of Washington provides wetlands protection under numerous state laws, none of which provide wetlands protection as their primary purpose: State Water Pollution Control Act; Growth Management Act; Shoreline Management Act; State Hydraulic Code; and Forest Practices Act. In general, the state emphasizes a local approach to wetlands protection and regulation. Most state laws authorize local municipalities to plan and regulate their lands, including wetlands, with state agencies often playing an advisory role.

Section 401 certification is the primary mechanism of wetlands regulation at the state level. However, wetland government regulation is the primary mechanism in the state overall. The state provides guidance to wetland regulation, but implementation is provided at the local level. Most influential wetland-related regulation in the state comes at the local level, as land use management is generally perceived as the most effective mechanism for protecting wetland functions and values.

Under the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act, Washington State is able to issue Administrative Orders for all wetlands, regardless of whether or not they are under federal jurisdiction. This means that the state may issue an Administrative Order without any 404 permit action. The Washington Department of Ecology takes an assistance role in this process.

Washington State's Shoreline Management Act provides the state with control over shoreline protection and veto authority for wetlands in the Shoreline Master Program if the state feels that plans are inadequate to protect the wetlands under consideration.

A *Tribal Treaties and Rights at Risk* document submitted to and supported by the federal government has led to the guarantee of rights to salmon and other traditionally-utilized species and the requirement for co-management by tribes. This has led to shifts towards stronger riparian and wetland protections (those that are related to estuaries critical for salmon, etc.), as well as protection of overwintering areas for these species. Consequently, salmon drives very specific non-voluntary restoration projects in the state.

Wetland Delineation

Delineation Guidance	Yes	No	Detail
Use State's Own Method		X	
Use Corps' 87 Manual and Regional Supplement	X		
Other (Please describe)		X	

Evaluation Methodology

The state has two primary methods for evaluating wetlands.

1. Wetland rating systems for Eastern and Western Washington to use in regulatory programs. Rating is based primarily on rarity, sensitivity, irreplaceability and three groups of functions: water quality; hydrologic; and habitat. Wetlands are placed into one of four categories based on these factors and specific protection measures are recommended for each category.
2. HGM-based quantitative function assessment methods for three classes of wetlands: riverine and depressional wetlands in Western Washington and depressional wetlands in the Columbia Basin of Eastern Washington. Over the last several years there has been growing concern about the labor-intensive nature of these assessments and they are currently only used for major projects. The method is no longer supported by training.
3. The state has also been exploring functional assessment for nearshore wetlands. However, there is the same concern arising about the resource-intensive nature of the process.

Exempted Activities (Comparable to federal)

Some activities are exempt from the permit requirements of the Shoreline Management Act (SMA), but must still comply with the goals and policies of the Act and the Local Shoreline Master Program. These activities include: development with a total value of less than \$2,500; normal maintenance or repair of existing structures; "construction and practices normal or necessary for agriculture"; construction or modification of navigational aids, and construction on wetlands by an owner, lessee, or contract purchaser of a single family residence for his own use or for the use of his or her family.

Special Provisions for Agriculture and Forestry

Agriculture activities do not, in general, require permits. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Department of Ecology and the local conservation districts to assist farmers with implementing Best Management Practices to comply with water quality regulations. Forest activities are permitted exclusively under the Forest Practices Act (FPA). The FPA includes provisions requiring compliance with the SMA and water quality regulations. In 2011, a joint group of agriculture, environmental groups and tribes advocated for and the legislature approved a *Volunteer Stewardship Program* (VSP) which states that in agricultural areas, local wetland regulations do not apply. The VSP instead relies on the adoption of voluntary practices.

Penalties and Enforcement

Staff in Washington’s four regional offices are responsible for identifying and initiating any enforcement actions regarding wetlands. Ecology enforces the State Water Pollution Control Act (SWPCA) and has joint enforcement authority with local municipalities for the Shoreline Management Act (SMA). Local governments are responsible for enforcing the Growth Management Act (GMA), while Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) are responsible for enforcing Hydraulic Project Approvals and the Forest Practices Act (FPA), respectively. WDNR also issues use authorizations for any activity on state-owned aquatic lands, including compensatory mitigation and restoration projects. The Water Pollution Control Act has specific enforcement provisions including civil and criminal penalties. Administrative orders and civil penalties of up to \$10,000 per day, per violation may be used. Enforcement of the SMA is shared between local governments and the Department.

Permit Tracking

The Department of Ecology has had a database system (established 2004) that tracks all water quality related permitting, mitigation and enforcement actions. ECY is currently restructuring its database to make it more user-friendly.

State General Permit (statewide vs. regional coverage)

Permit Coverage	Yes	No	Detail (Type of Permit)
Regional General Permit		X	
Statewide General Permit		X	

Assumption of 404 Powers

Assumption Status	Yes	No	Detail
Assumed		X	
Working Toward Assumption		X	
Explored Assumption	X		Although the state has informally looked into assumption several times, there are no plans to pursue assumption at this time (primarily due to cost).

Joint permitting

The state has no joint perm with federal or local agencies, but the state does have a *Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application* can be used by applicants who must obtain permits from multiple agencies. This document allows an applicant to fill out one application and submit it to federal, state and local agencies for all permits related to in-water activities. The state does have a joint permitting process for wetland bank and in lieu fee programs.

Special Area Management Plans and Advanced Identification Plans

A *Nisqually River Management Plan* has been prepared; a Special Area Management Plan (SAMP) has been developed for the Mill Creek basin near Seattle; a wetland plan similar to a SAMP has been developed for the Port of Skagit. Additionally, the *Snohomish Estuary Wetland Integration Plan* provides guidance for mitigation and restoration efforts on the Lower Snohomish River.

Mitigation Policy

Various options are available for mitigation, in addition to the traditional on-site concurrent option, depending on what can work best for the applicant and for the environment (wetland banking, In Lieu Fee Mitigation, off-site mitigation and advance mitigation). Each option must conform with the appropriate local, state, and federal regulatory requirements and permit processes. Washington State has a two-part interagency document that provides guidance on wetland mitigation. The document is entitled, " *Wetland Mitigation in Washington State, Version 1*". The document includes agency policies and guidance, guidance on developing mitigation plans and links to monitoring guidance and discussion of ways to improve mitigation. The state is planning to work over the coming years to revise the *Wetland Mitigation in Washington State Version 1* document to make it consistent with the federal mitigation rule. The Department of Ecology has developed a formal tool that is used to determine credits for mitigation sites and debits for impacted sites. This tool is called the *Credit-Debit Method*.

Mitigation Database

Yes. See *Permit Tracking Section* above.

Section C. Monitoring and Assessment

Agency Responsible for Wetland Monitoring and Assessment

While there is no state standard assessment methodology or monitoring program in place, the Department of Ecology has two assessment methodologies for wetlands. One is a quantitative, HGM-based, functional assessment methodology and the other is the *Washington State Wetland Rating System*, a rapid screening tool for use by agencies and local governments in categorizing wetlands for protection and management. The rating system provides quantitative information on three groups of wetland functions: water quantity, water quality, and habitat.

While the state no longer regularly uses the HGM model due to resource limitations, the state does use the data from 130 wetland reference sites that were compiled using HGM assessments and utilizes this information in their wetland mitigation work.

Additionally, the state has formed a multi-agency working group consisting of the Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Washington Department of Transportation to develop a statewide wetland monitoring strategy.

Finally, the Department of Natural resources maintains an ongoing monitoring and assessment program for areas of High Conservation Value, which include some wetlands.

Mapping/Inventory

The NWI has been completed for the entire state and is available in hard copy or in digital format. A geographic information system provides coverage of NWI, hydric soils and hydrography. The state supports local inventories through a variety of grant sources and provides inventory technical assistance. Local governments produce maps from their inventory efforts. The maps are prepared by the local governments or consultants that they hire.

Additionally, the state has been using NOAA's Wetland Coastal Change Analysis approach/tool and satellite data and created a model for some Western Washington areas. This effort has added to information available through NWI, though it is at a coarse level.

State Wetland Mapping Public Portal

The State maintains an online *Coastal Atlas Website*:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/coastalatlus/tools/PublicAccess.aspx>. The state is currently working to get NWI wetland maps uploaded to this site.

Wetland Classification and Assessment

The state used both Cowardian and HGM classification systems. The state has developed a four-tiered "rating" system, as well as HGM-based function assessment methods. These are used in permitting, watershed planning and advanced identification efforts.

Statewide Monitoring Plan

The state's newly-formed multi-agency working group is in the process of developing a statewide monitoring plan. The estimated date of release is 2016.

Overall Wetland Gain and Loss Tracking System

None.

State Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Characteristics

Level	None	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<i>Washington State</i>		X	X	X (Only for DNR monitoring for wetlands of High Conservation Value)

Note: *Washington’s Watershed Characterization does GIS analysis for water flow, sediment flow, water quality and wetland restoration.*

Type	None	IBI	Condition	Functional
<i>Washington State</i>		Not for wetlands	X (Only DNR floristic quality assessment)	X (HGM and Rating)

Frequency	None	Project Specific	Ongoing
<i>Washington State</i>		X (Consecutive grants for program building)	X (Only for DNR monitoring for wetlands of High Conservation Value)

Participation in National Wetland Condition Assessment

NWCA Study Type	Yes	No
National Study	X	
State Intensification Study		X

Section D. Water Quality Standards

Wetland and Water Quality Standards

Type	None	Use Existing WQ Standards/Policy	In Process	Adopted	Future Direction
Wetland-specific Designated Uses		X			
Narrative criteria in the standards to protect designated wetland uses		X			

Numeric criteria in the standards based on wetland type and location to protect the designated uses	X				
Anti-degradation policy includes wetlands		X (explicitly included wetlands from the beginning)			

Description: Washington State has an established a 401 program, narrative water quality standards for wetlands and an outstanding resource waters program. Standards are associated largely with fish and wildlife habitat. Wetlands are protected by using the anti-degradation policy and a narrative statement that, “water quality in wetlands is maintained and protected by maintaining the hydrologic conditions, hydrophytic vegetation, and substrate characteristics necessary to support existing and designated uses.” Characteristic or beneficial uses of wetlands that must be protected include water supply, fish and shellfish habitat, wildlife habitat, recreation, commerce and navigation, aesthetics, ground water exchange, shoreline stabilization and storm water attenuation.

One of the reasons that the state has not pursued additional wetland-specific water quality standards is due to the vast diversity of wetland types in the state. Staff members indicate that the process of developing appropriate standards for each wetland type is not feasible at this time and that the state has no plans to work towards wetland-specific standards at this time. They share that protections are currently adequately rigorous to protect wetlands through the adoption of existing standards as appropriate.

Section E. Voluntary Wetland Restoration

The Department of Ecology contributes to wetland restoration initiatives apart from those required as compensatory mitigation. With a focus on developing online guidance for local governments, Ecology is taking a landscape approach to wetland mitigation and working with local governments to implement protection and restoration initiatives as part of their comprehensive land use and shoreline planning. In addition, Ecology works with local partners (cities, counties, conservation districts, diking districts, non-profit groups) to develop non-regulatory restoration projects. The agency plays a significant role in obtaining federal funding for various local restoration initiatives. Ecology also provides technical assistance on project design and monitoring.

Types of Wetland Restoration Work Funded by the State:

Type of Work	YES	NO	Description
Fund Wetland Restoration (may include easement agreements)	X		State Salmon Recovery Funds (incl. some wetland work); Conservation Futures Program (State \$ to local gov)
Private Land Restoration	X		ECY; State \$ for easements
Public Land Restoration	X		State Parks, DF&W, DNR (limited to special areas)
Technical Assistance	X		ECY; DF&W
Tax Incentives	X (local)	X (State)	Some local government open space tax benefits; Public Benefit Rating System
Other	X		Assist in obtaining federal funding for various local restoration initiatives

Voluntary Wetland Restoration Program Components

While the state does not have a formal voluntary wetland restoration program, there is a multiagency coordination approach through the Puget Sound Partnership (a National Estuary Program). Their work is in the planning stages and does not represent a comprehensive statewide approach to voluntary wetland restoration.

Wetland Restoration Efforts	Nothing in the Works	Planning	In Progress	Complete
Program has a set of restoration goals		X		
Coordinate with relevant agencies that outline restoration/protection goals and strategies and timeframes		X		
Developed multi-agency body to coordinate restoration/ protection efforts		X		
Set restoration goals based on agency objectives and available information		X		

Goals for Restoration Projects

Goal	Yes	No	Description
No Net Loss	X		
Reverse Loss/Net Gain	X		
Nonpoint Source Pollution (NPS)	X		Researching; NPDES Prg
Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs)	X		
Habitat	X		Salmon
Coastal Protection	X		Puget Sound
Floodwater Protection		X	
Groundwater		X	

Other (please describe)			
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Landowner Guides and Handbooks to Assist with Voluntary Wetland Restoration Efforts

The state offers a brochure for homeowners on wetland restoration

Section F. Innovative and/or Highly Effective Education and Outreach

Washington State uses the Coastal Training Program to provide technical and regulatory training to local government and consultants. These include webinars.

Section G. Climate Change and Wetlands

Washington State is supportive of climate change work. The state is working on projects relating to sea level rise, drought (not wetland-specific work), heavy precipitation and tides (esp. king tides), and flooding damage in areas with limited floodplains. Although there has been a lot of planning, there has not been a lot of follow-up investment in implementation. In terms of wetland regulation and climate change, this is being integrated informally --- state staff looks to see if there is hard structure in an area where there is a risk from sea level rise. Most of the state’s resiliency and hazard mitigation planning is happening at the local level.

Since 2005, the state of Washington has been engaged in extensive policy work pertaining to climate change and greenhouse gasses in particular. In 2009 these efforts expanded to include adaptation to the effects of climate change that have become unavoidable (Act SB 5560). In 2010, the Topic Advisory Group 3 (Ecosystems, Species, Habitat) was tasked with assessing impacts upon, and developing adaptation strategies for their eponymous sphere (Ecosystems, Species, and Habitats). The mission statement (drafted in March of 2010) includes explicit reference to ecoservices provided by wetlands, but does not make mention of wetlands directly. The state’s environmental policies that address greenhouse gasses (GHGs) are politically charged at this time. The wetland staff have been involved peripherally in this process, only involved in occasional planning sessions/meetings.

However, in the Department of Ecology’s 2012 climate change strategy report, entitled *Preparing for Climate Change: Washington State’s Integrated Climate Response Strategy* http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/ipa_responsestrategy.htm#REPORT explicitly includes wetlands in its climate plan in *multiple* areas, including soft armouring, sea level rise, habitat protection, easements, pollution control, green infrastructure and more. This plan has been used more as a guidance document than a formal plan that is being implemented.

Section H. Integration

Entity/Program Area	Yes/No	Description of the Connection
NPDES/Stormwater	YES	On grant-funded projects, work with stormwater staff to minimize adverse effects on wetlands (esp. re LID); include stormwater in the 401/402 information provided
303(d)	~	Occasionally
305(b) reporting on wetlands	NO	

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs)	YES	For some TMDLs, wetlands have been included to reduce sedimentation and temperature
Climate Change/ Resiliency	YES	Some work (mostly planning) re sea level rise, king tides, flood damage) – mostly at municipal level; at the state level more basic practical consideration when making permitting and planning decisions.
Land Use /Watershed planning	YES	Wetlands are included in watershed planning in a number of ways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watershed plans (WQual) • Salmon recovery (WQual and WQuant, habitat) • Watershed Characterization (flow, quality, sediment movement, wildlife)
Flood/Hazard Mitigation	YES	The state works on integrated floodplain management projects
Coastal Work	YES	National Estuary Partnership Work
Wildlife Action Plan	U/K	
Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)	YES	The state’s SCORP includes wetlands
Other (Specify)	YES	There may be other linkages

State Wetland Program Development Continuum

Continuum Stage		Core Element 1: Regulation	Core Element 2: Monitoring & Assessment	Core Element 3: Wetland Water Quality Standards	Core Element 4: Voluntary Restoration
Mature Stage	High	X 401 Certification Program & Administrative Orders (WPCA)			
Initial Implementation Stage					
Development Stage					
Early Stage	Low			X	X (No wetland-specific standards; but covered to the best extent possible)

Special Considerations:

Areas of the state are highly diverse hydrologically and ecologically due to the great differences in rainfall, soil types etc. from east to west, and elevation from sea level to 14,000 feet. This diversity creates great challenges in developing more specific wetland guidance.

Section I. Contact Information

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Section J. Useful State Websites

State Government Programs

1. Department of Ecology

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/shorelan.html>

a) Wetlands

Two state laws, the State Water Pollution Control Act and the Shoreline Management Act, give Ecology the authority to regulate wetlands. Ecology also uses the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) process to identify potential wetland-related concerns early in the permitting process.

i. Mitigation

- Mitigation That Works Initiative
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/mitigation/index.html>
- Wetland Mitigation Banking
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/banking/index.html>
- Wetland Mitigation Compliance
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/compliance/index.html>
- Interagency Wetland Mitigation Guidance
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/guidance/index.html>
- Wetland Mitigation Evaluation Study
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/study/index.html>

- In-Lieu Fee (ILF) Mitigation
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/mitigation/ilf.html>
 - The Credit/Debit Method
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/mitigation/creditdebit-comments.html>
 - ii. Regulation
 - Growth Management Act and Local Wetland Regulations
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/gma/index.html>
 - Irrigation-Influenced Wetlands
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/irrigation.html>
 - Isolated Wetlands
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/isolated.html>
 - Prior Converted Croplands
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/pcc.html>
 - iii. Wetland Stewardship
 - Coastal & Estuarine Land Conservation Program
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/stewardship/celcp.html>
 - National Wetlands Conservation Grant Program
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/stewardship/nwcgp.html>
 - iv. Wetland Tools
 - Wetland Delineation
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/delineation.html>
 - Wetland Rating Systems
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/ratingsystems/index.html>
 - Best Available Science
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/bas/index.html>
 - Landscape Planning
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/mitigation/landscapeplan.html>
 - Change Analysis: Status & Trends
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/StatusAndTrends.html>
 - v. Training & Education
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/education.html>
2. Department of Fish & Wildlife
- a) Research: Species & Ecosystem Science
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/research/>
 - b) Priority Species & Habitat Program
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/phs/>
 - c) Local Habitat Assessment
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/planning/lha/>

- d) Habitat Conservation, Protection & Restoration
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/>
 - e) Wildlife Areas
http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/index.html
 - f) National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program
http://wdfw.wa.gov/grants/coastal_wetlands/
3. Department of Natural Resources
- a) Conservation & Restoration
 - i. Aquatic Lands Habitat Conservation Plan
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/AquaticHCP/Pages/aqr_aquatics_hcp.aspx
 - b) Washington Natural Heritage Program
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/NaturalHeritage/Pages/amp_nh.aspx
 - c) Natural Areas Program
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/NaturalAreas/Pages/amp_na.aspx
 - d) Watershed, Wetlands & Riparian Sciences
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/WatershedWetlandsRiparianSciences/Pages/Home.aspx>
 - i. Wetlands Field Guides
http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/Watersheds/Pages/lm_wetland_field_guides.aspx
 - e) State Environmental Policy Act Center
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/sepa/Pages/Home.aspx>
4. Recreation & Conservation Office
- a) Washington Biodiversity Council
<http://www.rco.wa.gov/biodiversity/index.shtml>
 - b) Conservation
<http://www.rco.wa.gov/conservation/index.shtml>
 - i. Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordinating Group
<http://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/hrlcg.shtml>
 - c) Recreation and Conservation Funding Board
<http://www.rco.wa.gov/boards/rcfb.shtml>
5. Puget Sound Partnership
<http://www.psp.wa.gov/>
- a) Coordinated Ecosystem Monitoring Program
http://www.psp.wa.gov/MP_monitoring_program.php
 - b) Stormwater & Low Impact Development
<http://www.psp.wa.gov/stormwater.php>
 - c) Biannual State of the Sound Report
<http://www.psp.wa.gov/sos.php>
 - d) Marine Protected Areas Workshop
<http://www.psp.wa.gov/MPA.php>

6. Department of Transportation
 - a) Wetlands
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/Wetlands/default.htm>
 - i. Regulations
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Environment/Wetlands/Regulations.htm>
7. Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance
 - a) Aquatic Permitting
http://www.ora.wa.gov/documents/ENV_011_08.pdf

Federal Government Programs

1. USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wetlands Reserve Program
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/wa/programs/easements/wetlands/>

Other Organization Wetland Programs

1. Municipal Research and Services Center
 - a) Wetlands
<http://www.mrsc.org/subjects/environment/wetlands.aspx>
2. King County
 - a) Wetlands
<http://www.kingcounty.gov/environment/waterandland/wetlands.aspx>