

Section 9

Conclusions and Recommendations

9.1 Conclusions

- Groundwater and surface water quality are important to the quality of life for the citizens of the City of Sedro-Woolley (City) and the region, making the City's Stormwater Program an important activity.
- The City has adopted the needed local ordinances and is committed to the implementation of a stormwater management program.
- The City is not in compliance with the State's Basic Stormwater Program and should take immediate action to be in full compliance as soon as practicable (1-2 years).
- The City's Stormwater Program is presently underfunded to meet existing and future Stormwater Program and regulatory compliance responsibilities.
- The current budget of the City's Stormwater Program is not adequate to properly:
 - Accomplish the City's responsibilities under the Puget Sound Water Quality Management (PSWQM) Plan requirements
 - Construct capital improvements
 - Maintain the existing drainage system
 - Protect streams, wetlands and habitat areas
 - Identify urban pollutants and implement control programs to enhance local water quality and protect groundwater
 - Staff the City's Stormwater Program
- New and additional staffing and funding alternatives should be considered for the City's future Stormwater Program.
- A "Letter of Compliance" should be sent to Ecology acknowledging the January 1, 1995, date of compliance, and the City's commitment to comply with and locally implement the requirements of the Puget Sound Water Quality Management (PSWQM) Plan.

- The City may wish to send a "Letter of Clarification" to the Director of Ecology requesting clarification of their intentions to require stormwater NPDES permits for small cities by 2000-2002 and their approach to provide local funding for state-mandated requirements.

9.2 Recommendations

The City should:

- Enhance the existing Stormwater Program to reduce and eliminate local drainage problems and reduce pollutant loadings into the Skagit River and Skagit Bay by increasing annual funding for maintenance, regulatory compliance and capital projects.
- Develop and implement a stormwater program that meets or exceeds the State's Basic Stormwater Program and prepares the City for compliance with a possible future State NPDES permit by 2000-2002.
- Continue to eliminate illicit connections to the City's storm and sewer conveyance systems.
- Establish a city-wide source control program to reduce the amounts of pollutants entering the City's stormwater system based on the results of Drainage Basin Assessments conducted in each of the City's stormwater management areas.
- Investigate the establishment of new funding sources for stormwater management, including developer fees, impact fees, connection charges, and establishing a city-wide Stormwater Utility.
- Work effectively with the County to adopt common land use and drainage design criteria, establish common permit review procedures, and jointly implement the policies and recommendations of the Sedro-Woolley Comprehensive Plan.
- Work with major businesses of the Sedro-Woolley area to establish specific monitoring and source control programs to reduce pollutant loadings from commercial/industrial discharges into the region's receiving waters.
- The City should not assume the maintenance and flood control responsibilities of the Sedro-Woolley Sub-Flood Control Zone at this time; an interlocal agreement with the County regarding Brickyard Creek drainages should be initiated by the City.