Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet TMDL
Phased Approach
April 2014

Phased approach

- Ecology is taking a phased approach to the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL).
- Ecology will first move forward with the freshwater section and submit it to EPA in 2014.
- The boundaries for the freshwater section include: The Deschutes River (above Deschutes Falls), Percival Creek and its tributaries, Black Lake Ditch, and the freshwater tributaries flowing into Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet.
- The pollutants addressed remain the same: Fecal coliform bacteria, temperature, fine sediments, dissolved oxygen, and pH.
- Ecology will *not* assign numeric load allocations for nitrogen in the freshwater section. The implementation actions identified in the freshwater Water Quality Improvement Report/Implementation Plan (WQIR/IP) will provide benefits to the nitrogen issues in Budd Inlet.

Benefits to this approach

- The technical work for the freshwater section is complete.
- EPA can approve the submitted freshwater WQIR/IP this year.
- Stakeholders applying for grant funding from Ecology can receive extra points for addressing an approved TMDL. They can use the funding to implement the actions identified in the WQIR/IP to improve water quality in the freshwater sections of the watershed.
- This validates the time and work already invested by the advisory group.
- The local partners and stakeholders can continue or begin implementing the action items identified in the WQIR/IP.
- It reinforces Ecology's ongoing commitment to improving the watershed.

Marine sections

- Ecology will address Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet after additional modeling is finished.
- Ecology will further refine Budd Inlet and Puget Sound modeling to determine the extent of the impacts to Budd Inlet from the northern TMDL boundary. It will take several years to complete the marine TMDL.