

# FACT SHEET

## LUMMI NATION STORM WATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions	Response
<b>What is Storm Water?</b>	Storm water is surface water runoff that results from rain or snowmelt.
<b>Why is Storm Water Management Important on the Lummi Reservation?</b>	<p>Managing Reservation storm water is important because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contaminated storm water can adversely impact the tidelands, estuaries, ground water, and surface waters of the Lummi Reservation.</li> <li>• The potential impacts of contaminated storm water threaten the health and welfare of the Lummi Nation, its members, and all persons present on the Reservation.</li> <li>• With the exception of water discharged into Washington State aquatic lands from two wastewater treatment plants, all water that falls onto or passes through the Lummi Reservation discharges to resource rich tidelands and/or estuaries of the Lummi Nation. These tideland resources, which are culturally and economically important to the Lummi Nation and its members, surround the Reservation uplands. Tideland resources include salmon, shellfish, extensive eelgrass beds, herring spawning grounds, surf smelt, sand lance, wildlife, and water supply intakes for both a salmon and a shellfish hatchery.</li> <li>• Population projections, planned economic and institutional growth on the Reservation, and the small percentage of Reservation land that has been developed all suggest that portions of existing forested and agricultural lands will be converted to residential, commercial, community, or industrial uses in the coming years. Land use changes where forested or agricultural lands are converted to residential, commercial, community, or industrial uses can be expected to affect storm water quantity and quality.</li> <li>• In general, development impacts vegetation and soil properties in a manner that results in greater amounts of storm water, higher peak discharges, and lower water quality. Minimizing these adverse impacts from development and maximizing the protection of sensitive and important natural resources is necessary to protect the political integrity, economic security, and the health</li> </ul>

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	<p>and welfare of the Lummi Nation, its members, and all persons present on the Reservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a finite resource, ground water is one of the most important and critical of the Lummi Nation's resources. Storm water is an important source of ground water recharge and a potentially significant source of ground water contamination. Ample supplies of ground water of good quality are essential to serve the purposes of the Reservation as the permanent homeland of the Lummi Nation and its members.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What is the Purpose of the Reservation Storm Water Management Program?</b></p>	<p>The purpose of the Storm Water Management Program is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect the on-Reservation ground water supply (aquifers) from contamination.</li> <li>Protect Reservation surface water from contamination.</li> <li>Protect tribal tideland resources from contamination.</li> <li>Protect downstream property owners from new development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are the Goals of Storm Water Management Efforts?</b></p>	<p>The goals of storm water management efforts are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimize opportunities for storm water to carry pollutants into aquifer recharge areas and/or to the resource rich estuaries and tidelands of the Reservation that provide important finfish and shellfish habitat.</li> <li>Minimize the downstream impacts of new development on existing development and property owners.</li> <li>Maximize the opportunities for infiltration and aquifer recharge. Storm water recharges Reservation aquifers, and over 95 percent of Reservation residential water supply is pumped from local aquifers</li> </ul>
<p><b>What Actions are Planned for the Reservation Storm Water Management Program?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop storm water management regulations to provide more guidance on the contents of Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans.</li> <li>Continue to review Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans and Site Plans for proposed development.</li> <li>Continue to inspect construction sites to ensure compliance with approved pollution prevention plans.</li> </ul>

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<b>Frequently Asked Questions</b>	<b>Response</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Update the Storm Water Management Program technical background document to reflect new information and/or changing conditions.</li></ul>