



Water Quality Program

Permit Submittal Electronic Certification

Permittee: TACOMA CITY

Permit Number: WAR044003

Site Address: 747 MARKET ST B20
TACOMA, WA 98402

Submittal Name: MS4 Annual Report Phase I City County

Version: 1

Due Date: 3/31/2025

Questionnaire

Number	Permit Section	Question	Answer
1	S9.D.6.	Attach a map of any annexations, incorporations or jurisdictional boundary changes resulting in an increase or decrease in the Permittee's geographic area of permit coverage during the reporting period per S9.D.6.	Manitou Annexation Map_1_03272025164015
2	S9.D.1, S5.A.1	Attach updated annual Stormwater Management Program Plan (SWMP Plan). (S9.D.1, S5.A.1)	SWMP Plan 2025_FINAL_2_03312025120344
3	S5.A.2.	No later than March 31, 2027, implemented an ongoing program to gather, track, and maintain information per S5.A.2, including costs or estimated costs of developing and implementing the SWMP?	Not Applicable Comment: Tacoma is updating a method to gather, track and maintain cost estimates for SWMP implementation and will provide estimated costs in the Annual Report due March 31, 2027.
4	S9.D4	If applicable, identify other entities relied on to satisfy any of the obligations under the Permit. (S9.D4).	Not Applicable
5	S5.C.2.a	Maintained electronic mapping data for the features listed in S5.C.2.a?	Yes
11	S.5.C.3.a	Did you update your internal coordination agreement(s) or directives to facilitate compliance with this permit? (S.5.C.3.a) (Required by March 31, 2025)	Yes
11a	S5.C.3.a	If yes, attach a written description of internal coordination mechanisms. (S5.C.3.a)	Q.11a_Attachment_2024_AR_Tacom_11a_03312025120945
12	S5.C.3.b.i	Implemented coordination mechanisms clarifying roles and responsibilities for control of pollutants between physically interconnected MS4s per S5.C.3.b.i?	Yes
13	S5.C.3.b.ii	Coordinated stormwater management activities for shared waterbodies among Permittees and Secondary Permittees, as necessary to avoid conflicting plans, policies and regulations? (S5.C.3.b.ii)	Yes

14	S5.C.4.a	Describe in Comments field opportunities created for the public, including overburdened communities, to participate in the decision making processes involving the development, implementation and updates of the SWMP and SMAP (SMAP applies to Counties). (S5.C.4.a).	The 2025 SWMP Plan update was advertised to the public on the City of Tacoma website, community events, City social media posts, and the Environews listserv. The invitation for public comment was also shared with community members who attended a series of neighborhood workshops on the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Update. Port of Tacoma, Metro Parks, Puyallup Tribal Fisheries staff and City of Tacoma Neighborhood Councils were also emailed and invited to provide input. Comments are accepted year-round but must be received before March 25, 2025 to be considered for the 2025 update of the SWMP Plan.
14a	S5.C.4.a.i	Annually document specific public involvement and participation opportunities provided to overburdened communities, including highly impacted communities (e.g., federally recognized tribes). (S5.C.4.a.i)	During 2024, to learn more from the community about how to better focus desired SWMP programs in priority watersheds, Environmental Services staff developed a community stormwater survey to collect information on areas of the SWMP Plan that the general public would like to see emphasized or improved in their neighborhood, such as increased green stormwater infrastructure, expansion of existing education and outreach programs as well as identifying the common stormwater problems observed like flooding or excessive pet waste on the ground. The survey was tested by a group of Next Move high school interns and the East Tacoma Community Leaders group and improved based on their

feedback and translated in the 8 most spoken languages in Tacoma. The survey was then distributed at multiple community events in South Tacoma throughout February and early March 2024, and again with the One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan visioning workshops held in the eight neighborhood council district, engaging over 180 participants in May and June of 2024. Survey takers also were provided additional information about how to participate in community assistance programs they selected on the survey. Additionally, we piloted a Stormwater Community Conversation with a focus group of Vietnamese community members living on the Eastside of Tacoma to help better identify issues of interest to their community that stormwater programs could help address. In early 2025, a SWMP stormwater survey was distributed at multiple community events throughout the months of February and early March including four One Tacoma Comprehensive Plan Draft Review Workshops, the Hilltop Healthy Kids and Family Carnival, Ground to Sound Film Festival, and a Next Move high school intern meeting. These events were hosted in different locations across the city. This decentralized approach aims to reduce travel barriers and promote equitable participation from residents across Tacoma. The Hilltop

			Family Carnival is an annual community-initiated event focused on serving overburdened and BIPOC community members living in Tacoma and Pierce County where we shared information about free and low-cost neighborhood greening programs and collected survey results identifying the biggest stormwater issues in their neighborhoods.
15	S5.C.4.b	Posted the updated SWMP Plan and latest annual report on your website no later than May 31? (S5.C.4.b)	Yes
15a	S5.C.4.b	List website address in Comments field.	https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/environmentalservices/surface_water/stormwater_management_program
18	S5.C.5.b.i	Number of adjustments granted to the minimum requirements in Appendix 1? (S5.C.5.b.i, and Section 5 of Appendix 1)	5
18a	S5.C.5.b.i	Number of adjustments granted to minimum requirement #5?	0
19	S5.C.5.b.i	Number of exceptions granted to the minimum requirements in Appendix 1? (S5.C.5.b.i, and Section 6 of Appendix 1)	0
20	S5.C.5.b.vi.(a)	Reviewed Stormwater Site Plans per S5.C.5.b.vi.(a).	Yes
20a	S5.C.5.b.vi(a)	Number of stormwater site plans reviewed during the reporting period? S5.C.5.b.vi(a)	84
21	S5.C.5.b.vi.(b)	Inspected, prior to clearing and construction, permitted development sites per S5.C.5.b.vi.(b)?	Yes
22	S5.C.5.b.vi.(c)	Inspected permitted development sites during construction to verify proper installation and maintenance of required erosion and sediment controls per S5.C.5.b.vi.(c)?	Yes
23	S5.C.5.b.vi.(d)	Inspected stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities and catch basins in new residential developments twice per 12-month period, with no less than four months between inspections, per S5.C.5.b.vi.(d)?	Yes
24	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Inspected permitted development sites upon completion of construction and prior to final approval or occupancy to ensure proper installation of stormwater facilities per S5.C.5.b.vi(e)?	Yes

25	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Verified that a maintenance plan is completed and responsibility for maintenance is assigned for stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities prior to final approval and occupancy being granted? (S5.C.5.b.vi(e))	Yes
26	S5.C.5.b.vi(e)	Number of enforcement actions taken during the reporting period? (Based on all construction and post-construction phase inspections at new development and redevelopment projects.) (S5.C.5.b.vi(b)- (e))	12
27	S5.C.5.b.vi.(f)	Achieved at least 80% of required construction-related inspections? (S5.C.5.b.vi.(f))	Yes
28	S5.C.5.b.vii	Made online links to Ecology's Construction Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent, the Industrial Stormwater General Permit Notice of Intent, and the registration requirements for Underground Injection Control (UIC) wells available to representatives of proposed new development and redevelopment? (S5.C.5.b.vii)	Yes
29	S5.C.5.b.viii	All staff whose primary job duties are implementing the program to control stormwater runoff from new development, redevelopment, and construction sites are trained to conduct these activities? (S5.C.5.b.viii)	Yes
30	S5.C.6.a	Continued to convene an interdisciplinary team to inform and assist in the development, progress, and influence of the stormwater planning program? (S5.C.6.a)	Yes
36	S5.C.6.c.i	Continue to design and implement local development-related codes, rules, standards, or other enforceable documents to minimize impervious surfaces, native vegetation loss, and stormwater runoff, where feasible? See S5.C.6.c.i. (Required annually)	Yes
37	S5.C.6.c.i.(a)	From the assessment described in S5.C.6.c.i. (a), did you identify any administrative or regulatory barriers to implementation of LID Principles or LID BMPs? (Required annually)	Yes

37a	S5.C.6.c.i.(a)	If yes, describe the barrier and the measures taken to address them.	It is still unclear what the full effects of the upzoning and code changes associated with Home In Tacoma housing initiative will be on the implementation of LID. In some ways, the code changes could inhibit LID by reducing setbacks and requiring larger overall building coverage area on residential lots. This could compete with site area available for LID facilities and street trees. But Home in Tacoma also has elements that increase density within existing urban development and enhances the flexibility of urban landscaping requirements which also contribute to LID strategies. The City is still in the process of evaluating potential updates to the Stormwater Management Manual in response to Home In Tacoma and developing strategies and incentives to make onsite stormwater management solutions (like green roofs, rain gardens, mature trees, and other green stormwater features) easier and more widespread for the anticipated wave of redevelopment that will occur.
39	S.5.C.6.d.i	Counties Only: Described in your SWMP how the watershed-scale stormwater plans (developed in the 2013-2019 Permit) are being used to inform S5.C.7 project prioritization and selection? (S.5.C.6.d.i)	Not Applicable
42	S5.C.7.c	Attach a list of planned, individual projects scheduled for implementation during this permit term for the purpose of meeting S5.C.7.d, with the information and formatting specified in Appendix 12? (S5.C.7.c)	Q42_SMED Project List 2024_Tac_42_0327202 5174311
44	S5.C.8.b	Updated inventory to identify commercial and industrial properties which have the potential to generate pollutants to the Permittee's MS4 per S5.C.8.b? (Required once every five years.)	Yes
44a	S5.C.8.a	Number of total sites identified for inventory?	1796

45	S5.C.8.a-d	Attach a summary of actions taken to implement the source control program per S5.C.8.a.-d.	Q45 2024 Summary of Actions ta_45_03272025212523
46	S5.C.8.b., c.	Attach a list of inspections per S5.C.8.b, organized by the business groups, noting the number of times each business was inspected, and if enforcement actions were taken, per S5.C.8.c.i.-v.	Q46 Tacoma_2024 Inspection Lis_46_03272025212523
47	S5.C.8.e.	Implemented an ongoing source control training program per S5.C.8.e?	Yes
48	S5.C.9.b	Continued to implement the regulatory mechanisms to effectively prohibit illicit discharges into the MS4 per S5.C.9.b.	Yes
50	S5.C.9.c.i	Implemented procedures for conducting illicit discharge investigations in accordance with S5.C.9.c.i?	Yes
50a	S5.C.9.c.i	Cite field screening methodology used in the Comments field.	In 2024, the City used two field screening methodologies to meet the goal of screening an average of 12% of the conveyance system each year. Each screening method is outlined in the Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Field Screening and Source Tracing Guidance Manual, May 2020 (IC-ID). 1) Video inspection 2) Base flow sampling – Base flow sampling was completed at selected outfalls. Screening methodologies were not changed but updated to include additional primary screening indicators for outfall base flow sampling.
51	S5.C.9.c.i(a)	Provide the percentage of MS4 screened in reporting year per S5.C.9.c.i(a). (Required to screen 12% each year.)	30
51a	S5.C.9.c.i(a)	Cite field screening techniques used to determine percent of MS4 screened.	Tacoma's percentage of MS4 screened is calculated using the linear feet of conveyance system screened compared to the total linear feet of conveyance system.
52	S5.C.9.c.ii	Describe how you publicized a hotline telephone number for public reporting of spills and other illicit discharges in the Comments field (S5.C.9.c.ii).	The City of Tacoma "hotline" is TacomaFIRST 311/SeeClickFix. Tacoma residents can utilize TacomaFIRST 311 via telephone, via website and through a SeeClickFix mobile app.

Residents can dial 311 within Tacoma city limits or (253) 591-5000 from anywhere else.

Residents can utilize TacomaFIRST 311 online resources to access more than 700 answers to commonly asked City-related questions, direct questions to City departments, and submit and track more than 70 types of requests for City services, including stormwater and receiving water pollution concerns.

TacomaFIRST 311 is widely advertised each year throughout the City by the following methods:

- On a variety of handouts available at City service locations and at various outreach events that the City attends. Field staff also hand out information on the TacomaFIRST 311 service.
- On the City's social media platforms (Facebook and Instagram) and on the City's website. TacomaFIRST 311 has its own page on the City's website.
<https://www.cityoftacoma.org/tacomafirst311>
- Utility bill inserts.
- TVTacoma and the biweekly Tacoma Report.
- EnviroTalk, a publication distributed three times per year and distributed to over 54,000 single-family and duplex home residents throughout the City.
- In each watershed on signage located on the main road entering and exiting each watershed throughout the City of Tacoma. The signs include the notice to "Report Spills and Dumping".

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When callers are placed on hold by City departments. • On City vehicles such as the “Call-2-Haul” trucks. • As part of the Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination training course for City staff. • Featured in educational outreach videos presented on multiple media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook and for virtual events like Tacoma OceanFest. • As part of Adopt-A-Drain sign-up and welcome packet. • Environmental Programs Group supplied neighborhood pet waste stations.
53	S5.C.9.c.iii	Implemented an ongoing illicit discharge training program for all municipal field staff per S5.C.9.c.iii?	Yes
54	S5.C.9.d	Updated an ongoing program to address illicit discharges, including spills, and illicit connections into the MS4 per S5.C.9.d?	Not Applicable
55	S5.C.9.e	Implemented an ongoing illicit discharge training program for all staff responsible for the procedures and program, per S5.C.9.e?	Yes
56	S5.C.9.f	Participated in a regional emergency response program, or implemented procedures to investigate and respond to spills and improper disposal? (S5.C.9.f)	Yes
57	S5.C.9.g	Attach a report with data describing the actions taken to characterize, trace, and eliminate each illicit discharge reported to, or investigated by, the permittee as described in S5.C.9.g. The submittal must include all of the applicable information and must follow the format described in Appendix 14.	AnnualReport2024_CityOfTacomaW_57_03272025213841
58	S5.C.10.a	Implemented maintenance standards that are as protective, or more protective, of facility function than those specified in the Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, or a Phase I program approved by Ecology? (S5.C.10.a)	Yes
60	S5.C.10.a	Applied a maintenance standard for a facility or facilities which do not have maintenance standards specified? If so, note in the Comments field what kinds of facilities are covered by this alternative standard. (S5.C.10.a)	Yes Comment: Contech Stormfilter, Filterra, MFS Media Filter, Silva Cell, CDS Swirl Separator, Energy Dissipator Manhole, Bayfilter, Oldcastle Biopod

61	S5.C.10.a.ii	Verified that maintenance was performed, per the schedule in S5.C.10.a.ii, when an inspection identified an exceedance of the maintenance standard.	Yes
61a	S5.C.10.a.ii	Attach documentation of maintenance time frame exceedances that were beyond the Permittee's control.	Q.61_2024_Maintenanc e Time Fra_61a_03272025220 221
63	S5.C.10.b.ii	Implemented an ongoing inspection program for stormwater facilities regulated by the Permittee per S5.C.10.b.ii.	Yes
63a	S5.C.10.b.iii	Are you using a reduced inspection frequency? (S5.C.10.b.iii)	Yes
63b	S5.C.10.b.iii	If using a reduced inspection frequency on stormwater facilities regulated by the Permittee for the first time during this permit cycle, attach documentation per S5.C.10.b.iii.	Not Applicable
64	S5.C.10.b.iv	Achieved at least 80% of inspections required? (S5.C.10.b.iv)	Yes
65	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of known stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities owned or operated by the Permittee? (S5.C.10.c.i)	571
65a	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of these BMPs/facilities inspected during the reporting period?? (S5.C.10.c.i)	571
65b	S5.C.10.c.i	Number of these BMPs/facilities for which maintenance was performed during the reporting period?? (S5.C.10.c.i)	106
66	S5.C.10.c.ii	If using reduced inspection frequency for municipally owned or operated stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities for the first time during this permit cycle, attach documentation per S5.C.10.c.ii.	Not Applicable
67	S5.C.10.c.iii	Conducted spot checks and inspections of potentially damaged stormwater treatment and flow control BMPs/facilities after major storm events? (S5.C.10.c.iii)	Not Applicable
68	S5.C.10.c.iv	Achieved at least 95% of required inspections per S5.C.10.c.iv?	Yes
69	(S5.C.10.d.i	Inspected catch basins owned or operated by the Permittee every year or used an alternative approach? (S5.C.10.d.i)	Yes
69a	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of known catch basins and inlets?	20209
69b	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of catch basins and inlets inspected during the reporting period?	19149
69c	(S5.C.10.d.i	Number of catch basins and inlets cleaned during the reporting period?	496
70	(S5.C.10.d.i	Attach documentation of alternative catch basin inspection approach, if used. (S5.C.10.d.i.)	Not Applicable
71	S5.C.10.d.ii	Disposed of decant water in accordance with the requirements in Appendix 6 – Street Waste Disposal. (S5.C.10.d.ii)	Yes
72	S5.C.10.e	Implemented practices, policies, and procedures to reduce stormwater impacts associated with runoff from all lands owned or maintained by the Permittee, and road maintenance activities under the functional control of the Permittee per S5.C.10.e.	Yes

78	S5.C.10.g	Implemented a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for all heavy equipment maintenance or storage yards, and material storage facilities, owned or operated by the Permittee in areas subject to this Permit that are not required to have coverage under an NPDES permit that authorizes stormwater discharges associated with the activity per S5.C.10.g?	Yes
79	S5.C.10.h	Implemented an ongoing training program for employees of the Permittee whose primary construction, operations or maintenance job functions may impact stormwater quality per S5.C.10.h?	Yes
80	S5.C.11	Did you choose to adopt one or more elements of a regional program? (S5.C.11)	Yes
80a	S5.C.11	If yes, list the elements, and the regional program.	Behavior Change Program: Adopt-a-Drain
81	S5.C.11.a.i	Attach description of public education and outreach general awareness efforts conducted, including your priority audiences and subject areas, per S5.C.11.a.i.	Q.81_2024_Reporting_Year_Tacom_81_03312025123014
85	S5.C.11.a.iii	Provided, partnered, or promoted stewardship opportunities to encourage resident or business participation in activities such as those described in S5.C.11.a.iii?	Yes
85a	S5.C.11.a.iii	Attach a list of stewardship opportunities.	Q.85a_2024_Reporting_Year_Taco_85a_03312025123014
86	S7.A	Complied with the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)-specific requirements identified in Appendix 2? (S7.A)	Not Applicable
86a	S7.A	List any requirements that were not met.	Not Applicable
87	S7.A	For TMDL listed in Appendix 2, attach a summary of relevant SWMP and Appendix 2 activities to address the applicable TMDL parameter(s). (S7.A)	Not Applicable
88	S8.A	Submitted payment for cost-sharing for Stormwater Action Monitoring (SAM) status and trends monitoring no later than December 1, 2024 (S8.A.1); and no later than August 15 of each subsequent year? (S8.A.2.a)	Yes
89	S8.A.2	Notified Ecology by December 1, 2024 which option you selected: S8.A.2.a, or S8.A.2.b?	Yes
90	S8.B.2	Submitted payment for cost-sharing for SAM effectiveness and source identification studies no later than December 1, 2024 (S8.B.1); and no later than August 15 of each subsequent year? (S8.B.2.a or S8.B.2.c)	Not Applicable
91	S8.B.2	Notified Ecology by December 1, 2024 which option you selected: S8.B.2.a, or S8.B.2.b, or S8.B.2.c?	Yes
94	S8.B.2.c.ii.(c)	If conducting a study per S.8.B.2.c, began full implementation of the effectiveness in accordance with the schedule in the approved QAPP, and submitted required reports? (S8.B.2.c.ii.(c))	Not Applicable

98	G3	Notified Ecology in accordance with G3 of any discharge into or from the Permittee's MS4 which could constitute a threat to human health, welfare or the environment? (G3)	Yes
99	G3.A	Took appropriate action to correct or minimize the threat to human health, welfare, and/or the environment per G3.A?	Yes
100	S4.F.1	Notified Ecology within 30 days of becoming aware that a discharge from the Permittee's MS4 caused or contributed to a known or likely violation of water quality standards in the receiving water? (S4.F.1)	No Comment: Tacoma did notify Ecology within 30 days of becoming aware in all cases except for one S4F notification that was submitted beyond the 30 day window in 2024. A G20 notification was submitted for the late S4F notification, see Q104.
101	S4.F.3.a	If requested, submitted an Adaptive Management Response report in accordance with S4.F.3.a?	Not Applicable
102	S4.F.3.d	Attach a summary of the status of implementation of any actions taken pursuant to S4.F.3 and the status of any monitoring, assessment, or evaluation efforts conducted during the reporting period? (S4.F.3.d)	Q102a_S4.F_Update_2024_Rprtg__102_03262025093201 Comment: This is a follow up status update for an Adaptive Management Response report initiated in a previous annual reporting year.
103	G20	Notified Ecology of the failure to comply with the permit terms and conditions within 30 days of becoming aware of the non-compliance? (G20)	Yes

104	G20	Number of non-compliance notifications (G20) provided in reporting year? List permit conditions described in non-compliance notification(s) in Comments field.	1 Comment: Following Ecology's request for further information regarding the spill of used motor oil to the Wheeler-Osgood Waterway documented in the ERTS report #730604 on May 1, 2024, it was discovered that the City had failed to submit the required S4.F Notification within the 30-day window required under the Permit. Tacoma subsequently submitted the S4.F Notification on November 26, 2024, within 30 days of becoming aware that the notification had not been previously submitted, to restore compliance with the permit requirement.
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I certify under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

John Burk

3/31/2025 1:17:16 PM

Signature

Date