Current activities

On-going monitoring

The WQFMP continues its long-term status and trends monitoring efforts which include continuous flow monitoring in three streams and one stormwater outfall, monthly water quality grab sampling in 15 streams and one stormwater outfall, and annual macroinvertebrate sampling in seven streams.

2nd Edition *State of the Island's Waters* report in progress!

In 2015 and 2016, the WQFMP's primary focus is data assessment to produce the next edition of the *State of the Island's Waters* report, tentatively scheduled for release by the end of 2016. These data include stream and nearshore sediment sampling data, targeted storm event sampling data, monthly status and trends monitoring data, annual stream macroinvertebrate sampling data, and continuous stream and stormwater flow monitoring data.

Stream Benthos and Hydrologic Data Evaluation

The City has contracted King County's Department of Natural Resources and Parks - Water and Land Resources Division to provide an in-depth assessment of the City's continuous flow and stream benthic macroinvertebrate monitoring data using metrics researched and developed by King County over the last 15 years. This project will compare flow metric results to land use/land cover within the contributing drainage basin and to stream benthic macroinvertebrate data to assess for flow alteration impacts to the stream benthos community. This methodology will credibly identify impacts from specific land uses or activities in Island watersheds and allow for comparison of the City's data to the rest of the Puget Sound Region.

Automated Flow Monitoring Station Retrofits/Upgrades

In an effort to improve safety for field staff and volunteers, data management efficiency, and data quality, the City is upgrading and retrofitting the City's four automated flow monitoring stations. In this 80% grant-funded endeavor, the City is upgrading the two remaining stations to ultrasonic downward-looking flow sensors which have proven to be significantly more reliable and less maintenance-heavy long-term than in-stream sensors. Additionally, all stations will be solar-powered and telemetered, allowing for remote desktop data download and management.