

## TECHNICAL MEMORANDUM

Prepared for: Andy Hartung, AIA  
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File No.: 3359-001/3032.001

Prepared by: Grette Associates, a division of Farallon Consulting L.L.C.  
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Re: Stormwater Manual: Minimum Requirement 8 - Wetland Assessment and Rating

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Grette Associates, a division of Farallon Consulting, L.L.C., is under contract with McGranahan Architects to assist with stormwater design support associated with Pierce College's Puyallup campus parking lot expansion project. The purpose of this memorandum is to summarize the wetland assessment of the known wetland (Wetland OS-1) situated immediately east of the intersection of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast and 7<sup>th</sup> Street Southeast (Pierce County parcel 0419032101; Figure 1).

**Figure 1. Map**



The City of Puyallup has requested an assessment be performed for the offsite wetland in response to stormwater design parameters outlined in the State’s stormwater manual, specifically Minimum Requirement 8 (MR-8) for wetland protection.

## 2 METHODS

Wetland OS-1 was visually assessment to document the general characteristics of the wetland.

MR-8 requires any wetland identified to receive water from a project needs to be rated using the Washington State Department of Ecology’s (Ecology) *Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western WA – 2014 Update: Version 2* (Hruby and Yahnke 2023). As such, Wetland OS-1 was rated using the current version of Ecology’s wetland rating system.

This assessment did not include a wetland delineation or preparation of critical areas report or similar document.

## 3 RESULTS

According to wetland rating system, Wetland OS-1 is classified as a Category III wetland that provides low habitat function (score of 5 habitat points). While this feature exhibits moderate water quality and hydrology functions, this wetland provides low habitat function largely due to its location within the landscape and being situated within a dense urban environment (Table 1; Attachment 1). As such, Wetland OS-1 likely provides limited wildlife habitat because it does not connect to undeveloped upland habitats compared to those wetland features in the vicinity of the project area (Figure 1).

Wetland OS-1 also appears to be one of several wetland features that appear to support Wildwood Creek. According to queried databases, Wildwood Creek originates just south of 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southeast and flows north through the Bradley Park wetland complex and through Wetland OS-1 before continuing west to Clarks Creek. During the assessment, Grette Associates did not observe a defined channel associated with Wildwood Creek.

During Grette Associates’ assessment, as well as queried databases, did not result in the identification of any habitats that would support any rare, endangered, threatened, or sensitive species.

**Table 1. Wetland rating and categorization summary**

Feature	Cowardin Class	HGM Class	Water Quality	Hydrology	Habitat	Total	Category <sup>1</sup>
Wetland A	PAB/SS/FO	Depressional	7	6	5	18	III

<sup>1</sup> Per Chapter 21.06 of Puyallup Municipal Code.

Per Puyallup Municipal Code (PMC) 21.06.930, assuming high land use, Category III wetlands that provide low habitat function (5 points or less) are subject to an 80-foot buffer.

If you have any questions on this assessment, please contact me at (253) 573-9300, or by email at [chadw@gretteassociates.com](mailto:chadw@gretteassociates.com).

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Wallin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chad" being more prominent than the last name "Wallin".

Chad Wallin, PWS  
Biologist  
GRETTE ASSOCIATES, *a division of Farallon Consulting L.L.C.*

References:

Hruby, T. & Yahnke, A. 2023. Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington: 2014 Update (Version 2). Publication #23-06-009. Washington Department of Ecology.

# ATTACHMENT 1

## WETLAND RATING FORM

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

## RATING SUMMARY – Western Washington

Name of wetland (or ID #): Offsite Wetland 1 Date of site visit: 02/20/2024  
 Rated by Rachel Quindlen Trained by Ecology?  Yes \_\_\_ No Date of training 04/2021

HGM Class used for rating Depressional Wetland has multiple HGM classes?  Y \_\_\_ N

**NOTE: Form is not complete without the required figures (figures can be combined).**

Source of base aerial photo/map Google Earth Pro

**OVERALL WETLAND CATEGORY III** (based on functions  or special characteristics \_\_\_)

### 1. Category of wetland based on FUNCTIONS

\_\_\_ Category I – Total score = 23 - 27

\_\_\_ Category II – Total score = 20 - 22

Category III – Total score = 16 - 19

\_\_\_ Category IV – Total score = 9 - 15

FUNCTION	Improving Water Quality			Hydrologic			Habitat			
	<i>Circle the appropriate ratings</i>									
Site Potential	H	<u>M</u>	L	H	<u>M</u>	L	H	<u>M</u>	L	
Landscape Potential	H	<u>M</u>	L	<u>H</u>	M	L	H	M	<u>L</u>	
Value	<u>H</u>	M	L	H	M	<u>L</u>	H	<u>M</u>	L	
Score Based on Ratings	<u>7</u>			<u>6</u>			<u>5</u>			<b>TOTAL</b> <u>18</u>

**Score for each function based on three ratings**  
(order of ratings is not important)

- 9 = H, H, H
- 8 = H, H, M
- 7 = H, H, L
- 7 = H, M, M
- 6 = H, M, L
- 6 = M, M, M
- 5 = H, L, L
- 5 = M, M, L
- 4 = M, L, L
- 3 = L, L, L

### 2. Category based on SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS of wetland

CHARACTERISTIC	CATEGORY
Estuarine	I II
Wetland of High Conservation Value	I
Bog	I
Mature Forest	I
Old Growth Forest	I
Coastal Lagoon	I II
Interdunal	I II III IV
None of the above	

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

**Maps and figures required to answer questions correctly for Western Washington  
Depressional Wetlands**

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	D 1.3, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	D 1.4, H 1.2	
Location of outlet ( <i>can be added to map of hydroperiods</i> )	D 1.1, D 4.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	D 2.2, D 5.2	
Map of the contributing basin	D 4.3, D 5.3	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	D 3.1, D 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	D 3.3	

**Riverine Wetlands**

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Ponded depressions	R 1.1	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	R 2.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	R 1.2, R 4.2	
Width of unit vs. width of stream ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	R 4.1	
Map of the contributing basin	R 2.2, R 2.3, R 5.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	R 3.1	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	R 3.2, R 3.3	

**Lake Fringe Wetlands**

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	L 1.1, L 4.1, H 1.1, H 1.4	
Plant cover of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	L 1.2	
Boundary of area within 150 ft of the wetland ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	L 2.2	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	L 3.1, L 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	L 3.3	

**Slope Wetlands**

Map of:	To answer questions:	Figure #
Cowardin plant classes	H 1.1, H 1.4	
Hydroperiods	H 1.2	
Plant cover of <b>dense</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants	S 1.3	
Plant cover of <b>dense, rigid</b> trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants ( <i>can be added to figure above</i> )	S 4.1	
Boundary of 150 ft buffer ( <i>can be added to another figure</i> )	S 2.1, S 5.1	
1 km Polygon: Area that extends 1 km from entire wetland edge - including polygons for accessible habitat and total habitat	H 2.1, H 2.2, H 2.3	
Screen capture of map of 303(d) listed waters in basin (from Ecology website)	S 3.1, S 3.2	
Screen capture of list of TMDLs for WRIA in which unit is found (from web)	S 3.3	

## HGM Classification of Wetlands in Western Washington

For questions 1-7, the criteria described must apply to the entire unit being rated.

If the hydrologic criteria listed in each question do not apply to the entire unit being rated, you probably have a unit with multiple HGM classes. In this case, identify which hydrologic criteria in questions 1-7 apply, and go to Question 8.

1. Are the water levels in the entire unit usually controlled by tides except during floods?

NO – go to 2

YES – the wetland class is **Tidal Fringe** – go to 1.1

- 1.1 Is the salinity of the water during periods of annual low flow below 0.5 ppt (parts per thousand)?

**NO – Saltwater Tidal Fringe (Estuarine)**

**YES – Freshwater Tidal Fringe**

If your wetland can be classified as a Freshwater Tidal Fringe use the forms for **Riverine** wetlands. If it is Saltwater Tidal Fringe, it is an **Estuarine** wetland and is not scored. This method **cannot** be used to score functions for estuarine wetlands.

2. The entire wetland unit is flat, and precipitation is the only source (>90%) of water to it. Groundwater and surface water runoff are NOT sources of water to the unit.

NO – go to 3

YES – The wetland class is **Flats**

If your wetland can be classified as a Flats wetland, use the form for **Depressional** wetlands.

3. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

The vegetated part of the wetland is on the shores of a body of permanent open water (without any plants on the surface at any time of the year) at least 20 ac (8 ha) in size,

At least 30% of the open water area is deeper than 6.6 ft (2 m).

NO – go to 4

YES – The wetland class is **Lake Fringe (Lacustrine Fringe)**

4. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

The wetland is on a slope (slope can be very gradual),

The water flows through the wetland in one direction (unidirectional) and usually comes from seeps. It may flow subsurface, as sheet flow, or in a swale without distinct banks,

The water leaves the wetland **without being impounded**.

NO – go to 5

YES – The wetland class is **Slope**

**NOTE:** Surface water does not pond in these type of wetlands except occasionally in very small and shallow depressions or behind hummocks (depressions are usually <3 ft diameter and less than 1 ft deep).

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

5. Does the entire wetland unit **meet all** of the following criteria?

- The unit is in a valley, or stream channel, where it gets inundated by overbank flooding from that stream or river,
- The overbank flooding occurs at least once every 2 years.

NO – go to 6

YES – The wetland class is **Riverine**

**NOTE:** The Riverine unit can contain depressions that are filled with water when the river is not flooding

6. Is the entire wetland unit in a topographic depression in which water ponds, or is saturated to the surface, at some time during the year? This means that any outlet, if present, is higher than the interior of the wetland.

NO – go to 7

YES – The wetland class is **Depressional**

7. Is the entire wetland unit located in a very flat area with no obvious depression and no overbank flooding? The unit does not pond surface water more than a few inches. The unit seems to be maintained by high groundwater in the area. The wetland may be ditched but has no obvious natural outlet.

NO – go to 8

YES – The wetland class is **Depressional**

8. Your wetland unit seems to be difficult to classify and probably contains several different HGM classes. For example, seeps at the base of a slope may grade into a riverine floodplain, or a small stream within a Depressional wetland has a zone of flooding along its sides. **GO BACK AND IDENTIFY WHICH OF THE HYDROLOGIC REGIMES DESCRIBED IN QUESTIONS 1-7 APPLY TO DIFFERENT AREAS IN THE UNIT** (make a rough sketch to help you decide). Use the following table to identify the appropriate class to use for the rating system if you have several HGM classes present within the wetland unit being scored.

**NOTE:** Use this table only if the class that is recommended in the second column represents 10% or more of the total area of the wetland unit being rated. If the area of the HGM class listed in column 2 is less than 10% of the unit; classify the wetland using the class that represents more than 90% of the total area.

HGM classes within the wetland unit being rated	HGM class to use in rating
Slope + Riverine	Riverine
Slope + Depressional	Depressional
Slope + Lake Fringe	Lake Fringe
Depressional + Riverine along stream within boundary of depression	Depressional
Depressional + Lake Fringe	Depressional
Riverine + Lake Fringe	Riverine
Salt Water Tidal Fringe and any other class of freshwater wetland	Treat as ESTUARINE

If you are still unable to determine which of the above criteria apply to your wetland, or if you have **more than 2 HGM classes** within a wetland boundary, classify the wetland as Depressional for the rating.



Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

**DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS**  
**Water Quality Functions - Indicators that the site functions to improve water quality**

<b>D 1.0. Does the site have the potential to improve water quality?</b>		
<b>D 1.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:</b>		<b>2</b>
Wetland is a depression or flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key) with no surface water leaving it (no outlet). points = 3		
Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream or ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet. points = 2		
Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 1		
Wetland is a flat depression (QUESTION 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch. points = 1		
<b>D 1.2. The soil 2 in. below the surface (or duff layer) is true clay or true organic (use NRCS definitions). Yes = 4 No = 0</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>D 1.3. Characteristics and distribution of persistent plants (Emergent, Scrub-shrub, and/or Forested Cowardin classes):</b>		<b>3</b>
Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 95% of area points = 5		
Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants > 1/2 of area points = 3		
Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants ≥ 1/10 of area points = 1		
Wetland has persistent, ungrazed plants < 1/10 of area points = 0		
<b>D 1.4. Characteristics of seasonal ponding or inundation:</b>		<b>4</b>
<i>This is the area that is ponded for at least 2 months. See description in manual.</i>		
Area seasonally ponded is > 1/2 total area of wetland points = 4		
Area seasonally ponded is ≥ 1/4 total area of wetland points = 2		
Area seasonally ponded is < 1/4 total area of wetland points = 0		
<b>Total for D 1</b>	<b>Add the points in the boxes above</b>	<b>9</b>

**Rating of Site Potential** If score is: 12-16 = H X 6-11 = M 0-5 = L *Record the rating on the first page*

<b>D 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the water quality function of the site?</b>		
<b>D 2.1. Does the wetland unit receive stormwater discharges?</b>	Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>D 2.2. Is &gt; 10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate pollutants?</b>	Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>D 2.3. Are there septic systems within 250 ft of the wetland?</b>	Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>0</b>
<b>D 2.4. Are there other sources of pollutants coming into the wetland that are not listed in questions D 2.1-D 2.3?</b>		<b>0</b>
Source _____	Yes = 1 No = 0	
<b>Total for D 2</b>	<b>Add the points in the boxes above</b>	<b>2</b>

**Rating of Landscape Potential** If score is: 3 or 4 = H X 1 or 2 = M 0 = L *Record the rating on the first page*

<b>D 3.0. Is the water quality improvement provided by the site valuable to society?</b>		
<b>D 3.1. Does the wetland discharge directly (i.e., within 1 mi) to a stream, river, lake, or marine water that is on the 303(d) list?</b>	Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>0</b>
<b>D 3.2. Is the wetland in a basin or sub-basin where an aquatic resource is on the 303(d) list?</b>	Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>D 3.3. Has the site been identified in a watershed or local plan as important for maintaining water quality? (Answer YES if there is a TMDL in development or in effect for the basin in which the unit is found.)</b>	Yes = 2 No = 0	<b>2</b>
<b>Total for D 3</b>	<b>Add the points in the boxes above</b>	<b>3</b>

**Rating of Value** If score is: X 2-4 = H 1 = M 0 = L *Record the rating on the first page*

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<b>DEPRESSIONAL AND FLATS WETLANDS</b>	
<b>Hydrologic Functions - Indicators that the site functions to reduce flooding and stream degradation</b>	
<b>D 4.0. Does the site have the potential to reduce flooding and erosion?</b>	
<b>D 4.1. Characteristics of surface water outflows from the wetland:</b> Wetland is a depression or flat depression with no surface water leaving it (no outlet) points = 4 Wetland has an intermittently flowing stream/ditch, OR highly constricted permanently flowing outlet points = 2 Wetland is a flat depression (question 7 on key), whose outlet is a permanently flowing ditch points = 1 Wetland has an unconstricted, or slightly constricted, surface outlet that is permanently flowing points = 0	<b>2</b>
<b>D 4.2. Depth of storage during wet periods:</b> Estimate the height of ponding above the bottom of the outlet. For wetlands with no outlet, measure from the surface of permanent water or if dry, the deepest part. Marks of ponding are 3 ft or more above the surface or bottom of outlet points = 7 Marks of ponding between 2 ft to < 3 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 5 Marks are at least 0.5 ft to < 2 ft from surface or bottom of outlet points = 3 The wetland is a "headwater" wetland points = 3 Wetland is flat but has small depressions on the surface that trap water points = 1 Marks of ponding less than 0.5 ft (6 in) points = 0	<b>5</b>
<b>D 4.3. Contribution of the wetland to storage in the watershed:</b> Estimate the ratio of the area of upstream basin contributing surface water to the area of the wetland unit itself. The area of the basin is less than 10 times the area of the unit points = 5 The area of the basin is 10 to 100 times the area of the unit points = 3 The area of the basin is more than 100 times the area of the unit points = 0 Entire wetland is in the Flats class points = 5	<b>3</b>
<b>Total for D 4</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Rating of Site Potential</b> If score is: <u>12-16 = H</u> <u>X 6-11 = M</u> <u>0-5 = L</u> <span style="float: right;"><i>Record the rating on the first page</i></span>	
<b>D 5.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support hydrologic functions of the site?</b>	
<b>D 5.1. Does the wetland receive stormwater discharges?</b> Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>D 5.2. Is &gt;10% of the area within 150 ft of the wetland in land uses that generate excess runoff?</b> Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>D 5.3. Is more than 25% of the contributing basin of the wetland covered with intensive human land uses (residential at &gt;1 residence/ac, urban, commercial, agriculture, etc.)?</b> Yes = 1 No = 0	<b>1</b>
<b>Total for D 5</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Rating of Landscape Potential</b> If score is: <u>X 3 = H</u> <u>1 or 2 = M</u> <u>0 = L</u> <span style="float: right;"><i>Record the rating on the first page</i></span>	
<b>D 6.0. Are the hydrologic functions provided by the site valuable to society?</b>	
<b>D 6.1. Is the unit in a landscape that has flooding problems?</b> Choose the description that best matches conditions around the wetland unit being rated. Do not add points. <u>Choose the highest score if more than one condition is met.</u> The wetland captures surface water that would otherwise flow downgradient into areas where flooding has damaged human or natural resources (e.g., houses or salmon redds): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flooding occurs in a sub-basin that is immediately downgradient of unit. points = 2</li> <li>• Surface flooding problems are in a sub-basin farther downgradient. points = 1</li> <li>• Flooding from groundwater is an issue in the sub-basin. points = 1</li> <li>• The existing or potential outflow from the wetland is so constrained by human or natural conditions that the water stored by the wetland cannot reach areas that flood. <i>Explain why</i> _____ points = 0</li> <li>• There are no problems with flooding downstream of the wetland. <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">points = 0</span></li> </ul>	<b>0</b>
<b>D 6.2. Has the site been identified as important for flood storage or flood conveyance in a regional flood control plan?</b> Yes = 2 No = 0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total for D 6</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Rating of Value</b> If score is: <u>2-4 = H</u> <u>1 = M</u> <u>X 0 = L</u> <span style="float: right;"><i>Record the rating on the first page</i></span>	

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

**These questions apply to wetlands of all HGM classes.**

**HABITAT FUNCTIONS - Indicators that site functions to provide important habitat**

H 1.0. Does the site have the potential to provide habitat?

H 1.1. Structure of plant community: Indicators are Cowardin classes and strata within the Forested class. Check the Cowardin plant classes in the wetland. Up to 10 patches may be combined for each class to meet the threshold of ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac, or more than 10% of the unit if it is smaller than 2.5 ac.

4

- Aquatic bed 4 structures or more: points = 4
- Emergent 3 structures: points = 2
- Scrub-shrub (areas where shrubs have > 30% cover) 2 structures: points = 1
- Forested (areas where trees have > 30% cover) 1 structure: points = 0

*If the unit has a Forested class, check if:*

- The Forested class has 3 out of 5 strata (canopy, sub-canopy, shrubs, herbaceous, moss/groundcover) that each cover 20% within the Forested polygon

H 1.2. Hydroperiods

2

Check the types of water regimes (hydroperiods) present within the wetland. The water regime has to cover more than 10% of the wetland if the unit is < 2.5 ac, or ¼ ac if the unit is at least 2.5 ac to count (see text for descriptions of hydroperiods).

- Permanently flooded or inundated 4 or more types present: points = 3
- Seasonally flooded or inundated 3 types present: points = 2
- Occasionally flooded or inundated 2 types present: points = 1
- Saturated only 1 type present: points = 0

Permanently flowing stream or river in, or adjacent to, the wetland

Intermittently or seasonally flowing stream in, or adjacent to, the wetland

Lake Fringe wetland 2 points

Freshwater tidal wetland 2 points

H 1.3. Richness of plant species

1

Count the number of plant species in the wetland that cover at least 10 ft<sup>2</sup>.

Different patches of the same species can be combined to meet the size threshold and you do not have to name the species. **Do not include Eurasian milfoil, reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, Canada thistle**

- If you counted: > 19 species points = 2
- 5 - 19 species points = 1
- < 5 species points = 0

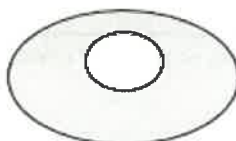
H 1.4. Interspersion of habitats

3

Decide from the diagrams below whether interspersions among Cowardin plants classes (described in H 1.1), or the classes and unvegetated areas (can include open water or mudflats) is high, moderate, low, or none. If you have four or more plant classes or three classes and open water, the rating is always high.



None = 0 points



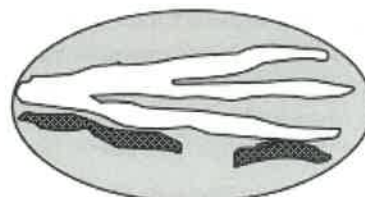
Low = 1 point



Moderate = 2 points



All three diagrams in this row are High = 3 points



Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

<p>H 1.5. Special habitat features:</p> <p>Check the habitat features that are present in the wetland. The number of checks is the number of points.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large, downed, woody debris within the wetland (&gt; 4 in. diameter and 6 ft long).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Standing snags (dbh &gt; 4 in.) within the wetland</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Undercut banks are present for at least 6.6 ft (2 m) and/or overhanging plants extend at least 3.3 ft (1 m) over open water or a stream (or ditch) in, or contiguous with the wetland, for at least 33 ft (10 m)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Stable steep banks of fine material that might be used by beaver or muskrat for denning (&gt; 30 degree slope) OR signs of recent beaver activity are present (cut shrubs or trees that have not yet weathered where wood is exposed)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> At least ¼ ac of thin-stemmed persistent plants or woody branches are present in areas that are permanently or seasonally inundated (structures for egg-laying by amphibians)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Invasive plants cover less than 25% of the wetland area in every stratum of plants (see H 1.1 above for the list of strata and H 1.5 in the manual for the list of aggressive plant species)</p>		3
Total for H 1	Add the points in the boxes above	13

Rating of Site Potential If score is: 15-18 = H  7-14 = M  0-6 = L Record the rating on the first page

<p>H 2.0. Does the landscape have the potential to support the habitat functions of the site?</p>		
<p>H 2.1. Accessible habitat (include only habitat polygons accessible from the wetland.)</p> <p>Calculate: % relatively undisturbed habitat <u>0</u> + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] <u>0</u> = <u>0</u> %</p> <p>Total accessible habitat is: <i>* all available habitat polygons are separated from the wetland unit by dense residential housing, paved residential roads, or busy 2-4 lane streets.</i></p> <p>&gt; 1/3 (33.3%) of 1 km Polygon points = 3</p> <p>20-33% of 1 km Polygon points = 2</p> <p>10-19% of 1 km Polygon points = 1</p> <p>&lt; 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0</p>		0
<p>H 2.2. Total habitat in 1 km Polygon around the wetland.</p> <p>Calculate: % relatively undisturbed habitat <u>28</u> + [(% moderate and low intensity land uses)/2] <u>4</u> = <u>32</u> %</p> <p>Total habitat &gt; 50% of Polygon points = 3</p> <p>Total habitat 10-50% and in 1-3 patches points = 2</p> <p>Total habitat 10-50% and &gt; 3 patches points = 1</p> <p>Total habitat &lt; 10% of 1 km Polygon points = 0</p>		1
<p>H 2.3. Land use intensity in 1 km Polygon:</p> <p>&gt; 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity land use points = (- 2)</p> <p>≤ 50% of 1 km Polygon is high intensity points = 0</p>		- 2
Total for H 2	Add the points in the boxes above	- 1

Rating of Landscape Potential If score is: 4-6 = H  1-3 = M  < 1 = L Record the rating on the first page

<p>H 3.0. Is the habitat provided by the site valuable to society?</p>		
<p>H 3.1. Does the site provide habitat for species valued in laws, regulations, or policies? Choose only the highest score that applies to the wetland being rated.</p> <p>Site meets ANY of the following criteria: points = 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It has 3 or more Priority Habitats within 100 m (see next page)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It provides habitat for Threatened or Endangered species (any plant or animal on the state or federal lists)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It is mapped as a location for an individual WDFW Priority Species</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It is a Wetland of High Conservation Value as determined by the Department of Natural Resources data</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> It has been categorized as an important habitat site in a local or regional comprehensive plan, in a Shoreline Master Plan, or in a watershed plan</li> </ul> <p>Site has 1 or 2 Priority Habitats (listed on next page) within 100 m <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">points = 1</span></p> <p>Site does not meet any of the criteria above points = 0</p>		1

Rating of Value If score is: 2 = H  1 = M  0 = L Record the rating on the first page

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

## WDFW Priority Habitats

See complete descriptions of Priority Habitats listed by WDFW, and the counties in which they can be found, in: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 2008 (current year, as revised). [Priority Habitat and Species List](#).<sup>133</sup> This list was updated for consistency with guidance from WDFW.

This question is independent of the land use between the wetland unit and the Priority Habitat. All vegetated wetlands are by definition a Priority Habitat but are not included in this list because they are addressed by this rating system.

Count how many of the following Priority Habitats are within 330 ft (100 m) of the wetland unit:

- **Aspen Stands:** Pure or mixed stands of aspen greater than 1 ac (0.4 ha).
- **Biodiversity Areas and Corridors:** Areas of habitat that are relatively important to various species of native fish and wildlife. This habitat automatically counts if mapped on the PHS online map within 100m of the wetland. If not mapped, a determination can be made in the field.
- **Caves:** A naturally occurring cavity, recess, void, or system of interconnected passages under the earth in soils, rock, ice, or other geological formations and is large enough to contain a human.
- **Cliffs:** Greater than 25 ft (7.6 m) high and occurring below 5000 ft elevation.
- **Fresh Deepwater:** Lands permanently flooded with freshwater, including environments where surface water is permanent and often deep, so that water, rather than air, is the principal medium within which the dominant organisms live. Substrate does not support emergent vegetation. Do not select if Instream habitat is also present, or if the entire Deepwater feature is included in the wetland unit being rated (such as a pond with a vegetated fringe).
- **Herbaceous Balds:** Variable size patches of grass and forbs on shallow soils over bedrock.
- **Instream:** The combination of physical, biological, and chemical processes and conditions that interact to provide functional life history requirements for instream fish and wildlife resources. Do not select if Fresh Deepwater habitat is also present.
- **Nearshore:** Relatively undisturbed nearshore habitats. These include Coastal Nearshore, Open Coast Nearshore, and Puget Sound Nearshore.
- **Old-growth/Mature forests:** Old-growth west of Cascade crest – Stands of at least 2 tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) > 32 in. (81 cm) diameter at breast height (dbh) or > 200 years of age. Mature forests – Stands with average diameters exceeding 21 in. (53 cm) dbh; crown cover may be less than 100%; decay, decadence, numbers of snags, and quantity of large downed material is generally less than that found in old-growth; 80-200 years old west of the Cascade crest.

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<sup>133</sup> <http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00165/wdfw00165.pdf>

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

- **Oregon White Oak:** Woodland stands of pure oak or oak/conifer associations where canopy coverage of the oak component is important. For single oaks or oak stands <0.4 ha in urban areas, [WDFW's Management Recommendations for Oregon White Oak](#)<sup>134</sup> provides more detail for determining if they are Priority Habitats
- **Riparian:** The area adjacent to freshwater aquatic systems with flowing or standing water that contains elements of both aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems which mutually influence each other.
- X** **Snags and Logs:** Trees are considered snags if they are dead or dying and exhibit sufficient decay characteristics to enable cavity excavation/use by wildlife. Priority snags have a diameter at breast height of > 20 in. (51 cm) in western Washington and are > 6.5 ft (2 m) in height. Priority logs are > 12 in. (30 cm) in diameter at the largest end, and > 20 ft (6 m) long.
- **Talus:** Homogenous areas of rock rubble ranging in average size 0.5 - 6.5 ft (0.15 - 2.0 m), composed of basalt, andesite, and/or sedimentary rock, including riprap slides and mine tailings. May be associated with cliffs.
- **Westside Prairies:** Herbaceous, non-forested plant communities that can either take the form of a dry prairie or a wet prairie.

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<sup>134</sup> <https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/00030/wdfw00030.pdf>  
Wetland Rating System for Western WA: 2014 Update  
Rating Form – Version 2, July 2023

Wetland name or number Offsite Wetland 1

## CATEGORIZATION BASED ON SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

Wetland Type	Category
<i>Check off any criteria that apply to the wetland. Circle the category when the appropriate criteria are met.</i>	
<p><b>SC 1.0. Estuarine wetlands</b></p> <p>Does the wetland meet the following criteria for Estuarine wetlands?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The dominant water regime is tidal,</li> <li>— Vegetated, and</li> <li>— With a salinity greater than 0.5 ppt</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to <b>SC 1.1</b>    No = <b>Not an estuarine wetland</b></p>	
<p><b>SC 1.1.</b> Is the wetland within a National Wildlife Refuge, National Park, National Estuary Reserve, Natural Area Preserve, State Park or Educational, Environmental, or Scientific Reserve designated under WAC 332-30-151?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 1.2</b></p>	Cat. I
<p><b>SC 1.2.</b> Is the wetland unit at least 1 ac in size and meets at least two of the following three conditions?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 10% cover of non-native plant species. If non-native species are <i>Spartina</i>, see chapter 4.8 in the manual.</li> <li>— At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or unmowed grassland.</li> <li>— The wetland has at least two of the following features: tidal channels, depressions with open water, or contiguous freshwater wetlands.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No = <b>Category II</b></p>	Cat. I  Cat. II
<p><b>SC 2.0. Wetlands of High Conservation Value (WHCV)</b></p> <p><b>SC 2.1.</b> Does the wetland overlap with any known or historical rare plant or rare &amp; high-quality ecosystem polygons on the WNHP <a href="#">Data Explorer</a>?<sup>135</sup></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 2.2</b></p> <p><b>SC 2.2.</b> Does the wetland have a rare plant species, rare ecosystem (e.g., plant community), or high-quality common ecosystem that may qualify the site as a WHCV? Contact WNHP for resources to help determine the presence of these elements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – <a href="#">Submit data to WA Natural Heritage Program for determination</a>,<sup>136</sup> Go to <b>SC 2.3</b>    No = <b>Not a WHCV</b></p> <p><b>SC 2.3.</b> Did WNHP review the site within 30 days and determine that it has a rare plant or ecosystem that meets their criteria?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No = <b>Not a WHCV</b></p>	Cat. I
<p><b>SC 3.0. Bogs</b></p> <p>Does the wetland (or any part of the unit) meet both the criteria for soils and vegetation in bogs? <i>Use the key below. If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></p> <p><b>SC 3.1.</b> Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soil horizons, either peats or mucks, that compose 16 in. or more of the first 32 in. of the soil profile?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to <b>SC 3.3</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 3.2</b></p> <p><b>SC 3.2.</b> Does an area within the wetland unit have organic soils, either peats or mucks, that are less than 16 in. deep over bedrock, or an impermeable hardpan such as clay or volcanic ash, or that are floating on top of a lake or pond?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to <b>SC 3.3</b>    No = <b>Not a bog</b></p> <p><b>SC 3.3.</b> Does an area with peats or mucks have more than 70% cover of mosses at ground level, AND at least a 30% cover of plant species listed in Table 4?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I bog</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 3.4</b></p> <p><b>NOTE:</b> If you are uncertain about the extent of mosses in the understory, you may substitute that criterion by measuring the pH of the water that seeps into a hole dug at least 16 in. deep. If the pH is less than 5.0 and the plant species in Table 4 are present, the wetland is a bog.</p> <p><b>SC 3.4.</b> Is an area with peats or mucks forested (&gt; 30% cover) with Sitka spruce, subalpine fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, lodgepole pine, quaking aspen, Engelmann spruce, or western white pine, AND any of the species (or combination of species) listed in Table 4 provide more than 30% of the cover under the canopy?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I bog</b>    No = <b>Not a bog</b></p>	Cat. I

<sup>135</sup> <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/NHPdata>

<sup>136</sup> [https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp\\_nh\\_sighting\\_form.pdf](https://www.dnr.wa.gov/Publications/amp_nh_sighting_form.pdf)

Wetland name or number Opposite Wetland 1

<p><b>SC 4.0. Forested Wetlands</b></p> <p>Does the wetland have at least <u>1 contiguous acre</u> of forest that meets one of these criteria for the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife’s forests as Priority Habitats? <i>If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its functions.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— <b>Old-growth forests</b> (west of Cascade crest): Stands of at least two tree species, forming a multi-layered canopy with occasional small openings; with at least 8 trees/ac (20 trees/ha) that are at least 200 years of age OR have a diameter at breast height (dbh) of 32 in. (81 cm) or more.</li> <li>— <b>Mature forests</b> (west of the Cascade Crest): Stands where the largest trees are 80- 200 years old OR the species that make up the canopy have an average diameter (dbh) exceeding 21 in. (53 cm).</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No = <b>Not a forested wetland for this section</b></p>	<p><b>Cat. I</b></p>
<p><b>SC 5.0. Wetlands in Coastal Lagoons</b></p> <p>Does the wetland meet all of the following criteria of a wetland in a coastal lagoon?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The wetland lies in a depression adjacent to marine waters that is wholly or partially separated from marine waters by sandbanks, gravel banks, shingle, or, less frequently, rocks</li> <li>— The lagoon in which the wetland is located contains ponded water that is saline or brackish (&gt; 0.5 ppt) during most of the year in at least a portion of the lagoon (<i>needs to be measured near the bottom</i>)</li> <li>— The lagoon retains some of its surface water at low tide during spring tides</li> </ul> <p>Yes – Go to <b>SC 5.1</b>    No = <b>Not a wetland in a coastal lagoon</b></p> <p><b>SC 5.1. Does the wetland meet all of the following three conditions?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— The wetland is relatively undisturbed (has no diking, ditching, filling, cultivation, grazing), and has less than 20% cover of aggressive, opportunistic plant species (see list of species in H 1.5 in the manual).</li> <li>— At least ¾ of the landward edge of the wetland has a 100 ft buffer of shrub, forest, or un-grazed or un-mowed grassland.</li> <li>— The wetland is larger than 1/10 ac (4350 ft<sup>2</sup>)</li> </ul> <p>Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No = <b>Category II</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat. I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat. II</b></p>
<p><b>SC 6.0. Interdunal Wetlands</b></p> <p>Is the wetland west of the 1889 line (also called the Western Boundary of Upland Ownership or WBUO)? <i>If you answer YES, you will still need to rate the wetland based on its habitat functions.</i></p> <p>In practical terms that means the following geographic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>— Long Beach Peninsula: Lands west of SR 103</li> <li>— Grayland-Westport: Lands west of SR 105</li> <li>— Ocean Shores-Copalis: Lands west of SR 115 and SR 109 and Ocean Shores Blvd SW, including lands west of E. Oceans Shores Blvd SW.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;">Yes – Go to <b>SC 6.1</b>    No = <b>Not an interdunal wetland for rating</b></p> <p><b>SC 6.1. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger and scores an 8 or 9 for the habitat functions on the form (rates H,H,H or H,H,M for the three aspects of function)?</b>  <span style="float: right;">Yes = <b>Category I</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 6.2</b></span></p> <p><b>SC 6.2. Is the wetland 1 ac or larger, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is 1 ac or larger?</b>  <span style="float: right;">Yes = <b>Category II</b>    No – Go to <b>SC 6.3</b></span></p> <p><b>SC 6.3. Is the unit between 0.1 and 1 ac, or is it in a mosaic of wetlands that is between 0.1 and 1 ac?</b>  <span style="float: right;">Yes = <b>Category III</b>    No = <b>Category IV</b></span></p>	<p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat I</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat. II</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat. III</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;"><b>Cat. IV</b></p>
<p><b>Category of wetland based on Special Characteristics</b></p> <p>If you answered No for all types, enter “Not Applicable” on Summary Form</p>	



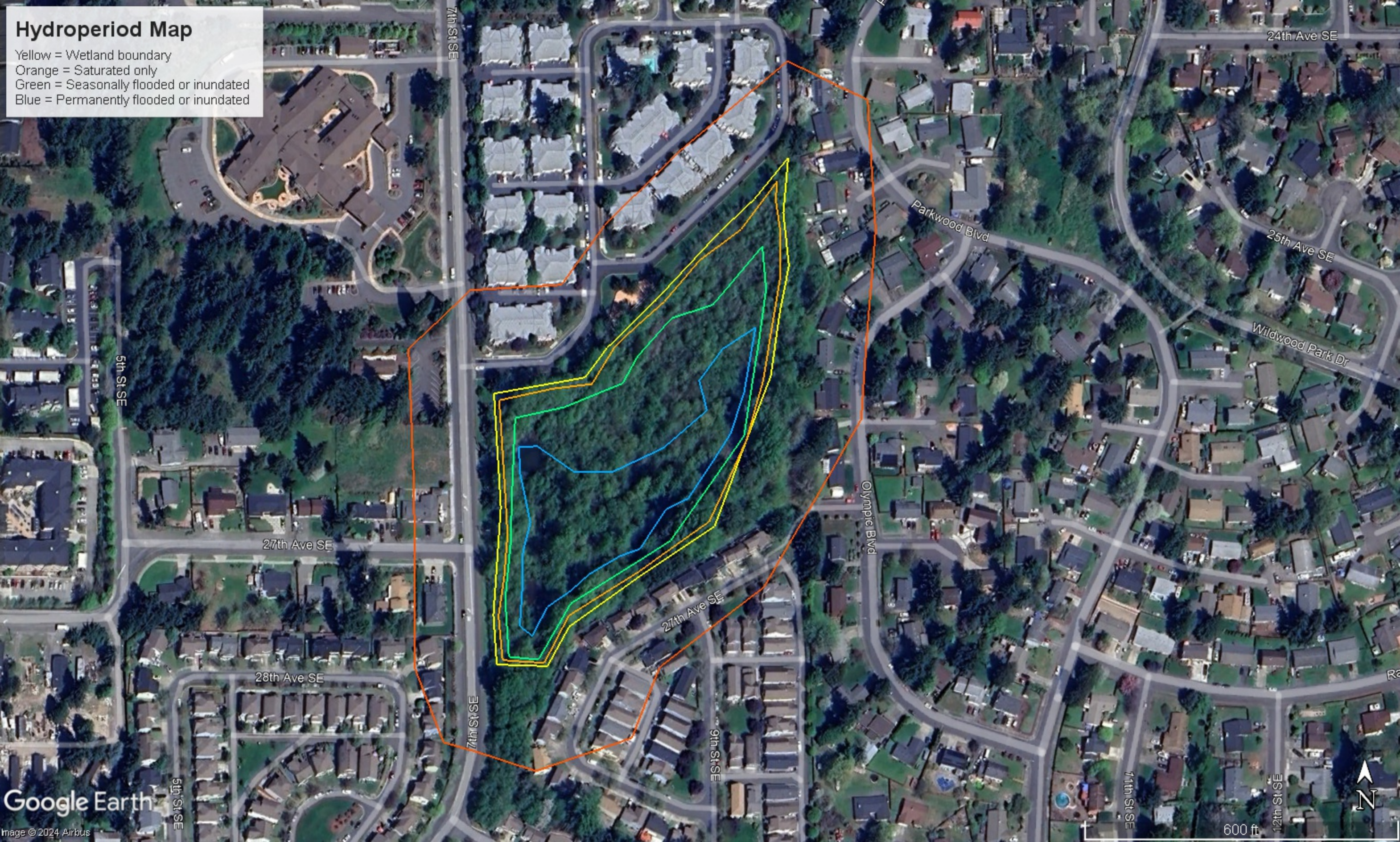
# Cowardin Map

- Yellow = Wetland boundary
- Light Brown = Forested (3 strata)
- Green = Shrub/scrub
- Blue = Aquatic Bed



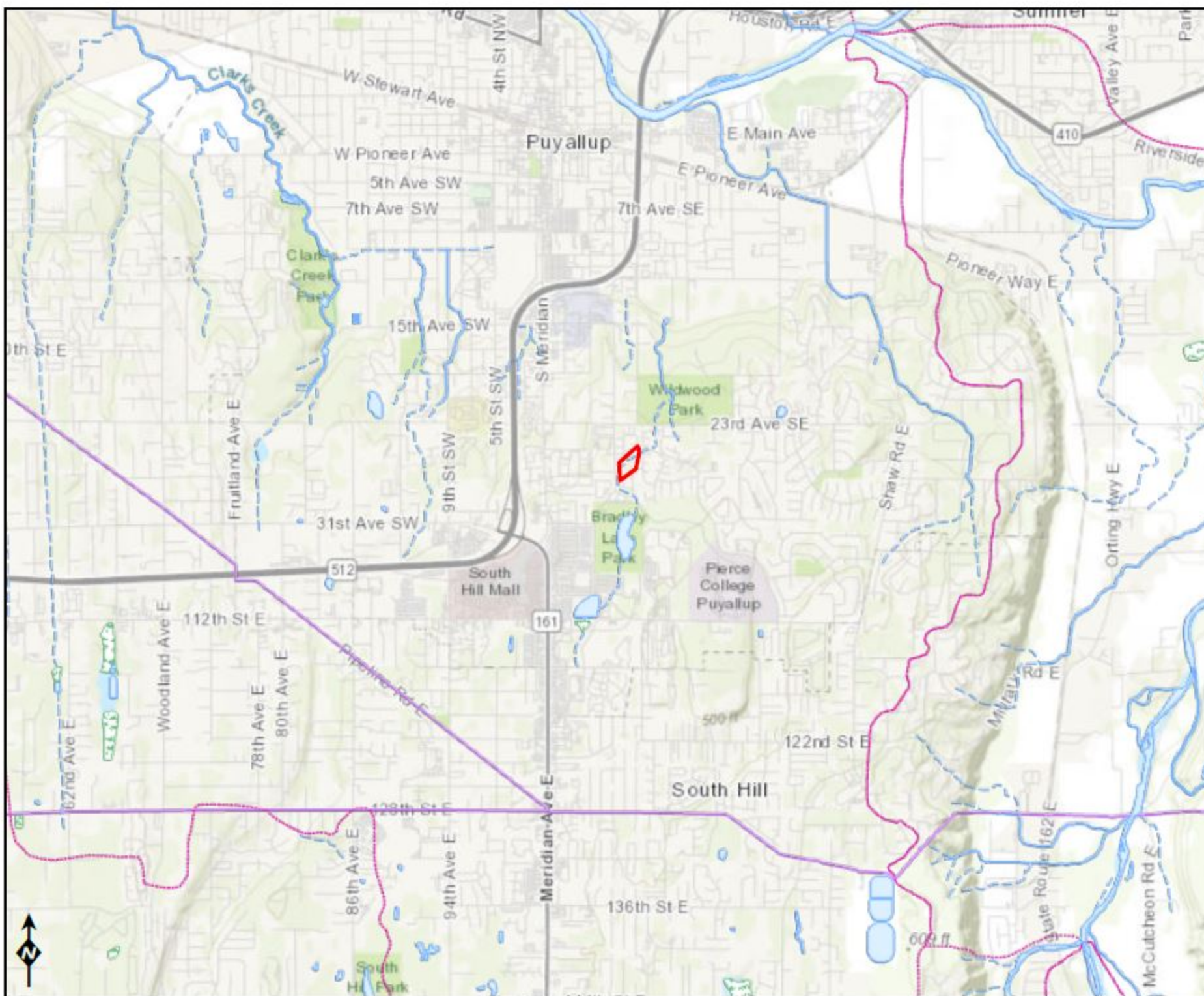
# Hydroperiod Map

Yellow = Wetland boundary  
Orange = Saturated only  
Green = Seasonally flooded or inundated  
Blue = Permanently flooded or inundated



600 ft

# Contributing Basin Map



## National Hydrography Dataset

- NHD Watercourses
- Stream/river (perennial)
  - Stream (intermittent)

- NHD Waterbodies
- Lake/pond/reservoir
  - Swamp/marsh
  - Canal/ditch
  - Ice mass

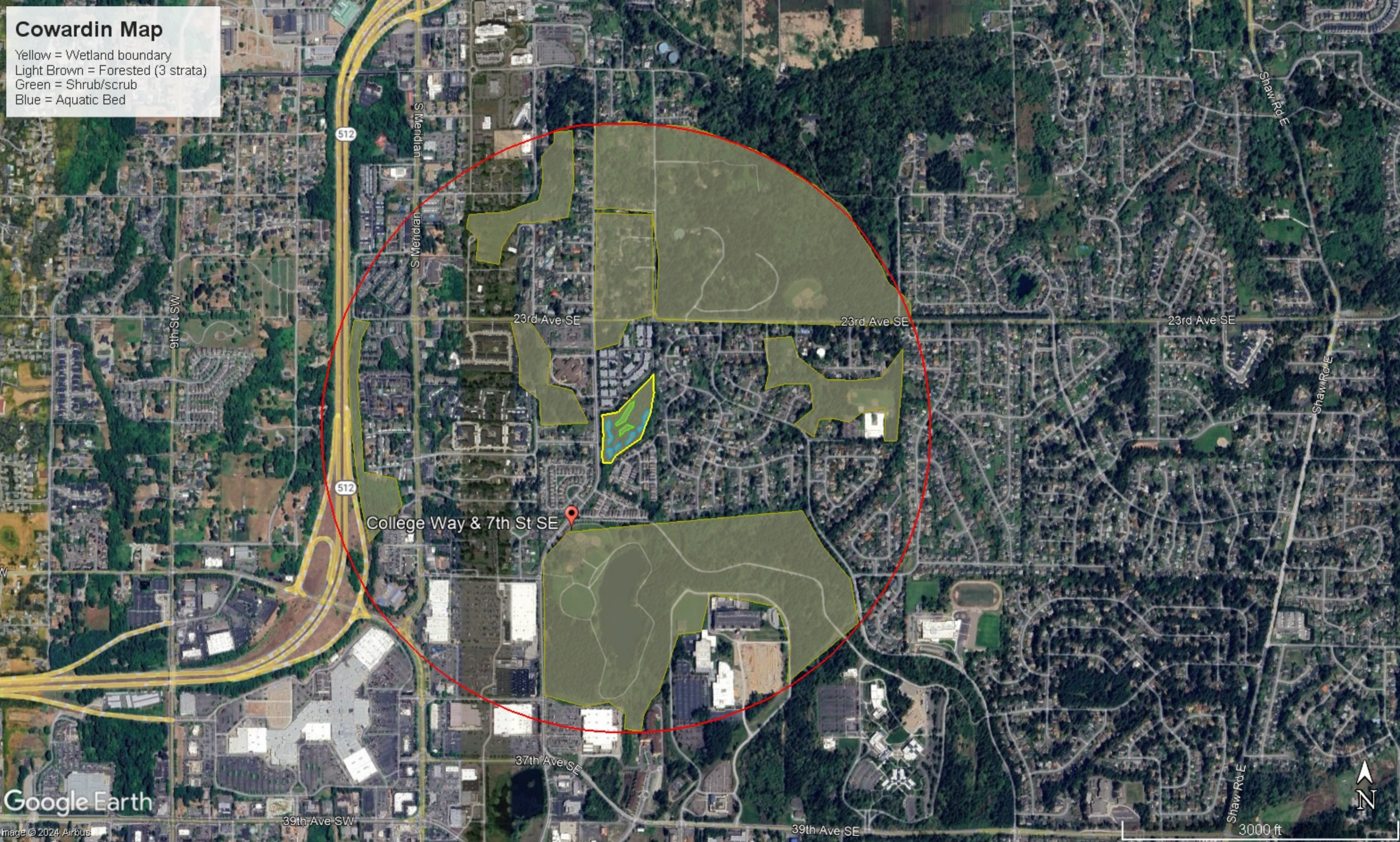
- NHD Areas
- Large river
  - Rapids
  - Foreshore
  - Canal/ditch

## Subbasins (12 digit HUCs)

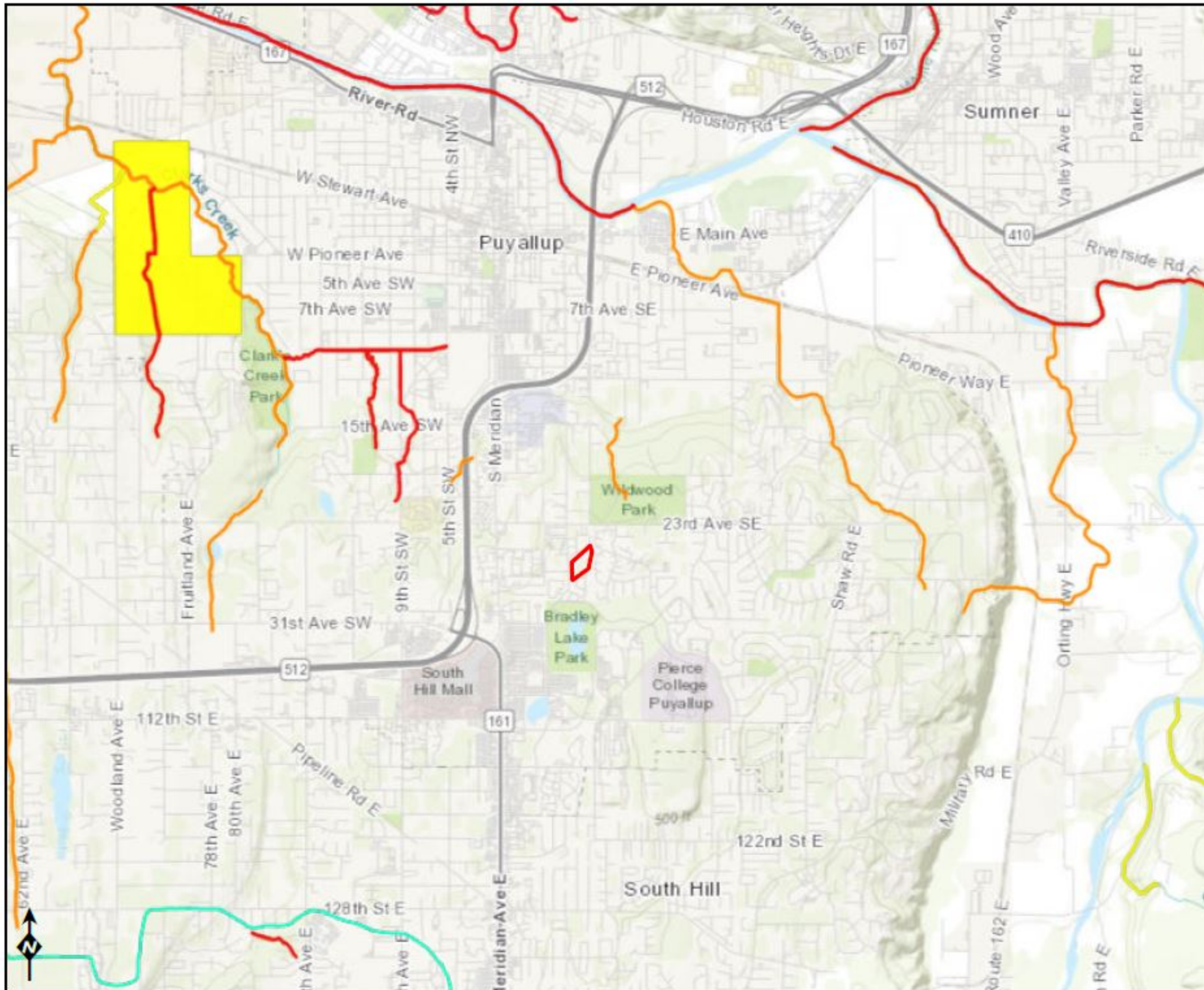
- HUC boundary

# Cowardin Map

- Yellow = Wetland boundary
- Light Brown = Forested (3 strata)
- Green = Shrub/scrub
- Blue = Aquatic Bed



# 303d Map



## Assessed Water/Sediment

### Water

- Category 5 - 303d
- Category 4C
- Category 4B
- Category 4A
- Category 2
- Category 1

### Sediment

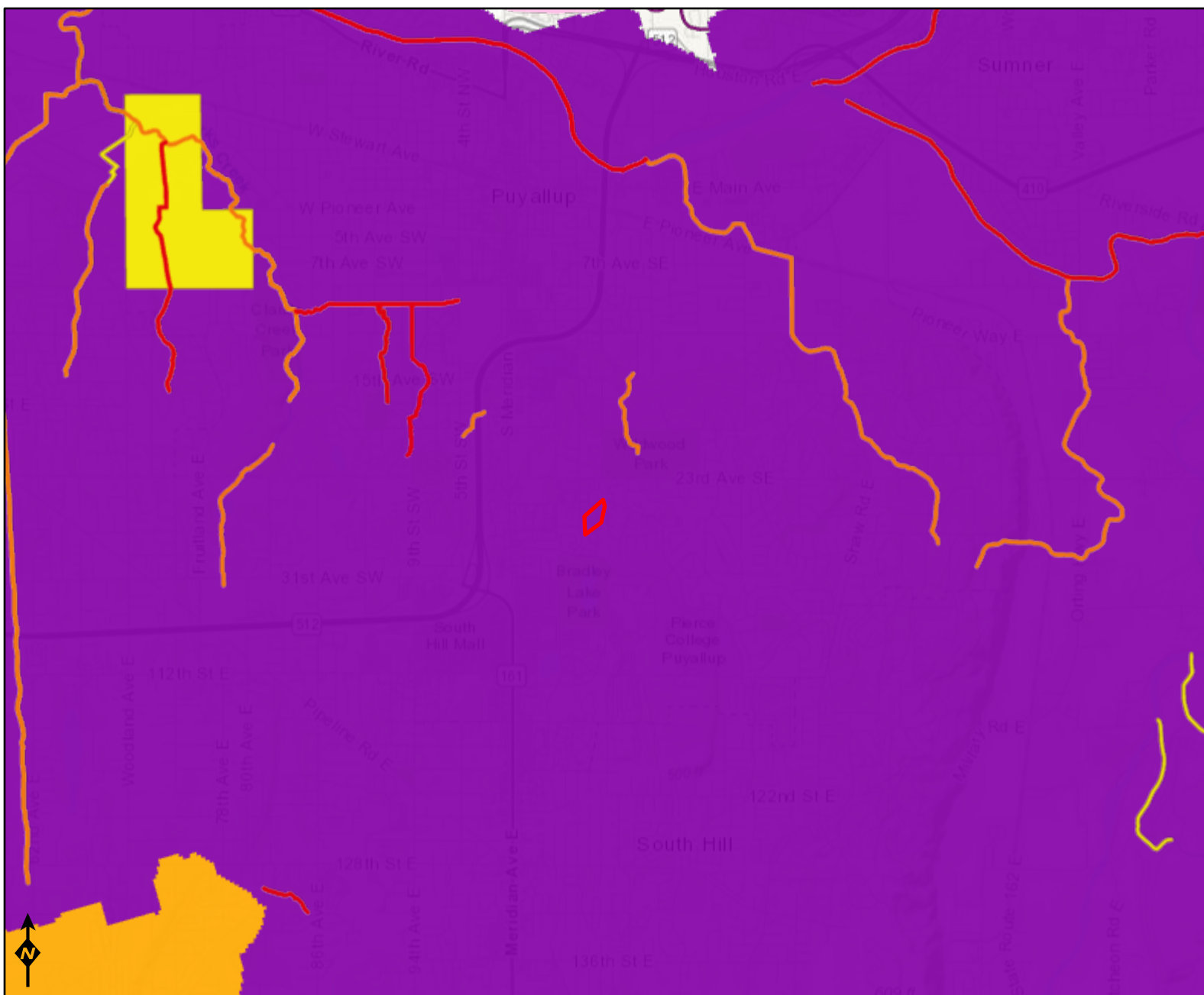
- Category 5 - 303d
- Category 4C
- Category 4B
- Category 4A
- Category 2
- Category 1

### Water Resource Inventory Areas

- WRIA boundary









# TMDL Map









## Assessed Water/Sediment



### Water

-  Category 5 - 303d
-  Category 4C
-  Category 4B
-  Category 4A
-  Category 2
-  Category 1

### Sediment

-  Category 5 - 303d
-  Category 4C
-  Category 4B
-  Category 4A
-  Category 2
-  Category 1

## WQ Improvement Projects

-  Approved
-  In Development

## Water Quality Standards

-  All Standards

## Water Resource Inventory Areas

-  WRIA boundary

## Subbasins (8 digit HUCs)

-  HUC boundary