

# Monitoring & Adaptive Management

Passport to 2044: Comprehensive Plan  
Update Workshop Series

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Tara Newman

SENIOR PLANNER – NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

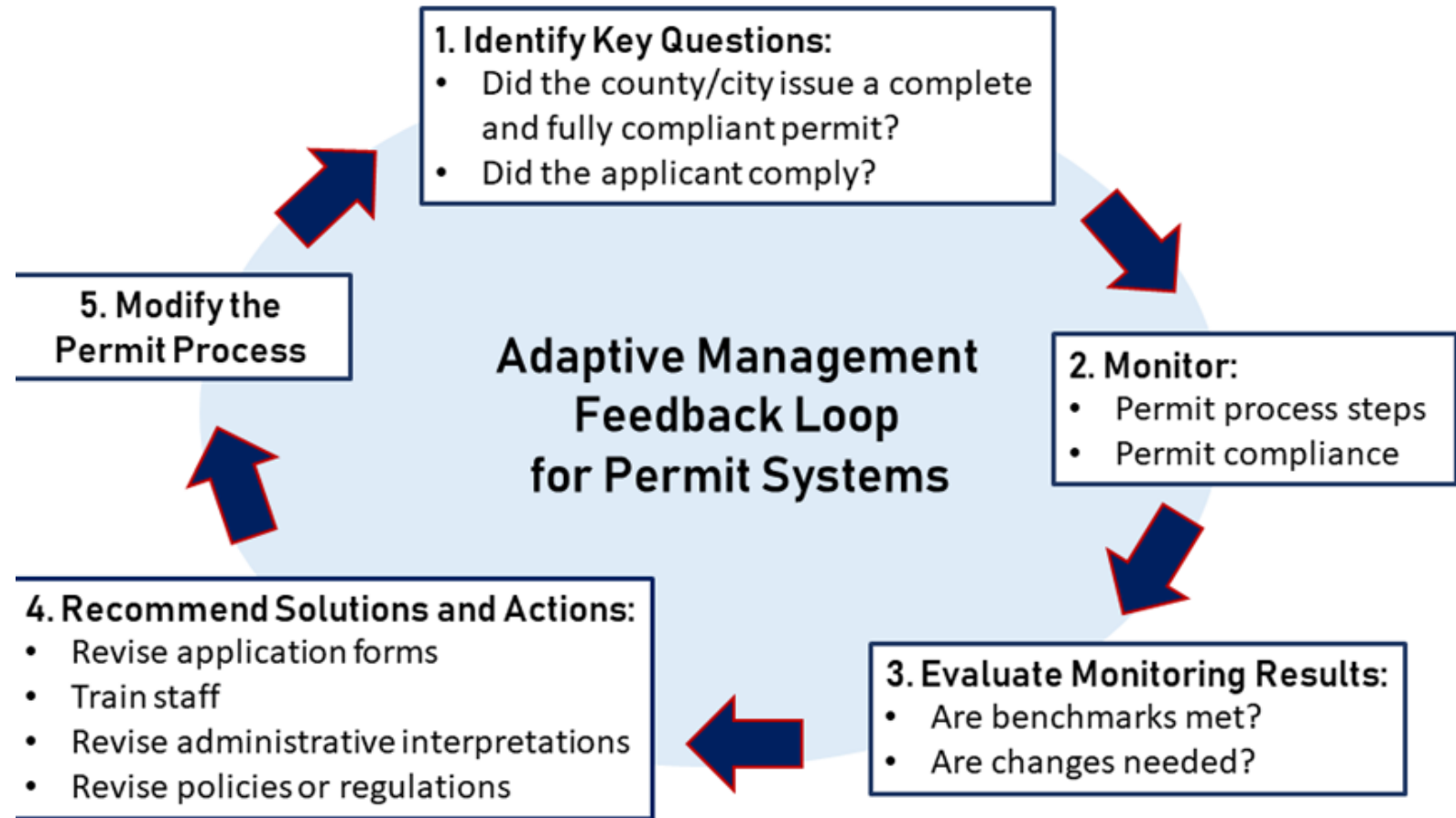
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Washington State  
Department of  
**Commerce**

# Monitoring & Adaptive Management

A systematic process to continually evaluate and improve the effectiveness of critical areas policies, regulations, and practices by learning from feedback loops and the outcomes of implementation.



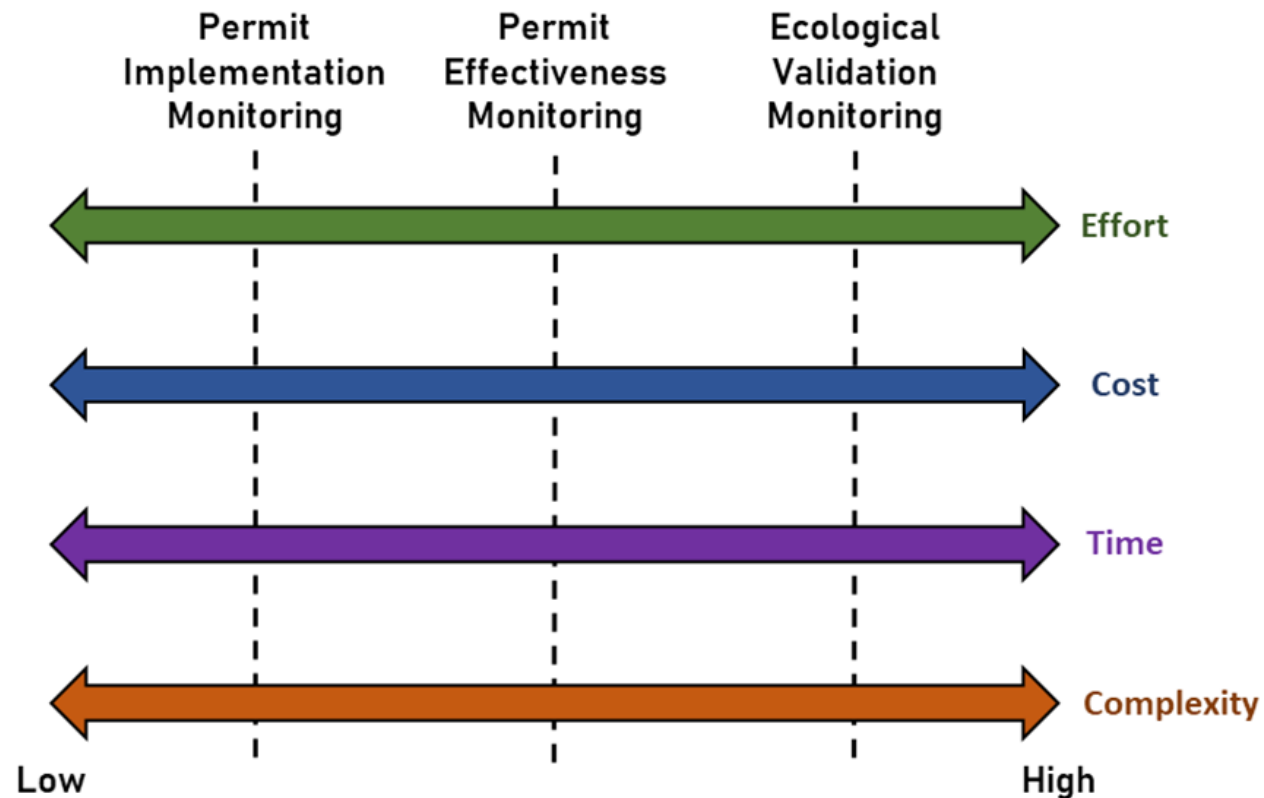
# Why Monitoring & Adaptive Management?

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- **Critical areas program that is fair, effective, efficient, successful**
  - Are regulations achieving their goals for the community?
  - Improve quality and speed of permitting
  - Transparency in the permit process
  - Reduce risk from land use impacts
  - Improved ecological outcomes

# Types of Monitoring

- **Permit Implementation**
  - Ensures that regulations are followed each time a permit is issued
    - Did the local government issue a permit consistent with regulations?
    - Did the projects as built comply with all permit conditions?
- **Permit effectiveness**
  - Ensures that regulations are implemented consistently over time



# Developing a Monitoring & Adaptive Management Program

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1. Determine the Reasons for Monitoring for Adaptive Management
2. Establish Key Objectives and Study Questions
3. Design the Monitoring Program
4. Determine the Monitoring Time Frame
5. Evaluate Results and Make Recommendations

# Adaptive Management Strategies

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- Create a better training program for staff
- Educate applicants and property owners about the permit process
- Improve the application process and forms
- Improve the monitoring reporting process
- Refine development regulations so they are easier to apply consistently and correctly

# Resources and Funding for Monitoring & Adaptive Management

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- **Local Monitoring & Adaptive Management Financing**
  - Integrate monitoring into permit review process and use permit fees to pay for ongoing work
- **State and Federal Funding Resources**
  - The National Estuary Program
  - Ecology Grants for Shoreline Master Program Periodic Reviews
- **Commerce's Critical Areas Handbook & Webinars**
  - Chapter 7
  - 2021 Critical Areas Monitoring & Adaptive Management Webinar Series
  - <https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/growth-management/growth-management-topics/critical-areas/>



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# Thank you!

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