

# Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1365 HB	<b>Title:</b> Puget Sound water quality
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## Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Agency Name	2023-25		2025-27		2027-29	
	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total	GF- State	Total
Local Gov. Courts						
Loc School dist-SPI						
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.					
Local Gov. Total						

## Estimated Operating Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25				2025-27				2027-29			
	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total	FTEs	GF-State	NGF-Outlook	Total
Department of Ecology	14.0	4,076,920	4,076,920	4,111,220	14.0	4,056,920	4,056,920	4,091,220	14.0	4,056,920	4,056,920	4,091,220
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>4,076,920</b>	<b>4,076,920</b>	<b>4,111,220</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>4,056,920</b>	<b>4,056,920</b>	<b>4,091,220</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>4,056,920</b>	<b>4,056,920</b>	<b>4,091,220</b>

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

## Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total	FTEs	Bonds	Total
Department of Ecology	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Agency Name	2023-25			2025-27			2027-29		
	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total	FTEs	GF-State	Total
Local Gov. Courts									
Loc School dist-SPI									
Local Gov. Other	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.								
Local Gov. Total									

## Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

Department of Ecology	Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.
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**Phone:**  
(360) 742-2239

**Date Published:**  
Final 2/13/2023

# Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

<b>Bill Number:</b> 1365 HB	<b>Title:</b> Puget Sound water quality	<b>Agency:</b> 461-Department of Ecology
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## Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

### Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

### Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
<b>Account</b>					
General Fund-State 001-1	2,038,460	2,038,460	4,076,920	4,056,920	4,056,920
Water Quality Permit Account-State 176-1	17,150	17,150	34,300	34,300	34,300
<b>Total \$</b>	2,055,610	2,055,610	4,111,220	4,091,220	4,091,220

### Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

**Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.**

*The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.*

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

Legislative Contact: Megan McPhaden	Phone: 360-786-7114	Date: 02/07/2023
Agency Preparation: Leslie Connelly	Phone: 360-628-4381	Date: 02/10/2023
Agency Approval: Erik Fairchild	Phone: 360-407-7005	Date: 02/10/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 02/13/2023

## Part II: Narrative Explanation

### II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

*Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.*

Under current law, chapter 90.48 RCW, Ecology issues required National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) wastewater discharge permits to regulate discharges from municipal wastewater treatment facilities. Ecology issued a Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit, effective January 1, 2022, that requires covered municipal wastewater treatment plants to monitor and report on discharges, implement a nitrogen optimization plan, and conduct a nutrient reduction evaluation. Discharge and reclaimed water permits issued by Ecology to domestic wastewater treatment facilities require notification to Ecology via telephone within 24 hours and by letter within 5 days of any sanitary sewer overflow of untreated sewage or mixtures of untreated sewage and stormwater. Entities that are not permitted by Ecology are not subject to the permit requirement to notify Ecology of any untreated sewage spills. Ecology does not permit tribal or federal treatment plants.

In the 2021-23 biennium, Ecology also administers the Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program, with funding of \$9 million in the 2021-23 capital budget, to provide grants to municipalities in Puget Sound for wastewater nutrient reduction planning and optimization projects.

This bill adds a new section to the Water Pollution Control Act (chapter 90.48 RCW); adds a new section to chapter 43.21A RCW; and creates a new section.

Section 2 adds a new section to the Water Pollution Control Act.

Section 2(1) would require municipal wastewater system operators that discharge untreated sewage or untreated stormwater and sewage into state waters to provide a detailed report to Ecology of all untreated sewage, and mixtures of untreated sewage and stormwater by February 1st of each year, covering the discharges during the previous calendar year. The report must include the location, estimated volume, impacts to coliform levels and other water quality metrics, and any beach closures or other recreational use impacts resulting from the discharge.

Section 2(2) would require Ecology, by July 1st each year, to submit an annual report to the legislature summarizing the impacts of the previous year's discharges of untreated sewage into Puget Sound. Ecology would also be required to provide the report to major news outlets and post it on its website.

Section 3(1) would establish the Office of Puget Sound Water Quality within Ecology. The office would provide technical assistance to local governments and other municipal wastewater treatment system operators discharging nutrients into Puget Sound to support efforts to reduce nutrient discharges into Puget Sound, identify funding opportunities, assist operators with grant and loan opportunities, apply for federal grants, and collaborate with the Puget Sound Partnership and other applicable state agencies.

Section 3(2) would require the office to make grants to fund wastewater nutrient discharge reduction projects on an annual basis.

### II. B - Cash receipts Impact

*Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

### II. C - Expenditures

*Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.*

The expenditure impact to Ecology under this bill is estimated to be greater than \$50,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 and ongoing to implement the requirements of sections 2(2) and 3.

## Section 2 – Annual Reporting

Section 2(1) would require municipal wastewater system operators to provide a detailed report to Ecology of all discharges of untreated sewage, and mixtures of untreated sewage and stormwater by February 1st of each year. Ecology assumes this requirement would apply to all approximately 314 permitted municipal wastewater treatment plant permits in Washington, and that the first report would be due February 1, 2024.

Section 2(2) would require Ecology to post all reports on its website by July 1, 2024, and each year thereafter. Ecology would need to develop a webpage, review accessibility of the reports submitted, upload materials to the webpage, create a focus sheet to explain the webpage, and create a map or other visualization tool to support public understanding of the information. The following positions would be required for the web page creation and maintenance:

0.01 FTE Communications Consultant (CC) 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing to build and maintain the webpage and map visualization tool.

0.01 FTE Community Outreach and Environmental Education Specialist (COEES) 3 in FY 2024 and ongoing to review reports for accessibility and create an annual focus sheet to explain the webpage to the public.

0.01 FTE Administrative Assistant (AA) 3 in FY 2024 and ongoing to upload materials to the webpage.

Section 2(2) would also require Ecology to prepare an annual report summarizing the impacts of the previous year's discharges of untreated sewage in Puget Sound as reported by the permittees. There are currently 58 municipal wastewater treatment plants permitted by Ecology that discharge to the Salish Sea. Ecology assumes each facility would submit a report and Ecology would summarize the reports and any other available relevant information such as beach or shellfish bed closures in the annual summary report. Ecology has two regions in Puget Sound (Northwest Region and Southwest Region) that would need to coordinate in drafting the report.

Ecology would need 0.1 FTE Environmental Specialist (ES) 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing to prepare the report summarizing the previous year's discharges of untreated sewage in Puget Sound.

## Section 3 – Office of Puget Sound Water Quality

Section 3 would establish the Office of Puget Sound Water Quality within Ecology.

Ecology assumes the new office would require staff to implement the administration, communication, and management components of the office, estimated as follows:

1.0 FTE EMS in FY 2024 and ongoing to oversee the office and provide leadership with partners and stakeholders.

1.0 FTE WMS 2 in FY 2024 and ongoing for management and supervision of office staff for technical assistance and administration of the grant program.

1.0 FTE Administrative Assistant 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing to provide support to the Office Director and staff.

1.0 FTE Communications Consultant 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing to organize and control communications, public relations, and work with stakeholders.

1.0 FTE Environmental Planner 5 in FY 2024 and ongoing to act as the office policy and legislative lead, support state policy and coordination with other state agencies.

Section 3 (1) would require staff to provide technical assistance to local government and municipal wastewater treatment operators in support of reducing nutrient discharges into Puget Sound. Staff would also be responsible for identifying funding opportunities including grant and loan opportunities for local government and municipal wastewater treatment operators discharging into Puget Sound and apply for federal grants and loans that are eligible for nutrient reduction work. Staff would collaborate with the Puget Sound Partnership and other state agencies to coordinate funding opportunities within the state.

Ecology assumes this would require ongoing support beginning in FY 2024 for 58 wastewater treatment plants currently discharging to Puget Sound.

1.0 FTE Environmental Engineer 5 in FY 2024 and ongoing to provide technical assistance.

0.50 FTE Environmental Planner 4 in FY 2024 and ongoing to coordinate funding opportunities, apply for grants, and collaborate with the other state agencies.

Section 3 (2) would require staff to develop and implement a new annual Puget Sound nutrient reduction financial assistance program for discharge reduction projects with priority given to the projects that demonstrate the most cost-effective and efficient reduction of nutrient municipal wastewater discharges. Ecology assumes this would be an ongoing annual grant program starting in FY 2024.

Ecology assumes we would develop program funding guidelines for this new financial assistance program. It is assumed funding guidelines, including eligibility, prioritization factors, grant timelines, etc. would be modeled after the funding guidelines for the existing Water Quality Combined Funding and Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program. Workload to establish guidelines would be accomplished in FY 2024 as part of the staffing described below. Ecology assumes rulemaking would not be required, nor is explicit authority for rulemaking provided in the bill.

Ecology estimates there would be approximately 20-30 new nutrient reduction grants each year of the approximately 58 municipal wastewater treatment plants permitted by Ecology that discharge to the Salish Sea. Ecology assumes staff would be needed to manage 20-30 new nutrient reduction grants to wastewater treatment plants discharging to Puget Sound each year, beginning in FY 2024. Ecology assumes each grant would take 2-3 years to complete. Based on Ecology's experience managing the existing Water Quality Combined Funding and Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program, we estimate the following FTEs would be needed to manage, oversee, and administer the new nutrient reduction grant program and projects as follows:

0.50 FTE Environmental Planner 4 and 1.0 FTE Environmental Planner 3 starting in FY 2024 as nutrient reduction experts that manage the new Puget Sound nutrient reduction financial assistance program to ensure the highest priority and cost-effective projects will be funded.

1.0 FTE Environmental Engineer 3 starting in FY 2024 to review project proposals and design documents to ensure appropriate technology application and outcomes.

1.0 FTE Environmental Engineer 3 starting in FY 2024 for project management and direct project oversight, technical assistance, and outcomes management.

2.0 FTE Environmental Specialist 4 starting in FY 2024 as financial managers that oversee agreement development, funding conditions, and quality assurance and control of reimbursements that assure fiscal accountability. These staff also perform tracking and reporting.

In addition, Ecology estimates \$20,000 in FY 2024 and FY 2025, and \$10,000 in FY 2026 and ongoing to establish and

maintain the grant program in the agency's systems.

Ecology assumes the grant funding would be in the capital budget similar to the current Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program.

SUMMARY: The expenditure impact to Ecology under this bill is:

Section 2(2) Annual Reporting is estimated to require:  
 FY 2024 and ongoing: \$17,150 and 0.15 FTEs

Costs for section 2 are assumed from Account 176, Water Quality Permit Account, consistent with the existing fund source used for these activities.

Section 3 Office of Puget Sound Water Quality Oversight, Technical Assistance, and Financial Assistance is estimated to require:  
 FY 2024: \$2,038,460 and 13.80 FTEs  
 FY 2025: \$2,038,460 and 13.80 FTEs  
 FY 2026 and ongoing: \$2,028,460 and 13.80 FTEs.

Costs for section 3 are assumed from General Fund-State as this work is not associated with any other dedicated fund source.

THE TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE IMPACT to Ecology under this bill is estimated to be:  
 FY 2024: \$2,055,610 and 13.95 FTEs  
 FY 2025: \$2,055,610 and 13.95 FTEs  
 FY 2026 and ongoing: \$2,045,610 and 13.95 FTEs.

Notes on costs by object:

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.  
 Benefits are the agency average of 36% of salaries.  
 Goods and Services are the agency average of \$5,224 per direct program FTE. Goods and Services also includes \$20,000 in FY 2024 and FY 2025, and \$10,000 in FY 2026 and ongoing for system costs.  
 Travel is the agency average of \$1,563 per direct program FTE.  
 Equipment is the agency average of \$1,031 per direct program FTE.  
 Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.75% of direct program salaries and benefits, and is shown as object 9. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE, and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development - Journey.

### Part III: Expenditure Detail

#### III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

Account	Account Title	Type	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
001-1	General Fund	State	2,038,460	2,038,460	4,076,920	4,056,920	4,056,920
176-1	Water Quality Permit Account	State	17,150	17,150	34,300	34,300	34,300
<b>Total \$</b>			2,055,610	2,055,610	4,111,220	4,091,220	4,091,220

**III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
FTE Staff Years	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
A-Salaries and Wages	1,108,383	1,108,383	2,216,766	2,216,766	2,216,766
B-Employee Benefits	399,017	399,017	798,034	798,034	798,034
E-Goods and Other Services	83,366	83,366	166,732	146,732	146,732
G-Travel	18,961	18,961	37,922	37,922	37,922
J-Capital Outlays	12,506	12,506	25,012	25,012	25,012
9-Agency Administrative Overhead	433,377	433,377	866,754	866,754	866,754
<b>Total \$</b>	<b>2,055,610</b>	<b>2,055,610</b>	<b>4,111,220</b>	<b>4,091,220</b>	<b>4,091,220</b>

**III. C - Operating FTE Detail:** *List FTEs by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals need to agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA*

Job Classification	Salary	FY 2024	FY 2025	2023-25	2025-27	2027-29
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 3	50,592	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 4	58,704	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
COM OUTREACH & ENV ED SP 3	63,216	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
COMM CONSULTANT 4	75,120	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
EMS BAND 2	134,000	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 3	98,592	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 5	108,804	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 3	80,952	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 4	89,292	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 5	98,592	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 4	73,260	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
FISCAL ANALYST 2		1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
IT APP DEV-JOURNEY		0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
WMS BAND 2	110,000	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
<b>Total FTEs</b>		<b>14.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>

**III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)**

NONE

**Part IV: Capital Budget Impact**

**IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures**

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

**IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose**

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

**IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout**

*Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.*

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

**IV. D - Capital FTE Detail:** *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

The capital budget impact to Ecology is indeterminate starting in FY 2024 for grants to fund wastewater nutrient discharge reduction projects under section 3(2).



Section 3(2) would require the Office of Puget Sound Water Quality within Ecology to make grants to fund wastewater nutrient discharge reduction projects.

Ecology estimates there would be approximately 20-30 new nutrient reduction grants each year of the approximately 58 municipal wastewater treatment plants permitted by Ecology that discharge to the Salish Sea. Expenditures for staffing to administer the grant program are estimated in the operating budget.

Ecology assumes grant funding would be in the capital budget similar to the current Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program. Funding available through the financial assistance program would be subject to appropriation by the legislature; therefore, the level of funding available is indeterminate for purposes of this fiscal note.

## **Part V: New Rule Making Required**

*Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.*

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 1365 HB

Title: Puget Sound water quality

## Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

### Legislation Impacts:

- Cities: Cities that operate sewage districts.
- Counties: Same as above.
- Special Districts: Water-Sewer Districts and Sewage Improvement Districts
- Specific jurisdictions only:
- Variance occurs due to:

## Part II: Estimates

- No fiscal impacts.
- Expenditures represent one-time costs:
- Legislation provides local option:
- Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: The amount of staff time required for municipal wastewater sewerage system operators to draft reports to Ecology regarding untreated sewage and storm-water discharges.

### Estimated revenue impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

### Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

## Part III: Preparation and Approval

Fiscal Note Analyst: Chelsea Mickel	Phone: 518-727-3478	Date: 02/13/2023
Leg. Committee Contact: Megan McPhaden	Phone: 360-786-7114	Date: 02/07/2023
Agency Approval: Allan Johnson	Phone: 360-725-5033	Date: 02/13/2023
OFM Review: Lisa Borkowski	Phone: (360) 742-2239	Date: 02/13/2023

## **Part IV: Analysis**

### **A. SUMMARY OF BILL**

*Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.*

This bill requires municipal wastewater sewerage system operators which discharge untreated sewage or mixtures thereof into state waters to submit a report to Department of Ecology (Ecology). It also establishes the Office of Puget Sound Water Quality within Ecology.

Section 2 states that each operator of a municipal wastewater sewerage system that discharges untreated sewage or mixtures of untreated storm-water and sewage into state waters must submit a report to Ecology by February 1st of each year, covering the discharges from the system during the previous calendar year.

The submitted report must contain the following information:

- The location of each discharge;
- The estimated volume of the discharge;
- The measured impacts to coliform levels and other water quality metrics from the pollution; and
- Any beach closures or other impacts to recreational uses of state waters resulting from the discharge.

By July 1st of each year, Ecology is required to complete a summary report based on the reports submitted by municipal wastewater sewerage system operators, and make them publicly available.

Section 3: establishes the Office of Puget Sound Water Quality (Office) within the Department of Ecology.

This bill authorizes the Office to do the following:

- Provide technical assistance to local governments and other municipal wastewater treatment system operators discharging nutrients into Puget Sound in support of their efforts to reduce nutrient discharges into Puget Sound;
- Identify both private and public funding opportunities;
- Assist municipal wastewater treatment system operators with water quality grant and loan opportunities;
- Assist municipal wastewater treatment system operators with water quality grant and loan opportunities;
- Seek and apply for federal funding; and
- Making cost-effective grants for municipal wastewater nutrient discharge reduction projects.

### **B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS**

*Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.*

This bill would have indeterminate expenditure impacts on local governments.

This legislation would have indeterminate costs for impacted wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs). According to the Department of Ecology, there are 58 local government operated domestic WWTPs discharging into the waters of the Puget Sound. Operators of municipal wastewater sewerage systems would incur costs associated with the reporting requirements established by this bill. Costs to local governments for this process would depend upon the number of hours of staff time required to complete the tasks listed above. The scope of the reporting requirements would likely vary depending upon the size of the WWTP, which would affect the volume of untreated sewage and storm-water discharge, as well as the its administrative capacity. Thus, the costs associated with the reporting requirements of Section 2 are indeterminate and would vary by jurisdiction.

Estimated volumetric discharge levels, monitoring, and sampling requirements are existing requirements of the Department of Ecology for National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Waste Discharge and Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit (PSNGP) permittees. According to the Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts, the WWTP report submitted to the Department of Ecology pursuant to this act may have redundant information used in other permit reporting, which would take an administrator at one of these facilities a few hours of work to complete. An illustrative

example of the potential costs to WWTPs is detailed below.

**Illustrative Example of Reporting Costs for All Impacted WWTPs/STPs** The estimated costs for all WWTPs and STPs to comply with the reporting requirements of this legislation may be approximately \$5,263. However, there are unknown conditions in the reporting requirements that may increase costs. Assumptions:

-- According to the Association of Washington Cities Salary Survey, the average WWTP operator's hourly rate is \$29.98 per hour for city WWTP operators, and \$31.02 per hour for county WWTP operators.

--Existing monitoring requirements are sufficient to capture the data necessary for the reports established by this act.

--Using existing report drafting times, the time to draft a report of similar of similar scope to NPDES Waste Discharge permit reports is reported to be under 3 hours.

--The average per hour rate of water and sewer district treatment plant operators is not known at this time, but assumed by the Local Government Fiscal Note Program to be approximate to the rates of city and county WWTP operators.

(\$29.98 per hour for city WWTP operators + \$31.66 per hour for county WWTP operators) / 2 = \$30.5)

10 – County operated WWTPs

10 counties x 3 hours x \$31.02 per hour = \$931

39 – City operated WWTP/STPs

39 cities x 3 hours x \$29.98 = \$3,508

9 – Special Purpose District (SPD) operated WWTP/STPs

9 SPD x 3 hours x \$30.5 = \$824

Total illustrative reporting costs: \$5,263

### **C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS**

*Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.*

This bill would have indeterminate revenue impacts on local governments.

Municipal wastewater sewerage system operators may, with the assistance of Office of Puget Sound Water Quality established in this bill, apply for grants to achieve nutrient reductions in municipal wastewater discharge. Grant money received from successful applications may be used to offset the costs of administrating nutrient reduction programs. However, the amount of grant money that municipal wastewater sewerage systems may receive is indeterminate and would vary by location.

#### **SOURCES**

Association of Washington Cities, Salary Survey (2022)

Department of Ecology

Department of Ecology, Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit

House Bill Analysis, HB 1365, Environment & Energy Committee, (2023)

House Bill Analysis, HB 1822, Environment & Energy Committee, (2022)

Local Government Fiscal Note, HB 1822, (2022)

Revised Code of Washington, 90.48 RCW

Washington Association of Sewer & Water Districts

Washington State Water Resources Association