



PUBLIC HEALTH

**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**

Ensuring Safe & Reliable Drinking Water: Group B Regulatory Framework Evaluation

Washington State Board of Health
November 12, 2008

Denise A. Clifford, Office of Drinking Water

Today's Briefing

- How People Get Drinking Water
- Two Regulatory Frameworks
- Group B Public Health Concerns
- Group B Program to Date
- Summary of Framework and Comments
- Looking Forward

How Washingtonians Get Their Water

State population: 6,587,000 OFM estimate for 2008

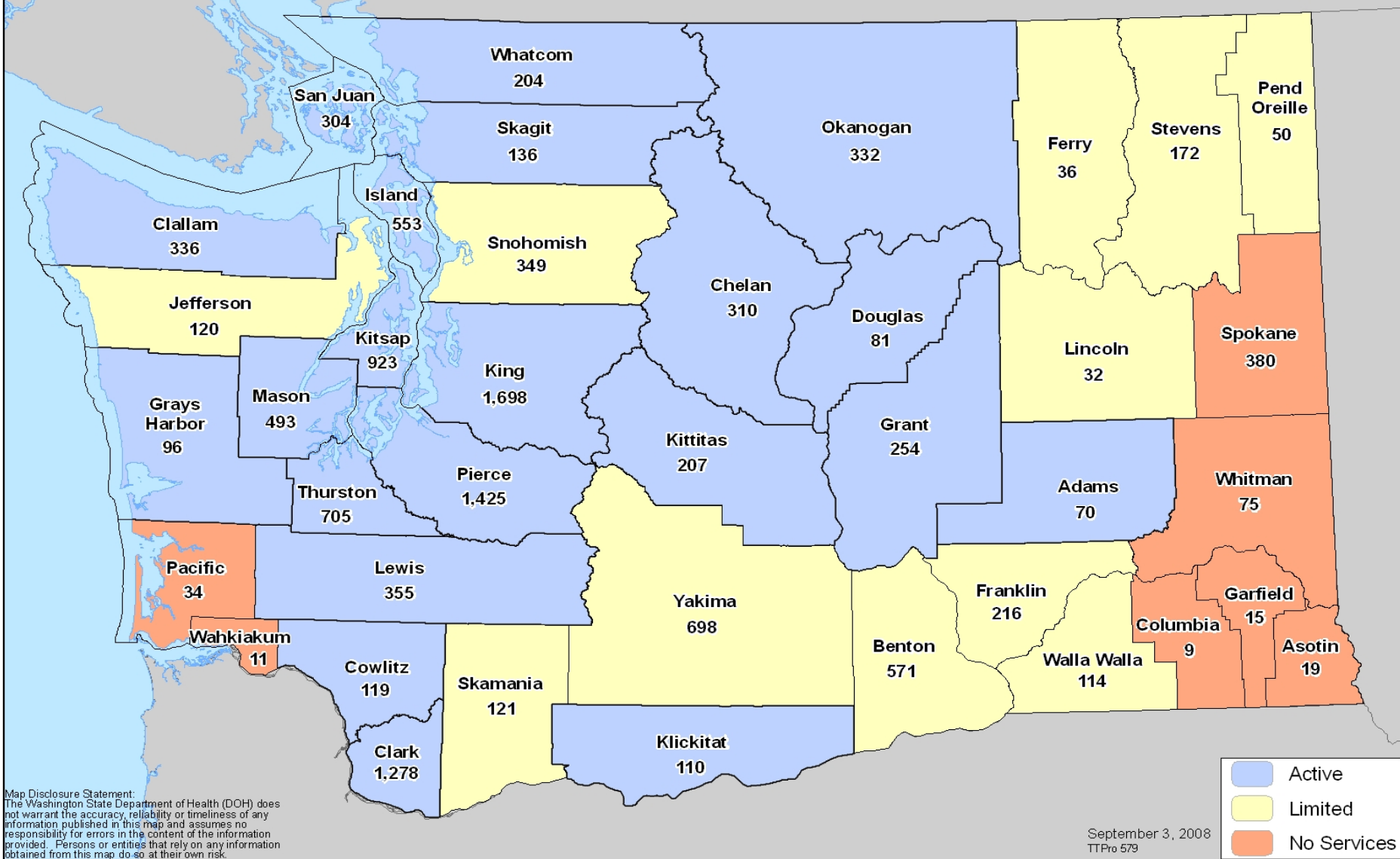
System Classification	Number of Systems	Number of People Served
Large Group A	223	• 5,000,000
Small Group A <i>Less than 1,000 connections</i>	3,975	• 550,000
Group B	13,013	• 110,000
Single-family wells		• ~920,000

Two Regulatory Frameworks

Group A (Safe Drinking Water Act)	Group B (RCW 70.119A)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly Water Quality Sampling Monitoring of 100 + Contaminants • Certified Operator • Inspections every 3-5 Years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Coliform Bacteria Sample • Nitrate Sample every 3 years
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 Full-Time DOH Staff (FTE) • Average: 1 FTE / 35 systems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 DOH FTE's • 28 County FTE's (2007) • Average: 1 FTE / 435 systems

Washington State Local Health Jurisdictions

Group B Water System Programs



Map Disclosure Statement:
 The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) does not warrant the accuracy, reliability or timeliness of any information published in this map and assumes no responsibility for errors in the content of the information provided. Persons or entities that rely on any information obtained from this map do so at their own risk.

September 3, 2008
 TTPro 579

- Active
- Limited
- No Services

Group B Public Health Concerns

- Significant deficiencies on existing systems
 - ✓ Surface water systems without treatment
 - ✓ No water quality monitoring
 - ✓ Lack of competent management and finances
- There are many systems and more on the way
- Different approach to public health protection
- Broad authority, expectations, and liability

Group B Program History

Date	Activity
October 1995	Adoption of Existing Rule
July 2000	Water Supply Advisory Committee Recommendations
2001	Legislative Direction and Funding to Study Group B Systems
March 2007	Group B Analysis Released

Group B Program History

Date	Activity
April 2007	Presentation to SBOH EH Subcommittee – Received Direction to Open the Rule
June 2007	Executive Director signed CR-101
Jan-Mar 2008	DOH and LHJ workgroup created a framework
Sept 2008	Five public forums held around state
Oct 2008	Presentation to SBOH EH Subcommittee

Summary of Framework & Comments

- Framework focuses resources on core public health issues
 - ✓ Increases design rigor for new systems
 - ✓ Ensures initial basic water quality standards are met
 - ✓ Provides public education
- What we heard
 - ✓ Support for improved education and communication
 - ✓ Opposition to changes to sampling frequency
 - ✓ Confusion about local and state regulatory roles

Looking Forward

Dec-Mar 2009

Stakeholder outreach

Spring 2009

Release Draft Rule

Summer 2009

Brief State Board of Health

Summer 2009

Additional Outreach

Fall 2009

Finalize Rule Language

Dec 2009

SBOH public hearing

Jan 2010

Rule effective



Contact Information

Denise Addotta Clifford, Director

Office of Drinking Water

Denise.Clifford@DOH.WA.GOV

(360) 236-3110

PUBLIC HEALTH

**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND
HEALTHIER WASHINGTON**