This webinar explained what the Puget Sound Characterization Project is, how its watershed planning tools work and how they can be applied by users to assist in the management of watershed resources. The characterizations' planning tools are useful to planners engaged in the update of comprehensive plans, development of subarea plans and stormwater retrofit plans. Stephen Stanley, one of the original architects of the Characterization tools with Susan Grigsby, will address the tools development, its application and what updates are planned for Characterization tools.

This webinar focused on the GIS tool, the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization Project, and its use in the Duvall Watershed plan. The tool enables land use planners to better target which areas are best for development and those best for conservation and associated benefits such as salmon production, recreation and avoiding expensive water quality clean- up plans by protecting clean water. Stephen Stanley, one of the original architects of the tool with Susan Grigsby, will address the tool's development, how it can be used and the Hydrologic Condition Index.

Aaron Booy addressed the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization Tool's application in Duvall. Specifically, Aaron presented Duvall's Watershed Plan, which relied on the Puget Sound Watershed Characterization results and framework across 17 subbasins. The presentation will touch on Duvall's objectives, assessment approach, watershed management framework, and ongoing implementation efforts (including the City's current Surface and Stormwater Planning and Retrofit Predesign project).

Between 2013 and 2015, the City of Duvall used EPA's National Estuary Program grant funding to develop and adopt a Watershed Plan to assess existing subbasin conditions across the City, and to support effective comprehensive planning and development standards to achieve community goals for surface water, critical areas, and open space management.

Stephen Stanley
Stephen has extensive experience in assessing and managing natural resources in the Pacific Northwest and along the California coast. He has specialized in developing watershed scale tools and plans that assist local governments, tribes and NGO's in successfully protecting and restoring wetlands, rivers and estuaries. Additionally, he has helped promote a comprehensive understanding of the best ways to protect and restore our watershed ecosystems through his instruction at University of Washington wetland certificate program and coastal training programs. His ability to work cooperatively with a wide range of stakeholders and to convey complex information in a clear and concise manner has resulted in the successful implementation of numerous watershed based land use plans.

Aaron Booy
Aaron Booy is a Natural Resources Specialist at ESA with 12 years of experience in both aquatic science and land use planning. His knowledge of local, state, and federal environmental policies has contributed to a wide range of community land use planning efforts, including shoreline plans, comprehensive plans, and watershed assessments. He is skilled in natural resource management and the use of science in developing environmental and land use policies. Aaron was the project manager for development of Duvall's Watershed Plan, and is the consultant team lead for ongoing development of the City's new Surface and Stormwater Comprehensive Plan.