



Environmental DNA Solutions

A single sample of water can show what is living in an aquatic system. Anchor QEA turns that insight into action for permitting, restoration, and resource management.

eDNA Services

Our scientists use environmental DNA (eDNA) techniques to build biodiversity monitoring programs, detect invasive or imperiled species, evaluate restoration outcomes, and support permitting and compliance. We combine expertise in molecular ecology, fisheries science, water quality, and field sampling to design programs that produce reliable, decision-ready information.

Biodiversity Monitoring

These programs document species presence, characterize aquatic communities, assess biodiversity patterns, and track ecological change.

Invasive Species Early Detection and Monitoring

Early detection, surveillance, and monitoring programs target aquatic invasive species to inform prevention, management, and rapid response efforts.

Restoration and Resource Management

eDNA data support permitting and compliance, establish baseline conditions, guide restoration planning, and inform aquatic resource management decisions.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Scientifically defensible sampling programs, paired with careful analysis and interpretation of ecological results, integrate eDNA findings with conventional monitoring.

Aquatic animals shed their DNA into water through skin, waste, and mucus. By analyzing the environmental DNA in a water sample, we can detect which species are present without capturing or disturbing them.



Pierce County Culvert Inventory and Water Typing

Anchor QEA is assessing 180 culverts across Pierce County and conducting water typing in 11 stream basins. The team is also mapping streams and using field observations, dip netting, electrofishing, and eDNA sampling to determine where fish are present. These findings will help the County prioritize culvert replacements in Type F (fish-bearing) streams to reconnect native fish with suitable habitat.

Skookumchuck Reservoir eDNA Fish Assemblage Pilot Study

Anchor QEA collected eDNA samples at the Skookumchuck Reservoir as part of a pilot study evaluating the reservoir's fish assemblage. Conducted in support of the Skookumchuck Dam analysis for the Chehalis Basin Strategy, the work used eDNA to identify fish species present and provide data to inform the broader evaluation of the benefits and risks of improving fish passage at the dam.

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