

Forecast-Related Action Items for PAG Endorsement

December 6, 2017

Issue	PAG Endorsement Request
1-Irrigation Expansion	
<p>Past forecasts have only considered irrigation expansion for OCR planned developments.</p> <p>OCR budget and projects may be self-limiting relative to actual demand for agricultural irrigation.</p> <p>An economic analysis of the value of new irrigated acreage could help gage the benefits of further water supply investments.</p>	<p>Should WSU develop an Economic Analysis scoping document for the 2021 Forecast?</p>
2-Curtailment	
<p>Current module shows competition between adopted instream flows and interruptible water users.</p> <p>Need similar curtailment module for competition between junior and senior water right holders.</p>	<p>Should WSU develop a curtailment scoping document and coordinate with Ecology to populate it?</p> <p>Curtailment information can be tracked at first in Excel followed by potential integration into WRTS.</p> <p>This item requires collaboration with ECY Water Resources.</p>
3-Municipal Data	
<p>Current forecast only provides annual demand data</p> <p>Monthly data (by water system size, location, etc.) could improve forecasting with nominal effort.</p> <p>Coordination opportunities with DOH exist relative to water system planning.</p>	<p>Should WSU develop a municipal scoping document to outline an approach for the 2021 Forecast?</p>
4-Groundwater Level Monitoring	
<p>The 2016 Forecast assumed groundwater supplies did not limit demand.</p> <p>The 2016 Forecast provided an audit of 10 areas where groundwater levels may limit demand in the future.</p> <p>State agencies with water resiliency mandates could encourage/require groundwater level monitoring to help Ecology with decisions on declining groundwater.</p>	<p>Should Ecology to send letters requesting monitoring and data sharing to state agencies like DOH and DNR to improve information for the 2021 Forecast?</p> <p>Should this request be extended to counties who may be addressing groundwater supplies in response to Hirst?</p>

5-Instream Demand

Current forecast creates instream demand by comparing adopted instream flow levels to average and drought water year supplies.

Other metrics or methodologies could be used to estimate instream flow demand.

Should WSU and OCR collaborate with WDFW and fisheries co-managers on whether the current methodology is adequate to describe instream flow demand?

6-Statewide Forecast

State would benefit by statewide forecast. Integrate east and west side planning efforts.

Parity with other states as water supplies continue to tighten.

Partnership between Ecology/OCR would be required.

Should Ecology request authorization from Governor's office to scope this effort?

This item requires collaboration with ECY Water Resources.

7-User-Pay Program

The 2016 Forecast surveyed participants in past user-pay programs.

Ecology could implement data collection in current user-pay programs like cost-reimbursement permitting to better assess future demand and water supply price-points.

Should WSU outline a scoping document on how Ecology processes could be modified to gather data on ongoing user-pay programs?

This item requires collaboration with ECY Water Resources.