

BAC DISCUSSION GUIDE

BAC Caucus Process: Filling BAC Vacancies

Prepared for January 24, 2024 BAC Meeting

Background and Caucus Process

At the September 2023 BAC meeting, BAC members expressed the desire to self-select members of the Basin Advisory Committee, and the Tri-Sovereigns supported this idea. BAC members agreed to use a caucus method to help fill vacancies on the Advisory Committee. The agreed-upon process is as follows:

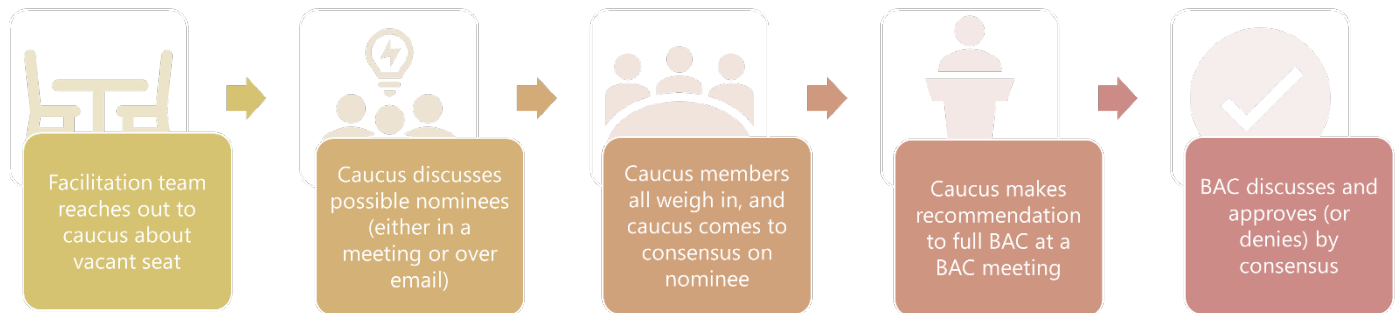
There are six caucuses: Agriculture, Environment & Recreation, Local Government, State Government, Federal Government, and Tribal Government (see detail on page 2). Each caucus is responsible for recommending individuals to fill any vacant seats within their caucus (e.g., the Agriculture caucus makes recommendations to fill a vacancy within the Agriculture seats). When a seat opens, the facilitation team contacts the caucus to notify them of the vacancy. The caucus then discusses possible nominees either over email or in a meeting and come to consensus around a recommended nominee. Caucuses bring their recommendation to the BAC for discussion during an Advisory Committee meeting, and the recommendation is approved by consensus of the BAC. The [Caucus Process Graphic](#) below illustrates this.

It is important to remember that the WW BAC Operating Procedures¹ direct caucuses to represent broad interests within that interest group. Therefore, in filling vacancies it is important to consider perspectives within your interest group that are not currently represented on the BAC—rather than adding more members who share your perspective.

¹ From the Operating Procedures: “BAC members will...Keep other members of your interest group informed of AC efforts, solicit input on issues discussed, and share this input with the WWBAC as a whole. This is a key responsibility of members; it is important that members represent the broad perspectives of their interest group”



Caucus Process Graphic



Advisory Committee Caucuses

Caucus	Interest Group	Primary	Alternate
AGRICULTURE	Agriculture	Mark Wagoner Gardena Farms Irrigation District markwagoner@gmail.com	Mike Ingham Gardena Farms Irrigation District mikeingham@inghams.org
		Annie Byerley Walla Walla Conservation District annie.byerley@wwccd.net	Renee Hadley Walla Walla Conservation District renee.hadley@wwccd.net
		Allie Newhouse Little River Group allison.newhouse@yahoo.com	TBD
		Travis Trumbull Walla Walla River Irrigation District travistrumbull@hotmail.com	Nathan Rea Oregon Agriculture nrea@htreafarms.com
ENVIRONMENT & RECREATION	Environment	Ralph Perkins Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council barbperk@POCKETINET.COM	Troy Baker Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council troy.baker@wwbwc.org
		Judith Johnson Kooskooskie Commons jsj@bmi.net	Sarah Dymecki Washington Water Trust sarah@washingtonwatertrust.org
		TBD	Ali Fitzgerald Snake River Salmon Recovery Board ali@snakeriverboard.org
	Recreation/Quality of Life	Linda Herbert Blue Mountain Land Trust lherbert621@msn.com	Jerry Norquist Community Member jlowellnorquist@gmail.com

LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Economic Development	Nicholas Velluzzi Walla Walla Community College nicholas.velluzzi@wwcc.edu	TBD
	Local Government	Steven Patten City of Milton Freewater steven.patten@milton-freewater-or.gov	Brian Steadman City of Milton Freewater brian.steadman@milton-freewater-or.gov
		Frank Nicholson City of Walla Walla fnicholson@wallawalla.gov	TBD
		Dan Dorran Umatilla County Dan.dorran@umatillacounty.net	TBD
		Todd Kimball Walla Walla County tkimball@co.walla-walla.wa.us	Jack Miller Columbia County Jack_miller@co.columbia.wa.us
TRIBAL GOVERNMENT	Tribal Government	Jerimiah Bonifer CTUIR jerimiahbonifer@ctuir.org	David Haire CTUIR davidhaire@ctuir.org
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	Federal Government	Justin Yeager NOAA NMFS justin.yeager@noaa.gov	Colleen Fagan NMFS colleen.fagan@noaa.gov
		Cindy Boen US Army Corps of Engineers cindy.a.boen@usace.army.mil	TBD
STATE GOVERNMENT	State Government	Mark Wachtel WA Department of Fish and Wildlife mark.wachtel@dfw.wa.gov	Jeff Dengel WA Department of Fish and Wildlife Jeffrey.Dengel@dfw.wa.gov
		Taylor McCroskey OR Department of Fish and Wildlife Taylor.MCCROSKEY@odfw.oregon.gov	TBD