

WALLA WALLA BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BAC)

MEETING SUMMARY

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 | 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Room 2023-24 | Water & Environment Center at WWCC | 640 Water Center Drive

Hybrid Meeting

Time*	Agenda Item (Action items are marked with "I")	Reference Materials	Presenter(s)
1:00 (10 mins)	Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and introductions Review agenda Opening remarks 	Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Kowitz, OWRD, on behalf of the Tri-Sovereigns Alexandra Doty, Facilitator
1:10 (20 mins)	Large Infrastructure Project Visualization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share the visualization graphic of the large infrastructure projects (studies under the Bi-State Flow Study) graphic. BAC member questions and discussion 	Large infrastructure project graphic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Melissa Downes. Ecology
1:30 (20 mins)	Milton-Freewater Water Collaborative Project Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share updates on the Milton-Freewater Collaborative Project. BAC member questions and discussion 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chris Marks, CTUIR
1:50 (20 mins)	Planning for Future Work Group Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss the approach and timeline for work group meetings and topics. BAC member feedback 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amanda Cronin, Project Manager Alle Brown-Law, Cascadia Alexandra Doty, Facilitator
<i>There will be a 10-minute BREAK around 2:10</i>			
2:20 (45 mins)	BAC Member Roles and Caucus Vacancies (!) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue discussion and review the roles and expectations of BAC members. BAC member discussion. BAC Decision Item: Discuss and consider approval of proposed BAC Caucus vacancies. 	WWBAC Member and Caucus Roles Discussion Guide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Doty, Facilitator BAC members
3:05 (10 mins)	OR Legislation Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Share updates on OR Legislation SB 761. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anton Chiono, CTUIR Chris Marks, CTUIR
3:15 (35 min)	Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project and funding updates Upcoming and recent events WA legislative session and budget update City of Walla Walla Resiliency Plan update Drought Plan project update Agenda and field trip suggestions Other updates? 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Doty, Facilitator Amanda Cronin, Project Manager BAC members
3:50 (5 mins)	Public Comment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Doty, Facilitator
3:55 (5 mins)	Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next steps Rotating BAC Member closing remarks 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandra Doty, Facilitator

*All times are approximate and may change



Welcome & Introductions

- Alexandra Doty, facilitator, welcomed everyone, reviewed the agenda, and led roll call. Attendees are in [Appendix A. Attendees](#).
- Chris Kowitz, OWRD, thanked everyone for attending on a beautiful day. He shared excitement about the large infrastructure project and noted that the USBR Basin Study team will likely present modeling results in the fall.

Large Infrastructure Project Visualization

- Amanda announced that the Final Implementation Plan for the Walla Walla Watershed Basin Strategy is complete, and the Walla Walla River Bi-State Flow Study Update is included with the final Implementation Plan. It is saved here: https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/ocr/ww/IP-BSF/FINAL_WWImpPlan_Bi-StateFlowStudyUpdate.pdf.
- A BAC member asked about an expected timeline for the Implementation Plan to be updated, acknowledging this is a living document.
 - Melissa Downes, Ecology, answered that there will be opportunities to update it, but we don't have a set timeline right now.
 - Amanda suggested that we can informally provide updates or create an update document. In particular, it would be useful to regularly review the implementation tables that are included in the plan.
 - A BAC member added that after the USBR Basin Study is complete, that would be a good opportunity to check in and catalogue what we've accomplished, and make adjustments as needed.
 - Brook Beeler, Ecology, added that in the Strategic Plan there was a 5-year review cycle to continue revisiting the Strategic Plan. For the Implementation Plan, it might be good to add an update document like Amanda suggested.
- A BAC member asked for a paper copy of the Implementation Plan. Chris Kowitz offered to bring paper copies to anyone who'd like one.
- Melissa Downes walked through the draft "Large Infrastructure Project Implementation Visual" (see Appendix B).
 - The Bi-State Flow Study and the USGS Study are two key inputs that are informing the USBR Basin Study. The Basin Study is developing a model that (we expect) will conclude there is a deficit of instream water in the Walla Walla Basin, and we need to implement solutions to address this. The USBR Basin Study will include some proposal solutions (Projects X, Y, Z).
 - After the Basin Study is done, we will do a Programmatic EIS. This is likely to be a NEPA/SEPA combined review, in collaboration with the federal government. Out of that environmental review process, while it will be programmatic and broad, there will be opportunity to gather public input to inform a preferred alternative. We anticipate having a preferred alternative identified at the end of the Programmatic EIS.
 - At this point, we anticipate heavy federal involvement. First, the preferred alternative would undergo a feasibility study, and it would likely require congressional action.
 - Finally, if feasible and approved, construction on the preferred alternative would begin.
 - Ecology's estimated timeline is a maximum of 15 years, minimum 7 years. Their experience in the Yakima Basin that it took 6 years just to get Congressional authorization.
 - Ecology welcomes feedback on this visual.
 - **Action Item:** BAC members send feedback to the facilitation team by April 15.

BAC Discussion

- A BAC member asked if this is all sequential, or are there any parallel tracks? What can we as a BAC do to anticipate and be ready to act when ready? There are public perceptions that this is a slow-moving process, so is there anything we can do to anticipate and/or take more immediate action?
 - Melissa noted that the Congressional Action section (green box) is what we think could happen in parallel, but much of the process rests on the Programmatic EIS. However, we will need significant advocacy at the federal level to secure a federal partner.
- A BAC member asked if Ecology has started looking at the authorities of potential federal partners and identifying potential policy exceptions that may be needed?



- Melissa answered no. We will dive into the authority piece after making more progress in the USBR Basin Study.
- Chris Kowitz noted that we are trying to be thoughtful and ensure the states have the resources to continue moving these pieces along. On the Oregon side, we have been informing our legislators about the Walla Walla Basin, so there is a lot of support amidst the federal delegation for this process, especially on the Senate side.
- A BAC member asked if there are lessons learned in Yakima that would be directly applicable to Walla Walla.
 - Melissa noted that in Yakima, they are working on a reservoir for water supply operated by USBR that has a feasibility timeline from 2024-2030. However, it's on a different scale, which does make an impact. However, there are some lessons learned that we can apply.
- A BAC member noted that the Umatilla Basin is a great, successful example that we could compare to and learn from. The Umatilla Basin is similar in terms of federal appropriations, and being operated by USBR. That Basin could be a great example of how a pump exchange functions in a Basin; maybe an opportunity for a BAC field trip. We could take the playbook that was applied in that Basin and apply it to Walla Walla.
 - BAC members expressed support for visiting Umatilla and other places that serve as good examples!
 - A BAC member agreed; it would be a great field trip. It would also be good to go see the Spring Chinook.
 - A BAC member shared that she's interested in seeing Yakima as well.
 - Anton clarified that this is the "Umatilla Basin Project," that has been very successful.
 - Chris Kowitz noted that it's a longer tour, it needs a full day trip. OWRD and CTUIR can help pull this tour together.
- A BAC member shared that we're all looking for opportunities to stack or run concurrent processes where we can. It's important to build your political muscle. It would be useful to bring Umatilla Basin representatives to the BAC as example. He reminded the BAC that we also don't want to forget about the small projects, they contribute to the momentum for the larger projects as well.

Milton-Freewater Levee Update

Presentation by Chris Marks, CTUIR

- There are two projects to share updates on, related to the Milton-Freewater Levee. Thank you to everyone that has been involved in this process so far!
- The first is Nursery Bridge Passage & Water Right Access, which is tied to WW2050 Strategy 1.09. This is an ongoing passage and access issue that we recognize we need to fix, and this project is trying to be an immediate fix since it can't wait for the longer-term GI study. The Water Control District Board in Milton-Freewater just agreed to an MOU to undertake a design process with USACE.
 - This project will improve low flow passage conditions, and analyze a potential change to influence flows towards the fish ladder (this would involve a notch in the grade-control drop structure).
 - We are also exploring moving the Eastside diversion to the primary diversion at Cemetery Bridge.
- The next steps for Nursery Bridge include wrapping up the MOU, and then continue the work into design and planning. We will check in with the Water Control District as we move along.
- The long-term, big project is the Corps Ecosystem Restoration General Investigation. The design of that levee doesn't meet the flood risk needs, nor the ecosystem needs. This touches Strategies 1.01 and 1.09.
 - The Feasibility Study will look at the whole reach of the levee system. This is an opportunity to look at ecosystem restoration within this levee system. The Tribes would love to see some River Vision Touchstones within this work, but there are limited opportunities within the existing levee. We are going to evaluate levee setbacks as part of the process. The feasibility study will help define what we have to work with.
 - Flood risk management is another big component, we are trying to maintain and improve.
 - Other categories of interest that could be explored in the feasibility study could be access/recreation and economic development.

- Next steps for the Milton-Freewater Study include developing an MOU to get us all on the same page and initiating a GI study. Developing an MOU for the GI study will kick off on April 4. Soon after, we'll kick off the initial project planning. Additionally, we will look at federal funding for the GI study in FY2026.

BAC Discussion

- A BAC member asked if this feasibility study would lead to a NEPA-style environmental review document?
 - Chris Marks answered that yes, he hopes so. Our federal partner would be the Corps.
 - Cindy Boen, USACE, noted that the Corps requires an environmental review for all projects, this could be an EA or an EIS, depending on the outcome of the feasibility study.
- A BAC member thanked the Watershed Council for the work they did to model the ecosystem benefits and water retention of floodplain restoration. He hopes that this solution will be as comprehensive as possible, rather than a one-sided solution.
 - Chris Marks agreed. This is the culmination of many people's work over many decades.
- A BAC member added that Nursery Bridge is our collection point for broodstock; where we collect spring chinook for rearing and returns at the hatchery. We need to get broodstock to that point, and being able to collect them at Nursery Bridge is critical. If you have low flow or poor fish passage, you can't collect fish at that point, nor can you get fish past that point in the system.
- A BAC member is thrilled to see the access, recreation, and the economic development pieces of the feasibility study. She feels there are many reaches in the Walla Walla Basin that are thought of in terms of something to control, rather than a community asset. She recommended approaching this with the lens of: how is the river a feature, not just a problem for us? How would that impact economic development in our valley? It's so easy to look at the cheap solution, and compromise too much.
- A BAC member asked if there are opportunities to explore levee setbacks or other things to expand the floodplain above the structure.
 - Chris Marks affirmed that yes, these conversations are happening. We know there is some interest, as well as some concern. During the feasibility study, looking at land acquisition will be on us to try and figure out. That's also where some of the conversations about community benefits could be included.
 - Cindy Boen added that they both feel it's important to start talking about this study with the community. We will develop many alternatives to improve fish passage, habitat conditions, and flood risk management resiliency. It takes years to start a new study of this size and scale, but it's important to build interest in the study and the possibilities that this study can bring – this helps get to solutions that are more accepted by the community. There is an example in Caldwell, ID, where the Corps daylighted a river through the town – that spurred a lot of interest in economic development and a HUD center downtown. We also designed several trail systems and parks for the community with that project. There are a lot of possibilities, not just for meeting the stated goals, but bringing benefits to the community. We want to hear from people in the community about what they think the possibilities could be.
 - Chris Marks noted that he saw interest and excitement in Milton-Freewater about turning this problem into an asset in this Basin. People were really interested in the access, recreation, and economic development piece.
 - A BAC member shared that the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board is working on defining the economic development represented by salmon recovery – not just the fish, but the construction work, the job development, the recreation and tourism that results. We will partner with Upper Columbia and Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board to characterize the economic impact of salmon recovery, called "Salmon Mean Business." We need to talk about the other ecosystem services that manifest themselves in a healthy, restored ecosystem.
- A BAC member shared that he's excited to hear that this component is being talked about. There are other cities where rivers run through their center; these urban river projects are creative and draw people to these areas. The Walla Walla River could be a beautiful river instead of a ditch. What opportunities have we been missing? We have this opportunity here – we should do this right.
- A BAC member commented that she worked with four classes of landscape architecture students to envision what Mill Creek could look like through downtown Walla Walla. She could share with the BAC if interested.

- A BAC member asked how we balance the costs with the real economic dollars generated, for example, by fly fishing in these reaches. We have to be able to show how the numbers balance.
- **Action Item (Amanda)** work through some of these case studies, look at Judith's examples, look at economic impacts. Then bring this back to the BAC in a few months with more detail to chew on.

Planning for Future Work Group Meetings

Implementation Work Group – Discussion

- We can break into sub-workgroups (Water, Floodplains and Habitat, Monitoring, Water Quality) as needed, but thinking it would be best to leave this flexible. Amanda also walked through a list of topics from the Implementation Plan that could benefit for WG discussion
- A BAC member advocated that this is a good time to reconsider the work group composition. She suggested dividing by sub-basins (3 potential subbasins). That would integrate all these subjects (water, floodplains, etc.) into one group. This doesn't need to be the only way workgroups are organized, but it would be very useful.
 - A BAC member noted the many other work groups and meeting infrastructure that already exists such as the Mill Creek work group, and the newly formed Touchet work group. There is a lot of existing collaboration.
 - A BAC member supported this place-based focus.
 - Brook noted that subbasins might be good organizing structure for prioritizing projects.
- **Action Item:** Think about implementation workgroup agenda items and send ideas to the facilitation team.
 - Agenda item: economic development and ecosystem services evaluations – from previous discussion.
- A BAC member recommended framing implementation around a particular timeline, maybe around 2 years. What do we want to see as done within a two-year working group timeframe?
 - Amanda noted that the Implementation Plan includes fairly defined timelines for many of these projects.

PFO Work Group – Discussion

- A BAC member advocated for doing some virtual tours that people could watch on their phones or computers. For example, Nursery Bridge or Mill Creek. She'd like to share an easy resource with people that they can explore on their own time.
- A member of the public noted that outreach might mean different things to different people. He recommended defining the audiences and the purpose of outreach.
 - Amanda noted that we did a visioning exercise for outreach audiences and needs, which we can bring back to the PFO or BAC for review.
- A BAC member reiterated Larry's earlier suggestion of working on developing our legislative muscle.
- **Action Item:** Think about PFO workgroup agenda items and send ideas to the facilitation team.

BAC Member Roles & Caucus Vacancies

- Alexandra shared the purpose of the Walla Walla BAC, and the roles and responsibilities of BAC members, as outlined in our Operating Procedures.

BAC Discussion

- A BAC member shared that her first impression of the BAC was there was no one leading. It's helpful to review these roles and procedures and think about how to be involved.
- A BAC member recommended an orientation for new BAC members.
- A BAC member noted that she had originally envisioned spending hours each month doing outreach, as part of the PFO work group. Part of a previous outreach proposal they developed was a speakers' bureau that had monthly speaking events. They feel like outreach needs to be out in the community. The events we have had have been marvelous, but we have more work to do.
- A BAC member commented that we need to craft our own destiny. It would be helpful to have more breakout rooms, discussion groups, and updates from the other working groups – rather than having very formal,

structured meetings. He would like to hear more project highlights and work that is happening on the ground. He'd like to generate more excitement around the work that's happening in the Basin.

- A BAC member agreed – there are many exciting, small stories that happen, which don't get shared publicly. The City of Walla Walla used to have this problem, but then they created a weekly newsletter. The BAC member recommended that we ought to publish a monthly newsletter! You could also send updates to the City for inclusion in the City newsletter.
 - Charlotte Regula-Whitefield, OWRD, maintains a WW2050 website. Anyone can send in updates for posting on the website.
 - **Action Item:** Discuss the website in upcoming PFO Meeting.
- A BAC member would like some talking points, prompting questions, or recommendations for how to start conversations with others in the Basin. They can help generate this but would appreciate help from the facilitation team and the Tri-Sovereigns. What is the mechanism for people to be able to use their time and talents to engage with their interest groups?
- A BAC member who lives near the Touchet River shared that from 1996 to now, there have been two minor projects within a couple miles of their house. From 1996 to date, nothing else has been done, despite having more than 10 people coming through his property to study the Touchet. He has recommended walking from Dayton to below Prescott, noting what needs to be fixed, each year. He recommended looking at the Highway 12 bridge on your way to Dayton. It's filled in 8 vertical feet under that bridge, and it might run into town.
 - Alexandra noted that our April BAC meeting will be in Dayton and plan to do a field trip.
- A BAC member appreciated this reminder. He noted that he met last year with the Ag caucus, and they are planning to do another meeting this spring. The goal of that meeting would be to give an update, share the large infrastructure project visual, and talk about how the ag groups can stay involved going forward. It is challenging to do outreach for agriculture, because each irrigation district is separate. It's as if each neighborhood of the city was independent, without the structure of a city.
- Chris Kowitz offered to help with any organizing or planning of meetings with caucus or interest groups. Additionally, with the help of the Watershed Council and Conservation District, we've created standardized outreach kits that you can bring to meetings or events to talk about WW2050. We are trying to think about how to get the message out in different avenues – such as the Water and Wine Events, which have consistently brought in new faces. We want to support what you want to do, so we're happy to help where we can, to further this outreach and messaging.
- A BAC member recommended distilling a handful of key messages that we can use.
 - **Action Item:** Amanda noted that we have previously developed talking points for outreach, so we can bring these to the PFO for further discussion.
 - Alexandra clarified that it seems like there are two sets of things identified as a need. First, what is our broader/Basin-wide key messages for public outreach. Second, talking points or other materials that BAC members need to engage with their interest groups.
- A BAC member shared that she has been working with the Washington-Oregon Water Users group, and she was surprised by how out of date their understanding of the WW2050 process was. One problem is that when each of us talks to a bunch of people, that benefits us, but it doesn't help the people we've talked to. We need to pass that knowledge on to the community, so we can all learn.
 - A BAC member commented that there have been many efforts to involve Washington-Oregon Water Users and others in this process, and we've shared all of the different avenues that they use to be involved in WW2050. But they have been reluctant to be involved in this pathway in particular. They feel that farmers' limited amount of time is not well-spent attending a BAC meeting.
- A BAC member has comments for the PFO meeting.
 - **Action Item:** Amanda will reach out to them about the PFO agenda.
- A BAC member asked if we've tried to do online collaboration?
 - Yes, Amanda answered that we have tried multiple different online collaboration tools and can incorporate more as needed in the future.
- A BAC member reiterated his recommendation for a newsletter. It should include a schedule of meetings and workgroups at the end of each newsletter, so that people can sort through that easily.

- Alison Crowley and Sara Harris have been running the Water and Wine Events since the fall, and they've primarily promoted through the existing WWCCD and WWBWC promotional pathways – like Facebook and their organizations' email lists. Alison offered to help. She asked about creating a WW2050 Facebook.
- Chris Kowitz noted that we have an existing platform, the website. We don't want to recreate the wheel and create another platform when we have the website. If the website isn't working, want to hear that feedback from BAC members.
- **For PFO April meeting:** Discuss website and newsletter.
- A BAC member recommended doing a discussion on what's working, and what could we do better, related to caucus engagement.
 - **Action Item:** Will bring this back to the BAC in a few months.

Filling BAC Vacancies – BAC Consensus Vote

State Government Caucus

- Proposed change: Mike Kuttel Jr. as Primary; Mark Wachtel as Alternate.
- **BAC fully approved; no opposition.**
- Mike Kuttel Jr. shared that he's not new to the Basin, he has been working in the Basin for 25 years. He is looking forward to working with the BAC.

Environment & Recreation Caucus

- Nominee: Nina Lottsfeldt as alternate to Judith Johnson.
- **BAC fully approved; no opposition.**

Local Government Caucus

- Nominee: Bob Waldher as alternate to Commissioner Dan Dorran.
- **BAC fully approved; no opposition.**
- Bob introduced himself, he has been with Umatilla County for 10 years, and has served on the Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council for a number of years. He hasn't been engaged with the BAC, but is familiar with the Basin, and familiar with the similar plan in the Umatilla Basin.

Tribal Government Caucus

- Proposed change: Anton Chiono as alternate to Jeremiah Bonifer.
- **BAC fully approved; no opposition.**

Oregon Legislative Update

Presentation by Anton Chiono, CTUIR

- Oregon Senate Bill 761, which if passed would provide \$2.5 million dollars in Oregon to match the \$2.5 million dollars in Washington to support projects in the Walla Walla Basin. The State of Oregon would directly appropriate this money to Ecology OCR, since OCR is already set up to disperse money to projects in the Basin, and Washington has the authority to disperse money in Oregon (through the WW2050 Legislation).
- There will be a hearing in La Grande on April 11; we will try to attend and make the pitch for this bill.
- The bill also works to provide the legal authority to accomplish this pulse flow concept, which we had tried to do in years past, but we didn't have the authorities to do so. He anticipates having the complete bill by next week to send out to the BAC.
 - **Action Item:** send out complete bill language out to the BAC for review. Opportunity for BAC members to support in La Grande on April 11.

BAC Discussion

- A BAC member asked if the \$2.5 million comes through from Oregon, would we re-open the prioritization process for projects, since there were a number of Oregon projects that didn't apply because of the stipulation for Washington spending.
 - Chris Kowitz answered that this funding would be forward looking – for the next round of project funding, there will potentially be two pots of money: \$2.5 million for Oregon, \$2.5 million for Washington.



- Anton clarified that we do have Oregon projects that we de-prioritized for OCR 25-27 biennium funding in this last round (2024) because they weren't going to meet the Washington requirements. This is the BAC's discussion to have, but I recognize that there were Oregon projects that were prioritized/ranked highly but that weren't funded in this round due to the Washington requirements.
- BAC members discussed the letters of support for the Oregon legislation, which have a list of specific projects to be funded by this money. So, it's understood that the funding would support those projects.
 - Anton confirmed that yes, the Oregon projects ineligible during the previous round of OCR funding due to location were included in outreach for this new Oregon legislation – they won't be included in the law, but it has been understood that these projects would be priorities for this new funding source. A BAC member added that each project has a dollar value assigned to it.
- A BAC member shared a concern that there might be entities in Oregon who didn't put projects forward because of the Washington requirements, and thus funding only the previous projects would be inequitable.
- **Action Item:** Facilitation team will follow up with Tri-Sovereigns about prioritized projects and Oregon legislation.

Updates

- Washington legislature released operating budgets, and are expecting capital budgets next week, so can discuss in April.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - March 25: Water & Wine Event on Regenerative Vineyard Practices at Echo Land Cellars
 - April 9, 6 – 8pm: Water 101 Pub Trivia at Walla Walla Beer Parlor
 - April 16: Water & Wine Event on History of CTUIR at Doubleback Winery
 - May 17, 11am – 3pm: Return to the River Festival
- **Upcoming meetings**
 - BAC:
 - Wednesday April 30, 1 – 4pm at the Columbia County Library in Dayton, WA (+ a tour)
 - Note changed meeting date for April BAC meeting to 5th Wednesday!
 - PFO Working Group:
 - Thursday April 24, 9 – 11am on Zoom
 - City of Walla Walla Watershed Resiliency Working Group:
 - Wednesday, May 29, 10am – 12pm at the Water and Environmental Center
- **City of Walla Walla Watershed Master/Resiliency Plan Update**
 - The recent meeting on March 12, 2025, focused on forest health and mitigation alternatives in the Mill Creek Watershed and reviewed stakeholder resources and capabilities based on survey results.
 - The next workgroup meeting will be on May 29, 2025, from 10 AM to 12 PM. BAC members are welcome to attend.
 - Outreach efforts are underway, including the development of a webpage, social media posts, and a City newsletter blurb. Planning is in progress for a public event scheduled for Fall 2025.
- **Walla Walla Basin Drought Plan Update**
 - Hosting a meeting with agricultural producers on March 26, 6pm – 8pm
 - Plan to host a meeting with municipal water users later this spring
 - Will continue to bring updates to the BAC.

Public Comment

- A member of the public acknowledged he is anticipating seeing a Developed Water Policy in advance of the next developed water pilot.
- A member of the public commented that, as of March 18, the Lowden 2 Garden City Diversion has installed a flume into the ditch. This is the last major ditch to be metered on the main stem Walla Basin.



Closing Remarks

- Frank Nicholson, City of Walla Walla, provided closing remarks. He thanked everyone who attended the Water & Wine Event at Rotie Cellars.
- He shared an update on the water levels in the Basin, based on report from USGS. The City does ASR recharge in two blocks, and the water level in those two blocks has been the same for 100 years. The one block that the City doesn't do ASR in has dropped about 1 foot per year, and the College Place block has been going down 2 feet per year. So, bottom line is we need to establish an ASR solution for the Basin.
- He summarized his previous three days to show the range of water work happening at once:
 - Saturday: Skied in 10 feet of snow! The Basin has 120% snowpack this year, so we have a really good start to the water year. The best snowpack in the nation is in Oregon this year.
 - Monday: Called with the USBR. They were very positive about the water work going on in the Basin, particularly the City's Resiliency Plan and WW2050. They shared updates on federal staff layoffs.
 - Tuesday: We went up and saw the 100,000 baby smolts released, which is an incredible program. Taylor and CTUIR deserve a round of applause. Hopefully we see some come back this year.
- Amanda and her team are putting together an impressive list of agencies that can respond to emergency disasters (through the resiliency plan). The Basin has amazing resources and people, so thank you very much!

Appendix A. Attendees

WWBAC Members in Attendance

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Agriculture		
Alli	Newhouse	OR Agriculture / Little River Group
Annie	Byerley	WA Agriculture / Walla Walla County Conservation District
Nathan	Rea	OR Agriculture / HT Rea Farms
Environment		
Judith	Johnson	Kooskooskie Commons
Ralph	Perkins	Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
Steve	Martin	Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
Troy	Baker	Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
Recreation/Quality of Life		
Jerry	Norquist	Blue Mountain Land Trust
Linda	Herbert	Blue Mountain Land Trust
Economic Development		
Amy	Schwab	Port of Walla Walla
Nick	Velluzzi	Walla Walla Community College
Local Government		
Bob	Waldher	Umatilla County
Dan	Dorran	Umatilla County
Frank	Nicholson	City of Walla Walla
Jack	Miller	Columbia County
Robert	McAndrews	City of College Place
Steven	Patten	City of Milton-Freewater
Todd	Kimball	Walla Walla County
State Government		
Mark	Wachtel	WDFW
Mike	Kuttel, Jr.	WDFW
Taylor	McCroskey	ODFW
Tribal Government		
Chris	Marks	CTUIR
Federal Government		
Cindy	Boen	US Army Corps of Engineers
Tri-Sovereigns (Ex-Officio/Non-Voting Members)		
Anton	Chiono	CTUIR
Brook	Beeler	Ecology
Chris	Kowitz	OWRD
Larry	Mattson	Ecology
Melissa	Downes	Ecology
Ross	Deardorff	OWRD

WWBAC Members (Primaries) Not Present

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Agriculture		
Mark	Wagoner	Gardena Farms Irrigation District
Travis	Trumbull	WWRID
Tribal Government		
Jerimiah	Bonifer	CTUIR
Federal Government		
Colleen	Fagan	NOAA NMFS

Other Attendees Present

First Name	Last Name	Affiliation
Adam	Klein	City of Walla Walla
Alan	Hamada	Touchet E.W. Irrigation District
Alexandra	Doty	Cascadia Consulting Group
Alison	Crowley	Walla Walla County Conservation District
Alle	Brown-Law	Cascadia Consulting Group
Amanda	Cronin	AMP Insights
Bryan	Gartland	Aspect Consulting
Charlotte	Whitefield	OWRD
Emily	Tilden	Ecology OCR
Eric	Hartwig	Ecology
Fraser	Moore	Blue Mountain Land Trust
Jaime	Short	Ecology
Janna	Guzman	ODFW
Jeff	Dengel	WDFW
Luke	Martin	OWRD
Melissa	Shumake	WW County Community Development
Mikahala	Waters	Alta Science and Engineering
Mike	Denny	Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
Nina	Lottsfeldt	Washington Water Trust
Perrin	Robinson	Jacobs
Randal	Son	Mill Creek Watershed Landowner
Sara	Harris	WWBWC
Sarah	Dymecki	Ecology
Shane	Cossel	ODEQ
Stephanie	May	Ecology
Stuart	Crane	Yakama Nation
Tara	Patten	Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
Tim	Poppleton	Ecology
Vanessa	Rose	ODEQ