



Meeting Notes

WRIAs 7 and 8 Joint Technical Workgroup meeting

July 11, 2019 | 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location

WebEx

Committee Chairs

Ingria Jones (WRIA 7)
ingria.jones@ecy.wa.gov
Stephanie Potts (WRIA 8)
Stephanie.potts@ecy.wa.gov

Handouts

Agenda
Draft King County and
Snohomish County Growth
Projections

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance*

Name	Representing
Ann Savery (phone)	Tulalip Tribes
Darryl Williams	Tulalip Tribes
Colin Wahl	Tulalip Tribes
David Hartley (phone)	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Emily Dick	Washington Water Trust
Will Stelle	Washington Water Trust
Eric Ferguson	King County
Janne Kaje	King County
Eric Ferguson	King County
Julie Lewis	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Kirk Lakey	Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
Matt Baerwalde	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Mike Wolanek	City of Arlington
Morgan Ruff	Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Forum (ex officio)
Beth Ledoux	Snoqualmie Watershed Forum (ex officio)
Liz Ablow	City of Seattle (ex officio)
Souheil Nasr	City of Everett
Terri Strandberg	Snohomish County
Keith Binkley	Snohomish PUD
Brant Wood	Snohomish PUD
Cynthia Krass (phone)	Snoqualmie Valley WID
Stephanie Potts	WA Department of Ecology
Ingria Jones	WA Department of Ecology
Stewart Reinbold	Dept. Of Fish and Wildlife
John McClellan	Alderwood Water & Wastewater District
Dan Von Seggern (phone)	Center for Environmental Law and Policy
Carla Carlson (phone)	Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

Other Attendees

Name	Affiliation
John Covert	WA Department of Ecology
Susan O'Neil (facilitator)	ESA
Bridget August	GeoEngineers (technical consultant)
Cynthia Carlstad	NHC (technical consultant sub)

*Attendees list is based on sign-in sheet

Welcome and Introductions

Susan welcomed the WRIA 7 and WRIA 8 Technical Workgroup members and reviewed the agenda and meeting objectives.

Growth Projections

The workgroup reviewed items on the developable lands assumptions matrix.

Considerations and Discussion

- The developable lands analysis helps determine the where new domestic permit-exempt uses and are likely to occur. Committees could use the developable lands analysis as an offset target, but it does not affect the 20-year growth projection.
- GeoEngineers is working on a spot check of well logs in Ecology's [well log database](#) that are showing up inside UGAs in WRIA 7, 8, and 9 to identify which ones may be domestic permit-exempt wells. The spot check does not determine whether these wells are inside the city limits. In some areas, wells may have been constructed prior to a UGA expansion. GeoEngineers will recommend options for how to consider wells in UGAs in our growth projections.
- The workgroup discussed how DNR lands affect developable lands. DNR's [Trust Lands Transfer Program](#) does not have a timeline schedule for the sales of trust property (public auctions), exchanges of trust property, or transfers of land to governmental entities. Portions of DNR lands cannot be sold and/or are zoned for forestry and only allows one home every 80 acres. King County has purchased development rights on portions of DNR land.
- Seven Lakes Water Association does not have capacity to serve new customers with its existing operations. New homes near Seven Lakes will likely be on permit-exempt wells.

King County presented on their draft growth projections for WRIA 7 and WRIA 8.

Considerations and Discussion

- King County analyzed past building permit data and parcel information to identify which homes in the rural area had a public water source versus private water source (permit-exempt well). They used these historical trends to project the number of homes relying on a permit-exempt well over the next 20 years. They projected growth by drainage basin and there are areas where King County drainage basins do not align perfectly with Ecology's WRIA boundary.
- King County identified past permits in the Agricultural Production District (APD) and Forest Production District (APD).
- The workgroup discussed the potential number of permit-exempt wells within the 100-year floodplain and in critical areas. These assumptions affects total developable lands, but not the 20-year growth projection.
- The workgroup discussed King County's methods for matching building permit information and parcel information. The two datasets do not have a 100% match, so Committees can consider how to buffer projections to account for error in the data sets.

Snohomish County presented an update on their draft growth projections and described additional scenarios added by GeoEngineers.

- Snohomish County has analyzed developable lands and growth projections by HUC-12 sub-watershed. Their projections are based on historical trends and the county's Comprehensive Plan population projection. They compared developable lands (capacity) in each sub-watershed to the growth projections. GeoEngineers added OFM low and high projections, using the County's methods.

- Draft growth projections for Snohomish County are on the [Web Map](#). HUC-12s are shaded, but projections are just for Snohomish County.
- Snohomish County shared concerns that the OFM high projection was published in 2012, has likely been revised by OFM, and is not adopted in any comprehensive plans for cities or counties. The OFM low forecast is also not adopted and does not align well with past trends.
- Snohomish County identified one HUC in WRIA 7 and one HUC in WRIA 8 that has a shortfall of capacity. Based on the past trends projection, the lower Sultan River in WRIA 7 has a capacity shortfall in the water service area. In WRIA 8, the Bear Creek-Sammamish River has a capacity shortfall in the permit-exempt well areas.
- In WRIA 7, Tulalip Tribes is doing growth projections on the Tulalip Reservation. Snohomish County's projections only consider non-tribal parcels within the Reservation.
- The workgroup discussed Snohomish County's methods getting from a countywide population number to a number specifically for homes relying on permit-exempt wells.
- The workgroup discussed Snohomish County's assumption that homes within 100 feet of an existing water service line will hook up.

Next Steps and Action Items

- Next WRIA 7 Technical Workgroup Meeting—TBD
- Next WRIA 8 Technical Workgroup Meeting: Thursday, July 25, 10:00-12:00 pm at Ecology's Northwest Regional Office in Bellevue. Call-in option available.
- GeoEngineers will recommend options for how to consider wells in UGAs in growth projections.
- WRIA 8 Workgroup members send subbasin proposals to Stephanie by July 22.