

Cedar-Sammamish (WRIA 8)
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee
March Meeting Summary

[Committee website:](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37321/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_8.aspx)

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Next Meeting: Thursday, April 25, 2019 from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm at WSDOT Northwest office.

Meeting Information

Thursday, March 28, 2019

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Mercer Island Community Center, Luther Meeting Room | 8236 SE 24th St, Mercer Island, WA

Agenda

	Topic	Time*	Action	Handouts	Lead
1.	Welcome and introductions	9:30 am			Chair
2.	Public Comment- <i>limit to 3 minutes per person</i>	9:35			Facilitator
3.	Approval of agenda and February meeting summary	9:45	Vote	- Agenda - February mtg summary	Facilitator
4.	Updates and Announcements <i>-Updates from Ecology, including meeting schedule</i> <i>-Roundtable announcements</i>	9:50		- Committee calendar	Chair and All
5.	Technical Workgroup Report	10:05			Chair and workgroup members
6.	County Planning Overview from King County and Snohomish County	10:15	Presentation & discussion	- land use planning presentation topics	Karen Wolf, King County; Terri Strandberg, Snohomish County
7.	Break	11:45			
8.	King County Water Availability Study	11:50	Presentation & discussion	- Water Availability and permitting study	Steve Hirschey, King County
9.	Action Items and Next Steps	12:20 pm			Facilitator and Chair
10.	Adjourn	12:30			

All handouts and meeting materials are available on the [Committee website](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37321/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_8.aspx).

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance*

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Janet Geer (cities caucus rep)	Bothell	Aaron Moldver	Redmond
Elizabeth Garcia (alternate)	Seattle	Tom Beavers	King County
Jaqueline Reid	Snohomish County	Terri Strandberg (alternate)	Snohomish County
Carla Carlson	Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	Matt Baerwalde	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Julie Lewis (alternate)	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	David Hartley (consultant)	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Kurt Nelson	Tulalip Tribes	Stewart Reinbold	WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
Gina Clark	Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties	Dan Von Seggern	Center for Environmental Law and Policy
Melissa Borsting	King County Agriculture Program	John McClellan	Alderwood Water & Wastewater District
Stephanie Potts	WA Department of Ecology		

Cities caucus members: Bellevue, Bothell, Issaquah, Kenmore, Mukilteo, and Sammamish
 Committee members not in attendance: Kent, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council

Other Attendees

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Ingria Jones (facilitator)	WA Department of Ecology	Karen Wolf	King County
Steve Hirschey	King County	Stacy Vynne	WA Department of Ecology

*Attendees list is based on sign-in sheet

Approval of Agenda and Meeting Summary

There were no additions to the agenda.

One small change to meeting summary by Jason Wilkinson. There were no additional changes to the meeting summary. The cities caucus representative will abstain from voting on meeting summaries. The Committee voted to approve the February meeting summary. The final version is posted on the Committee website.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Updates and Announcements

Stephanie provided the following Department of Ecology updates:

Operating Principles

All signatures received and the effective date is March 27, 2019. The operating principles with signature pages is posted on the Committee website.

Cities caucus

The Cities caucus was created with Bellevue, Bothell, Issaquah, Kenmore, Mukilteo, and Sammamish as members. Stephanie can share the “opt in” emails with Committee members, if requested. Jason Wilkinson, staff for the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council is the caucus representative. Jason was unable to attend the March 28th meeting so Janet Geer represented the caucus.

Facilitation support

Gretchen Muller from Cascadia Consulting will be the facilitator for WRIA 8. We hope to have her at the April meeting.

Technical support

GeoEngineers was selected as the technical consultant for WRIAs 7, 8 and 9. Their initial work will focus on subbasin delineations and population projections, and they will work closely with the technical workgroup. GeoEngineers will also help with consumptive use estimates, project identification and evaluation, and the technical components of the final plan. Bridget August will be our point of contact. Northwest Hydraulic Consultants is a sub for GeoEngineers. HDR was selected for the south Puget Sound WRIAs 10, 12, 13, 14, and 15.

Resource binders

Each Committee member has a binder with past meeting agendas and summaries, operating principles, roster, RCW language and other key resources. We are still working to develop some of the materials listed on the table of contents. Please bring binders to meetings so we can use the materials as a reference.

WRIA 11 webinar

The one-hour [WRIA 11 lessons learned webinar](#) is posted on the Ecology [Streamflow Restoration Planning webpage](#) under “related links.” Allison Osterberg from Thurston County also presented on the Nisqually planning process to the Chehalis Basin planning group. The presentation is 35 minutes and on [YouTube](#). Please review both presentations.

Meeting Schedule

Plan to continue to meet monthly through June. We will have a short meeting followed by project site visits in July or August, meetings September and October, and one meeting November or December. The Technical workgroup will also meet between full Committee meetings.

The April meeting will be at the Washington DOT building in Shoreline. If that location works well for Committee members then we will meet there in May and June as well.

Snohomish County update

Jaqueline Reid from Snohomish County provided an update on the Southwest Urban Growth Area Boundary Planning Study. The study area is near Bothell and Mill Creek. More information is available on the [study website](#).

Technical Workgroup Report

The Technical Workgroup for WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 met jointly March 22 by phone. Dan Von Seggern reported to the Committee on that meeting. Stephanie will share meeting notes by email. Stephanie will schedule the next technical workgroup call once the consultants are under contract. Will look into scheduling a standing technical workgroup meeting the week following Committee meetings. Let Stephanie know if you would like to get emails about future technical workgroup meetings.

Ecology staff met with GeoEngineers to review the scope of work and extend the deadlines from the initial work plan to ensure the consultants have time to gather input from the technical workgroup and full Committee.

The next technical workgroup meeting will focus on subbasins and WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 will meet separately. Technical workgroup members are invited to develop a subbasin proposal to share with the workgroup prior to the next meeting.

County Planning Overview

Karen Wolf, King County's Office of Performance Strategy and Budget, provided an overview of King County comprehensive planning. The presentation is posted on the Committee website.

Terri Strandberg, Snohomish County Planning and Development Services, presented on land use planning and population projects in Snohomish County. The presentation is posted on the Committee website.

Summary of the Committee discussion following the presentations:

- WA Office of Financial Management (OFM) gives counties the future population projection with a high, medium and low growth scenario. The county takes that number to determine the expected increase in population and household size. Counties have growth projections through 2035.
- King County does not have a growth target for the rural area. Rural area growth is currently at about 2 percent. King County uses a combination of regulations and incentives to protect ag and forest lands and direct growth to cities within the UGA. Forest lands have zoning of 1 unit per 80 acres. Most of the forest and ag land is protected by easements (transfer of development rights [TDR] or purchase of development rights [PDR]). King County allows cluster development in the rural area.
- King County is working to improve coordination between public health and permitting offices to strengthen enforcement of existing policies and close loopholes that allowed permit-exempt wells to go in against county policies. The permitting office follows the updated [water service requirements](#) to determine whether to allow an exempt well in unincorporated King County. Will allow wells on an interim basis, with satellite management by Group A system and expectation to connect to water service provider when lines are extended. King County is also

working to better define “timely” and “reasonable” standards related to requirements to connect to existing systems.

- In WRIA 8 there is very little developable land in unincorporated King County.
- King County plans to look at homes using wells for lawn watering.
- Sewers are considered an urban use and policy does not allow extension of sewer lines beyond the UGA. There are some exceptions related to public health and safety.
- The county is the purveyor of last resort for group B systems.
- Snohomish County does not currently have a requirement that homes must hook up to water. They are working on a water code that will add a timely and reasonable requirement to connect to water service.
- Snohomish County has a lot of non-conforming legal lots in the rural area.
- Snohomish County has about 8% rural growth.
- Snohomish county assessor data is difficult to use to identify vacant land because there can be two entries for one parcel if the land is owned by one person and the building is owned by a different person.

Cities and water purveyors on the Committee were invited to share information about policies related to permit-exempt wells.

- AWWD puts money into large transmission systems. Most water purveyor system expansions are built by developers. All system expansions are paid for by developer charges and ratepayers, no public funding. Purveyors do not make plans to extend service beyond the UGA. Most of the development they are seeing in their service area is townhomes and apartments.
- Redmond: Redmond requires connection to the City water system for new development and redevelopment. Private wells do not typically meet the requirements for fire flow and fire storage, significant remodeling or new construction triggers fire sprinkler requirements. There are some remnant historic private wells and community wells that exist within Redmond. Redevelopment of these parcels would trigger the requirement to connect to city water. Existing private wells can continue to be used for irrigation. There have not been any new exempt wells that we know of for irrigation. It is possible that someone would do one if they had a large garden, but there would be a considerable cost to doing that.
- Sammamish: For all intents and purposes, Sammamish does not allow permit-exempt wells within city boundaries. City does not own its own water utility; covered by two water districts: Northeast Sammamish Water and Sewer, and Sammamish Plateau Water and Sewer. Water district planning managers confirmed that although their policy does not explicitly say, “No permit-exempt wells,” the districts enforce hooking up to their water service. Neither managers could think of a situation within the City where water isn’t available for future hook-ups, and neither could think of a private well approved in at least the last several years.

[King County Water Availability Study](#)

Steve Hirschey from King County’s Water and Land Resources Division presented on the [Water Availability and Permitting study](#) they completed at the end of 2018. The presentation is posted on the Committee website.

Summary of the Committee discussion following the presentation:

- The assumptions reflect King County’s policy and code framework if perfectly implemented.
- Analysis estimates ~2100 developable parcels that would rely on water from permit-exempt wells in King County. This number is based on the potential for development and is not a projection.
- The study assumed no new wells within water service areas. Need to look at the capacity of water purveyors to expand into areas expected to have a lot of wells in the future.
- Excluded parcels within the 100 year flood plain based on WAC 173-160-171: “What are the requirements for the location of the well site and access to the well?” “(2) It shall be protected from a one hundred-year flood and from any surface or subsurface drainage capable of impairing the quality of the groundwater supply.”
- Some members of the Committee would like to see more city and county incentives and requirements for water conservation (e.g. water saving faucets and toilets). MBACKS can help get information on existing city and county policies around water conservation.
- How could the Committee project locations of permit-exempt wells used to irrigate lawns? City/county would get notification if a homeowner is inquiring about putting in a well. Irrigation wells are really expensive and often don’t pencil out. There are also siting requirements so the well doesn’t interfere with the water service.

Action Items

For the chair:

- Post final February meeting summary and March meeting presentations and materials on the Committee website.
- Schedule next technical workgroup call.

For Committee members:

- Review draft March meeting summary and send comments to Stephanie by April 17.
- Review [Recommendations for Water Use Estimates](#), under the Planning Resources tab in your binder and linked under General Information on the Committee website.
- Watch WRIA 11 lessons learned [webinar](#) (1 hour) and [presentation](#) (35 min).
- Send Stephanie a proposed subbasin map to share with technical workgroup (optional).
- Remember to bring your binders to meetings.

For Next Meeting, April 25th:

- Different location: Washington DOT Northwest Region Office in Shoreline, WA.
- Discussion on subbasins and population growth estimates.
- No major votes planned.