# Duwamish-Green (WRIA 9)

# Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee

# March Meeting Summary

[Committee website](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37322/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_9.aspx): *https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\_\_1962/37322/watershed\_restoration\_and\_enhancement\_-\_wria\_9.aspx*

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, April 23, 2019 from 12:30 – 3:30 pm at the King County South Treatment Plant.

## Meeting Information

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

12:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Tukwila Community Center, Meeting Room A | 12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila, WA 98168

## Agenda

|  | **Topic** | **Time** | **Action** | **Handouts** | **Lead** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Welcome and introductions** | 12:30pm |  |  | Chair |
|  | **Approval of agenda and February meeting summary** | 12:35 | Vote | * Agenda * February mtg summary | Facilitator |
|  | **Updates and Announcements**  *-Updates from Ecology, including meeting schedule*  *-Roundtable announcements* | 12:40 |  | * Committee calendar | Chair and All |
|  | **Technical Workgroup Report** | 12:55 |  |  | Chair and workgroup members |
|  | **County Planning Overview** | 1:05 | Presentation & discussion | * land use planning presentation topics | Karen Wolf,  King County |
|  | **Break** | 2:15 |  |  |  |
|  | **King County Water Availability Study** | 2:25 | Presentation & discussion | * Water Availability and permitting study | Eric Ferguson, King County |
|  | **Action Items and Next Steps** | 3:10 |  |  | Facilitator and Chair |
|  | **Public Comment-** *limit to 3 minutes per person* | 3:20 |  |  | Facilitator |
|  | **Adjourn** | 3:30 |  |  |  |

All handouts and meeting materials are available on the [Committee website](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37322/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_9.aspx).

## Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance\*

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lisa Tobin | Auburn | Scott Woodbury | Enumclaw |
| Susan Saffery (alternate) | Seattle | Carla Carlson | Muckleshoot Tribe |
| Josh Kahan | King County | Tom Keown | Covington Water District |
| Gina Clark (alternate) | Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties | Trish Rolfe | Center for Environmental Law and Policy |
| Rick Reinlasoder | King County Agriculture Program | Stewart Reinbold | WA Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| Stephanie Potts | WA Department of Ecology | Greg Volkhardt | Tacoma Water,  *ex officio* |
| Matt Goehring (cities caucus rep) | WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum,  *ex officio* |  |  |

Cities caucus members: Black Diamond, Normandy Park, and Tukwila

Committee members not in attendance: Kent

## Other Attendees

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Ingria Jones (facilitator) | WA Department of Ecology | Karen Wolf | King County |
| Eric Ferguson | King County | Andrea Lauden | 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.

There were no changes to the meeting summary. Matt Goehring voted on the meeting summary for the cities caucus because caucus members were present at the February meeting. At future meetings, the cities caucus representative will abstain from voting on the meeting summary. The Committee voted to approve the February meeting summary. The final version is posted on the Committee website.

## Updates and Announcements

Stephanie provided the following Department of Ecology updates:

### Cities caucus

The Cities caucus was created with Black Diamond, Normandy Park and Tukwila as members. Stephanie can share the “opt in” emails with Committee members, if requested. Matt Goehring, staff for the WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum is the caucus representative.

### Facilitation support

Ruth Bell from Cascadia Consulting will be the facilitator for WRIA 9. 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](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrdocs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/wrec/LessonsLearnedPresentation.mp4) is posted on the Ecology [Streamflow Restoration Planning webpage](https://ecology.wa.gov/Water-Shorelines/Water-supply/Streamflow-restoration/Streamflow-restoration-planning) 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](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILsbOVi6x4U&feature=youtu.be). 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.

## Technical Workgroup Report

The Technical Workgroup for WRIA 8 and WRIA 9 met jointly March 22 by phone. Trish Rolfe 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.

Summary of the Committee discussion following the presentation:

* 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](https://kingcounty.gov/~/media/depts/permitting-environmental-review/dper/documents/forms/Water-Requirements.ashx?la=en) 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 9 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.

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

* Covington Water reduces the connection charge to incentivize homes on wells to connect to water service. Only one new well in Covington’s service area in past 4 years.
* Tacoma Water serves Cumberland. Within the service area, they look at the cost to the utility to provide service and the number of homes expected in that area. The water service agreement allows a well until the water mains are extended.
* Auburn does not have a code to require homeowners to hook up to water service. For a single residential house if a water main is not located along the frontage of the property, the city would provide a certificate of water non-availability for the property owner’s use to submit to the County Health Department with their application for a permit-exempt well. There is no future connection agreement. For a single residential house if the water main is located along the frontage, the City would encourage but cannot require per City code that the property connect to the municipal water system. The City would provide a certificate of water availability indicating the presence of the water main, but it would be up to the County Health Department to deny the permit-exempt well application and require connection to the municipal system. For short plats and plats: require extension of the municipal system to provide service (no permit-exempt wells allowed). Non-residential construction within 200 feet of municipal system requires extension of the municipal system to provide service (no permit-exempt wells allowed). Only one new permit-exempt well in the last 5 years.
* Tukwila: Does not allow private wells to be drilled in the city’s service area under any circumstance. Tukwila rep is not aware of any wells that currently exist in a functional capacity.

## King County Water Availability Study

Eric Ferguson from King County’s Water and Land Resources Division presented on the [Water Availability and Permitting study](https://mkcclegisearch.kingcounty.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3823498&GUID=2B07BB69-BB8A-4E0C-8A8D-C1C36D5CDB79&Options=Advanced&Search) 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.
* King County’s analysis estimates ~2100 developable parcels that would rely on water from permit-exempt wells, with about 550 of those parcels in WRIA 9. 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.” Howard Hansen dam is factored into the floodplain maps.

## Public Comment

No public comments.

## 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](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1811007.html), under the Planning Resources tab in your binder and linked under General Information on the Committee website.
* Watch WRIA 11 lessons learned [webinar](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrdocs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/wrec/LessonsLearnedPresentation.mp4) (1 hour) and [presentation](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILsbOVi6x4U&feature=youtu.be) (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 23:**

* Different location: King County South Treatment Plant, Black River room.
* Discussion on subbasins and population growth estimates.
* No major votes planned.