

**To:** Duwamish-Green (WRIA 9) Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee

**From:** Stephanie Potts, Committee Chair

**Date:** July 15, 2019

**Re:** Proposal for WRIA 9 Subbasin Delineations

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The WRIA 9 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee Chair will seek a vote on approval of the subbasin proposal from the Committee at the July 23, 2019 meeting. The Committee discussed the most recent subbasin proposal at the June 25, 2019 meeting and there was support from all members. In addition, the Committee's Technical Workgroup supports the proposal and recommends approval by the Committee. As of July 11, 2019, no dissenting opinions to the proposal have been shared with the Chair by either members of the Technical Workgroup or the Committee.

The WRIA 9 WREC Technical Workgroup supports the subbasin proposal, as shown in *Figure 1 – WRIA 9 Proposed Subbasins*, because:

- 1) The subbasins are based on hydrologic stream basin boundaries (King County drainage basins), and
- 2) The proposal delineates subbasins at a finer scale in the area of the watershed expected to have the most homes using permit-exempt domestic wells (the Middle Green).

The WRIA 9 subbasins are based on King County drainage basins. There are some land areas included in the Ecology WRIA 9 boundary that were not included in the King County drainage basin boundary. That discrepancy is because the King County drainage basin map used more accurate LIDAR technology to delineate drainage basins and watersheds. Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plans must address all of the land within the Ecology WRIA boundary. Therefore, the following hatched land areas on the map are included in a subbasin for watershed restoration and enhancement planning purposes.

- Area A (hatched area north of Upper Middle Green): The workgroup and Committee recommended including Area A in the Upper Middle Green River subbasin where permit-exempt well growth is likely to occur, rather than adding this area to the protected Upper Green River subbasin.
- Area B (hatched area south of Newaukum): The workgroup and Committee recommended including Area B in the Newaukum Creek subbasin.
- Area C (hatched area north of Lake Youngs): The workgroup and Committee did not provide a recommendation for which subbasin to include Area C. GeoEngineers added Area C into the Jenkins Creek subbasin based on how that area is addressed in salmon recovery planning.
- Area D (hatched areas north of Duwamish): The workgroup and Committee recommended including Area D in the Duwamish River subbasin.
- Several other minor adjustments were made by GeoEngineers along the fringes of WRIA 9 where the King County LIDAR based boundaries do not exactly match the Ecology WRIA boundary. Those areas have also been hatched in blue but were not uniquely identified due to their small size and location adjacent to or within one distinct subbasin.

The Committee can decide to revise the subbasin delineations before approval of the final watershed restoration and enhancement plan. Committee members can make a request to discuss revised subbasin delineations at future Committee meetings or technical workgroup meetings.

**Figure 1 – WRIA 9 Proposed Subbasins**

