**Meeting Summary**

**Puyallup-White Watershed (WRIA 10) Restoration and Enhancement Committees**

**Meeting Information:**

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

9 am – 12:30 pm

Puyallup Public Library

324 South Meridian, Puyallup

**Committee Chair:**

Rebecca Brown, Washington State Department of Ecology

360-407-6666, Rebecca.Brown@ecy.wa.gov

| **Topic** | **Time** | **Action** | **Handouts** | **Lead** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome and Introductions** | 9:00am | None |  | Facilitator |
| **Approval of minutes and review agenda** | 9:15 | Vote | Agenda | Facilitator |
| **Announcements** | 9:20 |  |  | Chair and committee |
| **Public Comment** | 9:25 |  |  | Facilitator |
| **Instream Flows Presentation** | 9:35 |  |  | Jim Pacheco |
| **Sub-Basins** | 10:45 |  | Sub-basin draft maps | Sub-basin workgroups |
| **Technical Workgroup Update** | 11:30 |  |  | Rebecca Brown |
| **Plan Timeline Updates** | 12:00 |  |  | Rebecca Brown |
| **Next Steps and Adjournment** | 12:10 |  |  | Chair/Facilitator |

**Next Meeting: May 1, 2019, 9:30am to 1:00pm**

**Location: Puyallup Library**

**WRIA 10 Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance**

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Lisa Tobin | Auburn | Robby Wright (alternate) | Sumner |
| Dan Cardwell | Pierce County | Paul Marrinan | Puyallup |
| Elizabeth Bockstiegel | WA Department of Fish and Wildlife | Stan French | Lakehaven Water and Sewer District |
| Ken Gill | Fife | Jessie Gamble | Pierce MBA |
| Greg Reed | Orting |  |  |
| Scott Woodbury | Enumclaw | Carla Carlson (alternate) | Muckleshoot Tribe |
| Jim Morgan | Pacific | Merita Trohimovich | Tacoma |
| Lisa Spurrier (ex officio) | 10/12 Salmon Recovery LE | Tom Kantz (alternate) | Pierce County |
| Rebecca Brown | Ecology | Tim Osborne (alternate) | Lakehaven Water and Sewer District |

Committee members not in attendance: Edgewood, Puyallup Tribe, and Puyallup River Watershed Council.

**Other Attendees**

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Angela Johnson (Interim Facilitator) | WA Department of Ecology | Stephanie Potts | WA Department of Ecology |
| Austin Jennings | Pierce County | Spencer Easton | ESA - Facilitator |
| Jim Pacheco (Presenter) | WA Department of Ecology | Madeline Remmen | ESA - Facilitation Support |

**Approval of March summary and review of agenda:** The March summary was approved.

**Announcements**:

* Ecology is providing binders for each committee members. You can take binders with you between meetings or leave them, in which case Ecology will bring them back to the next meeting
* The facilitation consultant is now on board. Spencer Easton from ESA will be the facilitator.
* HDR has been hired as the technical consultant and will be on board by the next meeting. The project manager for HDR is Andrew Graham, and the lead for WRIA 10 is Bob Montgomery.
* The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department doesn’t have the capacity to participate as an ex-officio member, but will participate and provide information as needed.
* A video presentation about lessons learned from the [WRIA 11 process](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrx/wrx/fsvr/ecylcyfsvrxfile/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/wrec/LessonsLearnedPresentation.mp4) is available on the Ecology website.
* Committee members who have not yet signed the Operating Principles should do so and send the signature page to Rebecca
* Ecology’s net ecological benefits draft will be released for comments May 6th, with final comments due June 7th. This does no align well with the WRIA 10 meeting schedule, so it will be distributed to committee members by email.
* The USGS model will be ready in Feb 2020. Committee members would like to use it if feasible

**Instream Flow Presentation:** Jim Pacheco (Department of Ecology) presented an introduction to instream flow science, policy and impacts to availability. The full presentation can be found on the [WRIA 10](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37323/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_10.aspx) webpage. Below is a summary of the questions and discussion following the presentation:

* What is the definition of a closed watershed?
  + That no new surface water connections are allowed. This includes any groundwater that has a hydrology connection.
* Closed streams can provide habitat for salmon and having water is important for maintaining habitat. Opening up closed stream could negatively impact habitat.
  + The timing of water withdrawal and when the impact is seen needs to be taken into account
* EDT monitoring of chinook showed that S. Prairie Creek is the highest producer, which should be considered when discussing opening the stream to new water rights
* A lot of the legal decisions that have taken place recently have been important and have not gone far enough.
* What is the link between instream flow rules and mitigation?
  + The instream flow rule can be the limit on projects
* What is the use of a single family home based off of?
  + It is based off the use of 250 gallons of water per day, however the average home doesn’t use 90% of that. On average only 25 gallons per day are used.

**Sub-basin work group:** Four maps of proposed sub basins within the watershed were presented. Each map used Hydrologic Unit Codes (HUC) at the sub-watershed level (HUC 12) to develop sub-basins. The committee needs to select one map to represent the watershed sub basins. The following is a summary of the discussion that followed the presentation of the maps:

* To better determine where the sub basin boundaries should be, the maps should be overlaid with Urban Growth Areas, existing water system boundaries, gauge sites, and hatcheries
  + A GIS analysis map with the above layers will be presented at the next meeting
* Q: Is there a potential for forest land to be developed?
  + A: 1 subdivision per 80 acres so we are not going to see that many
* Upper Puyallup, Carbon, S Prairie Creek will have the most permit exempt wells as they are located in the band between the forest land and the water purveyors (the middle sub basins will have the most projects)
* Boise Creek is very important for fish and could be its own sub basin
* More segregation of the White River sub basins may be good (as seen on maps 3A and 4A)
* The input of the Puyallup Tribe is needed before a decision is made

**Technical Workgroup Update:** PE Well Projections, Consumptive use Estimates and Technical Workgroup Update April 2019, Rebecca Brown, Washington State Department

* Are exempt wells still 5,000 gallons a day?
  + Yes, but 950 gallons per connection for new wells
* Recommendation to meter permit exempt wells to make sure they are not overdrawing water.
* Concern for every WRIA being able to use their own assumptions when calculating water use
  + Ecology should encourage consistency with other watersheds
  + Rational for difference needs to be documented
  + Have to take into account that land use is different throughout watersheds, so they might have to use different assumptions

**Plan Timeline Update:**

The committee discussed the timeline for upcoming meetings and agreed not to meet in July. The August meeting will include site visits.

**Action Items**:

* Next meeting: decide on sub-basin watersheds map.
* A GIS map of sub-basin options showing Urban Growth Areas, existing water system boundaries, gauge sites, and hatcheries will be developed.