Meeting Summary

**WRIA 10 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

September 4, 2019 | 9:30 a.m.-12:30p.m.|[WRIA 10 Committee Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37323/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_10.aspx)

## **Location**

Puyallup Public Library

324 S. Meridian, Puyallup**Committee Chair**

Rebecca Brown

Rebecca.brown@ecy.wa.gov**Handouts**

Agenda

PE Well Projections

Streamline Options

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Ryan Rutkosky, alternate (City of Puyallup)

Lisa Tobin (City of Auburn)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Austin Jennings, alternate (Pierce County)

Carla Carlson (Muckleshoot Indian Tribe)

Robert Wright, alternate (City of Sumner)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Tristan Weiss, alternate (WDFW)

Greg Reed (City of Orting)

Tim Osborne (Lakehaven Water and Sewer District)

Jessie Gamble (MBA Pierce)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Merita Trohimovich (City of Tacoma)

Carrie Hernandez (Puyallup River Watershed Council)—attended remotely.

Lisa Spurrier, ex officio (Salmon Recovery LE)

Scott Woodbury (City of Enumclaw)

Chris Diaz, alternate (City of Fife)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

City of Bonney Lake

City of Pacific

City of Edgewood

Pierce Conservation District

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Angela Johnson (WA Dept. of Ecology)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

\*Attendees list is based on sign-in sheet.

# Meeting Summary

Minor revisions to the summary. The summary was approved.

# Updates and Announcements

* Rebecca had a request to allow someone to call in (Carrie), this just a test and a reminder that if someone does need remote participation it is possible if the room allows and there are no technical issues, you will need to let Rebecca know ahead of time
* Reminder: there is a public comment period for grant guidelines, on website and closes sept 8

# Public Comment

* *No comments.*

# Work Plan Update

Response to a request to streamline the process. Rebecca provided some options for the streamlined process and a brainstorm of pros and cons, along with HDR’s deliverable schedule and two potential work plans.

* Committee members expressed interest in streamlining based on HDR deliverable schedule, and interest and getting to decisions and start working on projects.
* Suggestion to have a joint meeting with WRIA 12 gained traction. Meeting topics would include:
  + Go over the CU and PE projection memos (similar or same memo for both committees).
  + Presentation on final grant guidelines.
  + Project screening criteria and contents of the December 31 project memo.
  + Update on rulemaking in WRIA 1, focus on changing water use limits.
* The committee will aim to make a Consumptive Use decision at the November meeting.
* Instead of a December committee meeting, we will have a Project Workshop workgroup meeting at the same time and place as our regularly scheduled meetings.
* Rebecca will send out a work plan to reflect these ideas/preferences, and schedule a joint WRIA 10/12 meeting for October.

# Projects

Rebecca gave a short presentation on HDRs contract scope and update on their status as well as their plan to screen existing projects to gather new ideas for future/new projects. List is at the bottom of these notes.

* Committee members discussed funding obligations—is the committee required to commit to funding the projects (no), can we use the well fees for projects (yes), who is in charge of developing funding within the legislature (unsure-can ask around).
* Discussion around additional actions, aside from projects—rule changes, conservation measures, ordinance changes.
* Chad from HDR and Bob from Anchor QEA are working on developing project lists from existing plans, and developing project selection criteria.
* Site visit projects were inspiring but unclear the level of water offset—hard to quantify. Rebecca to check with Tom Culhane, Thurston Hydrogeologist, about quantifying water offsets.
* Committee responded to an initial list of projects, and added to the list with ideas.

# Workgroup Updates

PE Well Projections:

* Workgroup recommends moving forward a high, medium, and low growth rate.
  + Interest in showing a bar graph or scatter plot of PE wells for those years, and having a trend line.
* Committee requested additional changes to the heat map: Watershed-specific, use scalable dots.
* Make sure to put uncertainties on figures, important to state that these are not hard and fast numbers.
* Committee comfortable moving high, low, medium growth range forward.

Consumptive Use:

* Committee disagreement on outdoor consumptive numbers (80% might be too low, 90% might be too high), but OK with using 90% as a sensitivity analysis. Should be clear that the purpose is sensitivity analysis.
* Discussion on nuances of metered data: Metered at the source or metered at the house makes a difference. HDR should look at systems metered at the source, where homes are paying a flat fee (no conservation incentive).
* There will be more time to provide feedback and review consumptive use numbers.
* Aiming for a decision on consumptive use estimates at November meeting.

# NEB and Plan Outline

Rebecca gave a presentation (available on the webpage).

* NEB is evaluated at the WRIA scale, but impacts could be different at different areas of the watershed.
* Question on Ecology’s support for continued meeting after the plan is adopted. Ecology staff will still be on board to help implement plan but generally resources will be limited.
* Some committee members expressed concerns about adding extra components to the plan, but some committee members noted that some aspects like climate change could be included as part of the project development.
* Local approval of the plan will be expressed by committee members voting on the plan in the end, with the expectation that they are representing their entity/jurisdiction.

# Action Items and Next Steps

* Presentation in October on PE well and consumptive use projections. See if we can combine the meeting with WRIA 12.
* Rebecca will send new committee work plan including:
  + No committee meeting in December, but tech workshop for projects during our regular meeting time.
  + Joint WRIA 10/12 meeting in October.
* Rebecca will send HDR feedback:
  + Provide a bar graph or scatter plot with trend line for yearly PE wells.
  + Have scalable dots instead of current heat map display.
  + Include uncertainty on figures to limit confusion/misleading information.
  + Move forward with high, medium, and low rates.
  + Nuances of water system metering information (Dan Cardwell will reach out to DOH).
* PowerPoints will be available online.
* Rebecca will check with technical team about streambed restoration projects and their offset potential.
  + Update: offsets are likely small and difficult to measure, but it depends on the specific stream reach and stream conditions. Each site would need to have information on how much the project would raise the water table and the porosity of area. Timing of the water benefits is important and difficult to assess.
* Rebecca will check with Ecology management about plan for supporting committees after the plan is adopted.

**Next meeting: October 9, 12:30-3:30 pm, Puyallup Public Library.**

**Combined with WRIA 12.**

**Draft Project and Action Idea List: These projects are ideas generated by brainstorm. They have not been reviewed, prioritized, or agreed to by committee members. Expect many changes to this list in the coming months.**

**Project**

* Streambed restoration.
* Water right acquisition
* Purchase property and decommission wells.
* Decommission wells and connect to water system.
* Reclaimed water reuse
* Levee setback
* Off-channel storage (with or without levee setback).
* Stormwater retrofits
* Water efficiencies and conservation measures.

**Action**

* Meter new wells and require reporting.
* Develop a system to track decommissioned wells/wells removed.
* Fund for acquisition opportunities
* Updates to codes and other regulations/ordinances.
* Water efficiencies and conservation measures.
* Remove Ecology's flow control exemptions.