Meeting Summary

**WRIA 10 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

November 6, 2019 | 9:30 a.m.-11:30p.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

CU Status

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Ryan Rutkosky, alternate (City of Puyallup)

Lisa Tobin (City of Auburn)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Carla Carlson (Muckleshoot Indian Tribe)

Robert Wright, alternate (City of Sumner)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Greg Reed (City of Orting)

Jim Morgan (City of Pacific)

Tim Osborne (Lakehaven Water and Sewer District)

Jessie Gamble (MBA Pierce)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Scott Woodbury (City of Enumclaw)

Allan Warren (Pierce Conservation District)

Jeremy Metzler (City of Edgewood)

Liz Bockstiegel (WDFW)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

City of Tacoma

City of Fife

City of Bonney Lake

MBA Pierce

Puyallup River Watershed Council

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Stephanie Potts (WA Dept. of Ecology)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

Jacob Heckert (South Sound Beaver Recovery)

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

# Meeting Summary

Minor revisions to the October summary. No revisions to the September summary. Both summaries were approved.

# Updates and Announcements

* Grant guidance is available on [Ecology’s website](https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Streamflow-restoration-implementation-grants).
* Please return the Plan Approval Process form to Rebecca by Dec. 20, 2019. Let Rebecca know if she needs to send it again.
* Workgroup task force has identified 10 priority streams for water right acquisition assessments. See [spreadsheet on Box](https://app.box.com/s/efnhvzx4afaa64wzjydl3xqqx34i4wtn).

# Public Comment

Jacob Heckert from South Sound Beaver Recovery gave a brief statement about three studies that showed beavers are a cost effective and ecological way of repairing streams. The goal of his organization is to increase tolerance and awareness of beavers in the South Sound. Beavers are making a slow recovery after population decimated. Studies have shown that beavers increase open surface water, and have positive impacts on wells and groundwater flows. It is legal to move beavers. For beaver projects to work, it requires:

* Willing and interested land owners.
* Informed and dedicated volunteers.
* Grant funding: large scale to small scale.
* Approval from governmental bodies.
* Prioritization with local engagement/ stakeholder groups and local engagement.

Jacob asked that the committee include beaver restoration projections in the plan.

* DFW has put together a model for potential relocation projects, and could identify areas for potential projects and conduct a feasibility study.
* Committee members expressed interest in learning more about the model and beaver projects, and the potential as NEB. Potential future committee presentation?

Jacob can be reached at heckertj@my.lanecc.edu.

# PE Well Projections and Consumptive Use

* PE Well Projections: Workgroup recommended moving forward with the moderate assumption, which is 688 wells projected in the watershed. The high and low projections will still be included in the plan.
	+ Committee members felt comfortable with the moderate number.
* Consumptive Use Estimates: Ecology is working through concerns raised by DFW on the outdoor irrigation analysis. The committee worked through the rest of the standard assumptions.
	+ Committee agreed to use the Upper Confidence Limit from HDR’s outdoor irrigation analysis (0.27 acres) as a placeholder until the concerns on the outdoor irrigation analysis have been addressed.
	+ Committee was comfortable moving forward a preliminary CU estimate of 277.4 acre-feet/year and 0.38 cfs.
	+ We will revisit CU at the February 8, 2020 meeting.
* Offset Target: Committee began discussion on how to approach setting an offset target. Committee members were either interested in seeing what the project list can offset first, or coming up with a strategic method to look at the most sensitive factors. There was also mention of seeing what the legal limit (950 gpd) would yield.
	+ Committee will ask HDR to run a sensitivity analysis, and the workgroup will review it.
	+ Meanwhile, the committee focus on project list development.

# One Year Check-In

Committee has done a lot of work and learned a lot in the past year. Rebecca and Spencer asked the committee how things were going, and what could be improved. Committee members are encouraged to reach out to Spencer and/or Rebecca if they have additional feedback.

* In addition to the presentations and work the committee has accomplished, this process has led to strengthened relationships.
* Pierce County appreciated joint meetings when appropriate.
* Phone calls ahead of meetings are helpful.
* Looking for help on how to use Box.
* Rebecca will still use the website and send documents through email.

# Project Workshop

The December 4, 2019 meeting is not regularly scheduled committee meeting, but instead a project workshop. It is not required to attend, but it would be great to have a lot of people and come up with projects.

* Workshop is open to the public, similar to regular committee meetings.
* HDR will have a list of projects that are in other plans. That list will be populated in Box. Committee members are encouraged to [add projects to the list](https://app.box.com/s/0pfgkd52oaktueqwjzw73yw5suayc15v) (if technology allows).
* We will try to surface potential conflicts and start working through them sooner rather than later.
* We will discuss both water offset projects and habitat or other projects that help us meet NEB.
* General outline of workshop (detailed agenda to follow):
	+ We will have a brief update on the water rights acquisition assessment.
	+ We will walk through project list. (Let Spencer Easton know if you want to briefly (5 min) present on a project during the workshop).
	+ We will identify what we want in the plan and what makes a good project.
	+ Split into groups and discuss the projects on the list, and identify what is missing.
* Include maps with PE wells projected by subbasin and high priority streams.

Liz Bockstiegel (DFW) walked through the stream priority list with a little more detail. Liz, Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe), Carla Carlson (Muckleshoot Tribe), and Lisa Spurrier (Salmon Recovery Lead Entity) developed the list based on fish biologist anecdotal evidence of low flows, in addition to priority salmon streams, and streams most likely impacted by new PE well growth.

* Questions about Scatter Creek (adjacent to Boise Creek). It was used by Weyerhaeuser and diverted to Boise Creek.
* Scott (Enumclaw) mentioned a project to relinquish a well water right from the Enumclaw Golf Course. Expected to be completed this summer.

# Box Overview

Rebecca gave a brief overview on Box for committee members who were having trouble with it.

# Action Items and Next Steps

* Nov. 14-Dec. 2: Rebecca will be out of the office.
	+ Please contact Spencer if you are interested in presenting on a potential project at the December workshop.
* Rebecca will bring maps with the PE Well projections by subbasin and priority streams to the December meeting, and have those layers available on the web map.
* Rebecca will check in with HDR about a CU sensitivity analysis, and continue working through remaining Consumptive Use concerns.
* Committee: Add potential projects to the [Project List in Box.](https://app.box.com/s/0pfgkd52oaktueqwjzw73yw5suayc15v) (email projects to Rebecca and Spencer if you are having trouble with Box).
* Next workgroup meeting; Nov. 12, 1 pm -3 pm, Webex.

**Project Workshop: December 4, 2019, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm, Puyallup Public Library.**

**Next full committee meeting: February 5, 2020, 9:30 - 12:30pm.**