



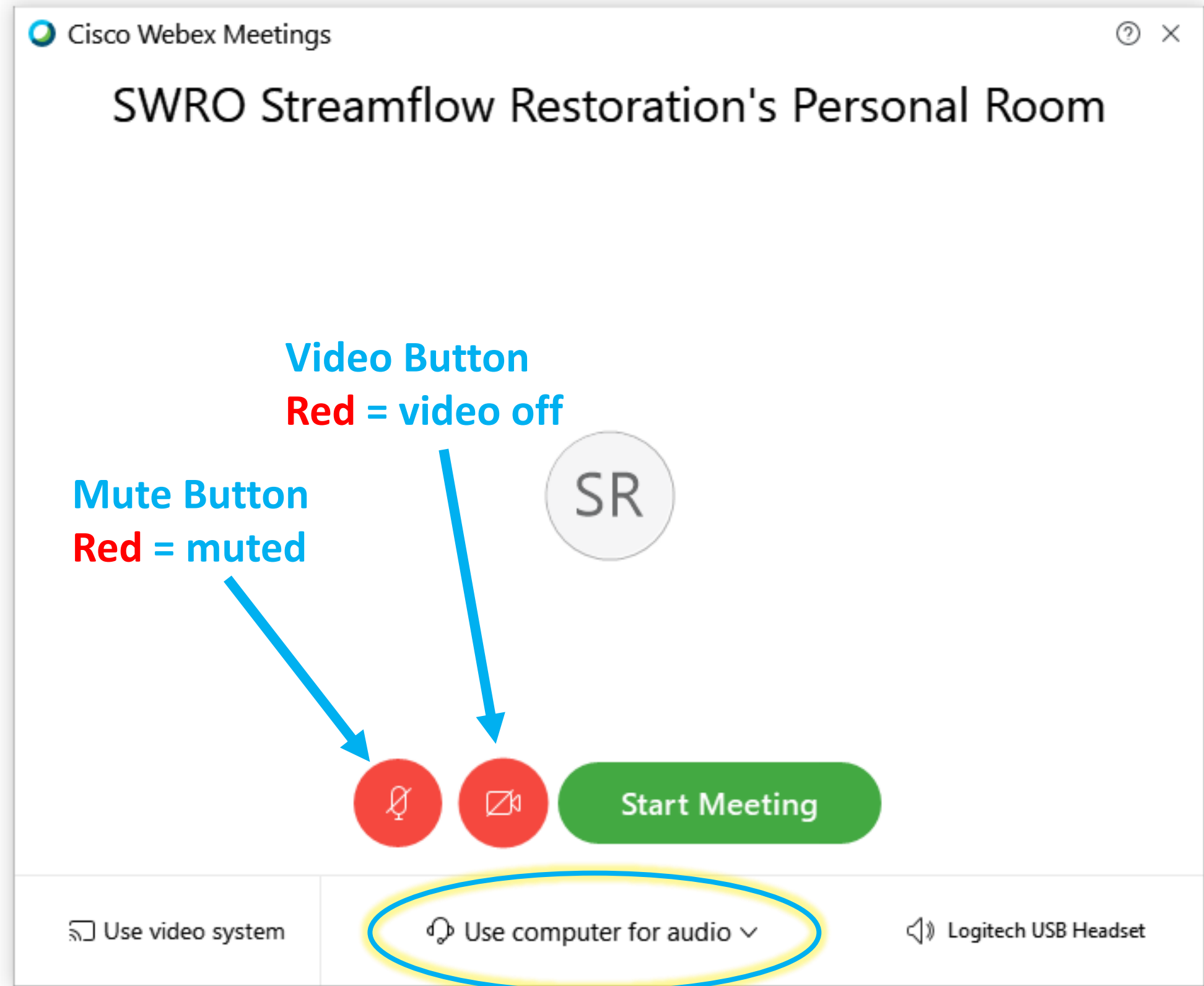
WRIA 10 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee Meeting

September 2, 2020



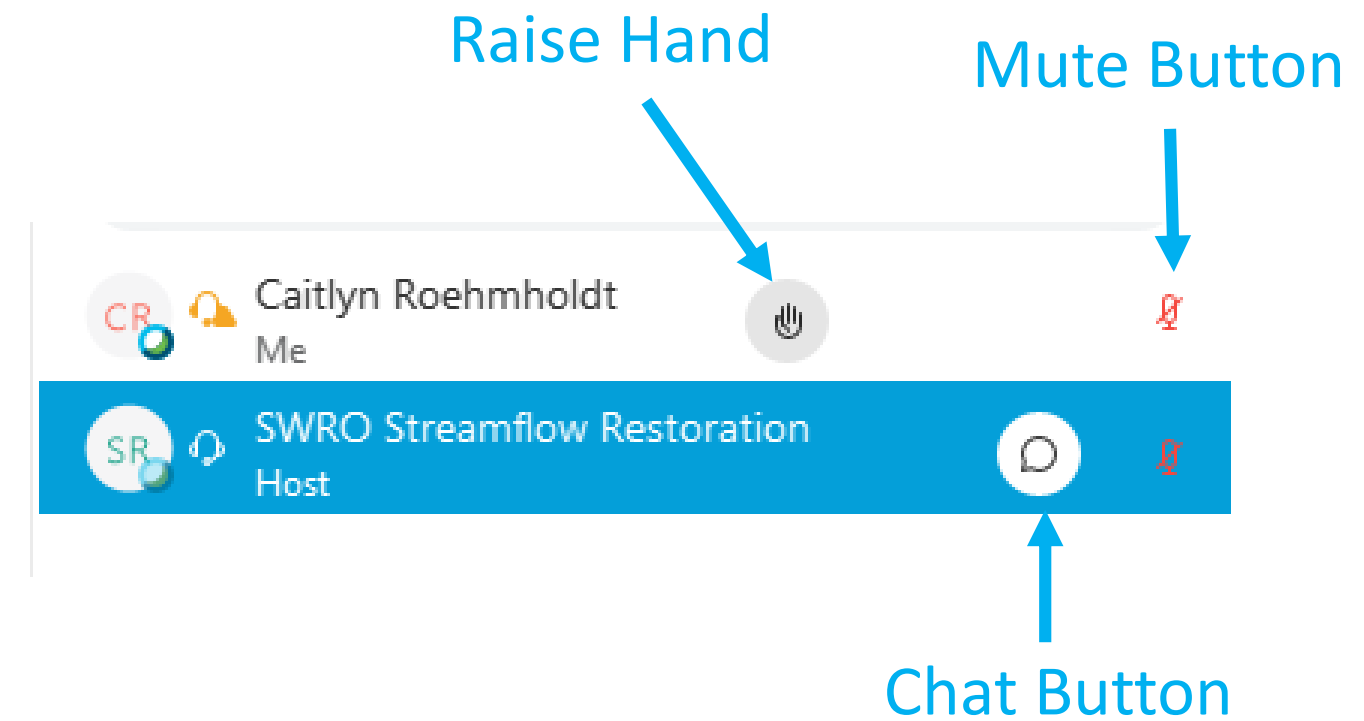
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- Use a **headset/headphones** or take the call from a quiet space to reduce background noise/echo.
- Keep your phone or headset **muted** unless you are speaking to the group.
- If using phone, **do not put us on hold**. We will have to listen to your hold music!
- Turn **off video** to conserve bandwidth.



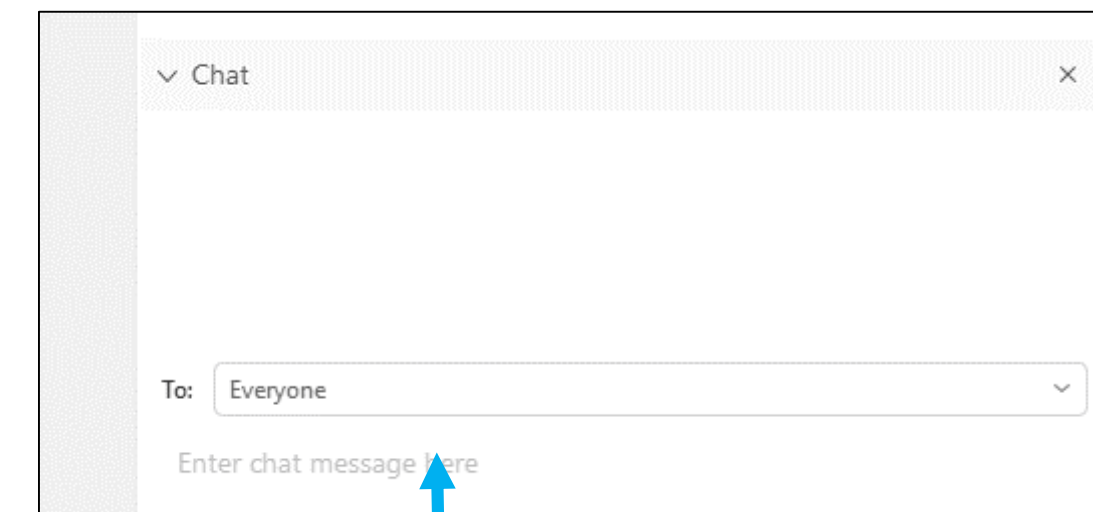
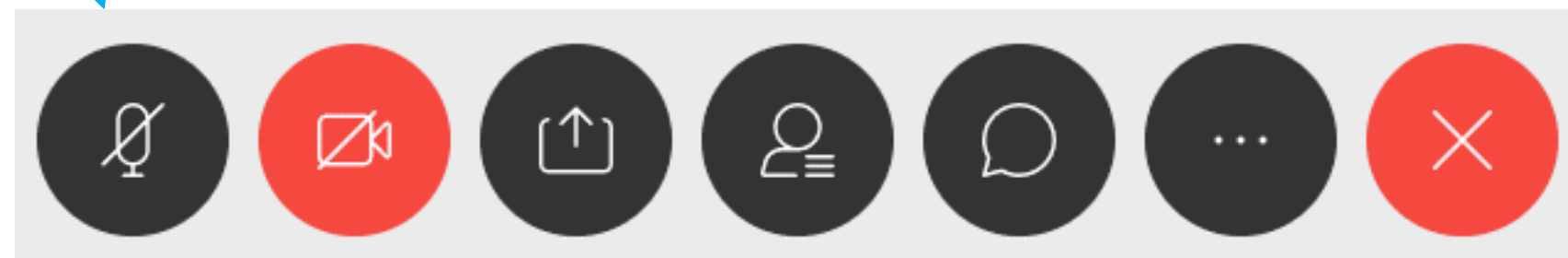
WebEx Participation Tips

- Use the [chat function](#) to submit questions and comments and/or request to speak to the group
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Mute Button
Red = muted

Chat Button

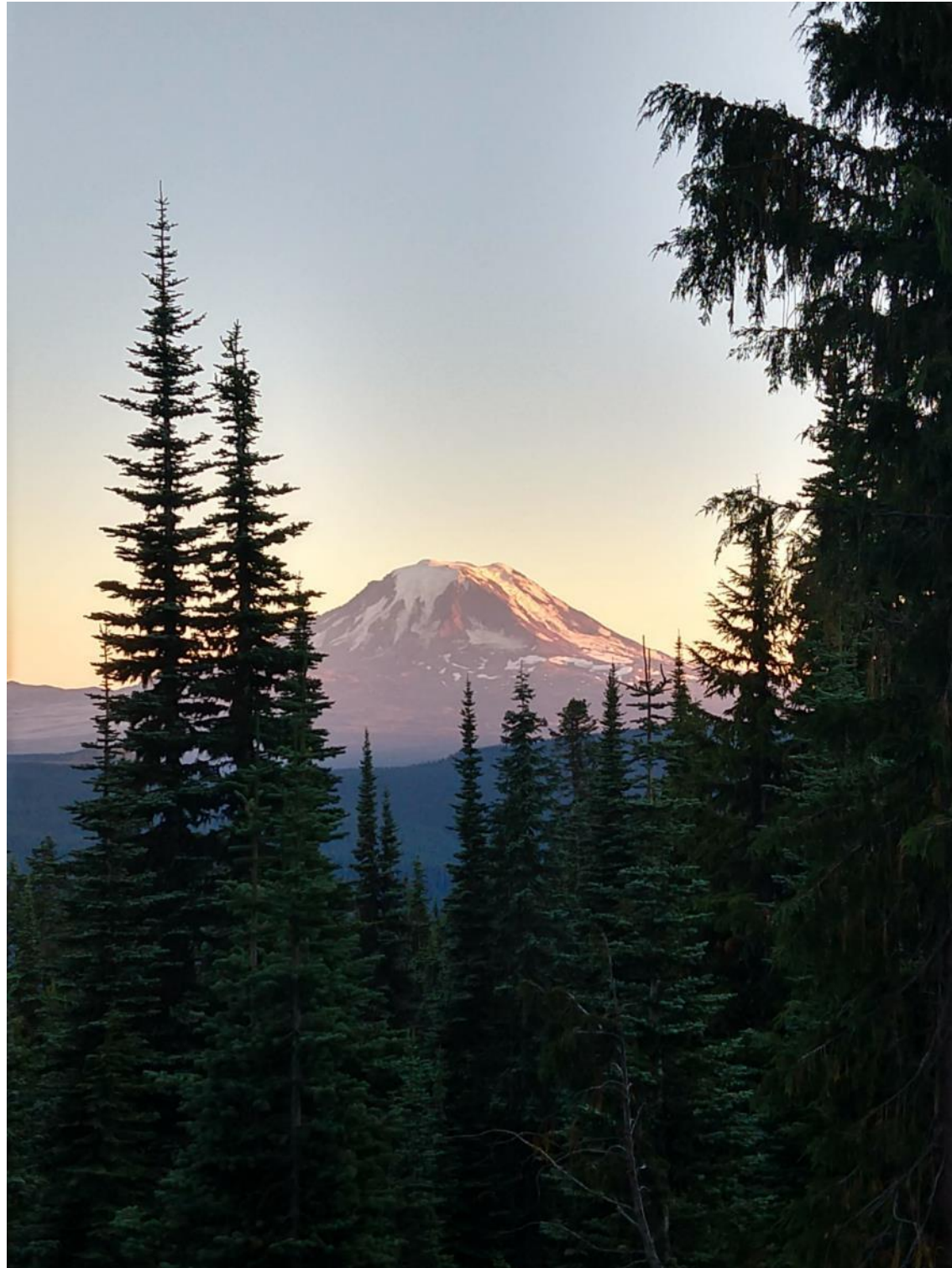


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Agenda

- Welcome, Role Call, and Committee Business
 - WebEx logistics and technology check.
 - August meeting summary.
 - Announcements and updates.
 - Public comment.
- Projects
- Break
- Policy and regulatory next steps
- Voluntary metering program
- Wrap up

Announcements and Updates



- Covid-19: expect to continue meeting remotely.
- Review time changes?
- Draft plan out for review. Comments due Sept. 21.
- Committee updates?
- Public Comment

WRIA 10 WREC Status Summary

Subbasins	<p>Voted on in May 2019</p> <p>7 Subbasins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Puyallup River • Upper Puyallup River • Carbon River • South Prairie Creek • Lower White River • Middle White River • Upper White River 	Policy and Regulatory Recommendations	<p>The Committee is currently discussing the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary metering • Establish incentive programs for water conservation • Update the Ecology Well Log Database • Enhance education and technical assistance by State staff of existing and proposed regulations • Use a centralized database for tracking project implementation • Build structure for plan implementation to support adaptive management. <p>Committee is also discussing if and how to present these recommendations in the plan.</p>
Consumptive Use Estimate	<p>Voted on in April 2020</p> <p>Consumptive Use Estimate of 0.38 cfs / 277.4 AFY</p>	Adaptive Management	Discussed. Will be included in the compiled plan for committee feedback.
Offset Target	Same as Consumptive Use Estimate	Resiliency	Address in project descriptions
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some potential projects have been identified by committee members, with an offset estimate totaling 97.09 AFY • Other potential water right acquisitions and PE well decommissions. • HDR team is developing detailed descriptions for 6 habitat projects. • Potential HDR for to conduct an MAR site screening. • Water system consolidation/wholesaling water projects. 	Plan Review Status	Compiled chapters 1-6 out for committee review.
NEB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee plans to include a habitat project in each subbasin 		



Committee Announcements

Public Comment



Projects



Project Offset Tally

- CU Estimate: **277.4 AFY**
- High certainty offset projects:
 - Old Inglin Dairy (water right): **89.09 AFY**
 - Alward Road project (20 PE wells): **8 AFY**
 - Stubbs project (water right): unknown quantity
 - Carbon River project (water right): unknown quantity
 - Additional decommissioned wells (# wells): unknown quantity
- Total offset: **97.09 AFY + unknown quantity**
- Difference: **-180.31 AFY**

Finding More Offsets

- Complete review and estimate of Stubbs and Carbon River water rights.
- Outreach to water right holders from WWT assessment to identify parties interested in a water right transaction.
- Tally all PE wells expected to be decommissioned as part of levee setback and floodplain reconnection projects.
- Water system consolidation/connecting to water service.
- Conduct a site review for MAR projects in the Carbon and Upper Puyallup Stream Management Units.

10 Minute Break



Policy and Regulatory

Approach and next steps

Options to Move Forward

- Continue to develop a robust plan that includes policy and regulatory recommendations.
 - Risk that the plan will not be approved by the full committee.
 - The draft compiled plan currently represents this option.
- Include the Policy and Regulatory Recommendations as an appendix to the plan, stating that they do not have full committee support.
 - All committee members would still need to approve the plan with that language. Furthermore, it would make the plan potentially
 - May be more complicated for Ecology to review. Could be unclear to Ecology management what they should do with the appendix.

Options to Move Forward cont.

- Reframe Policy and Regulatory recommendations as challenges or barriers to plan development and implementation.
 - The draft compiled plan includes an example in the Adaptive Management section.
- Include policy and regulatory recommendations in the Adaptive Management section (PE well log updates, project tracking) or Project section (WRIA-wide education programs, etc.), as appropriate.
 - The draft compiled plan includes an example in the Adaptive Management section.

Cross-WRIA Conservation Education and Incentive Program

- State will partner with counties and conservation districts to develop and implement programs that provide outreach and incentives to rural landowners with wells in order to lower indoor and outdoor water use through water conservation best practices, and comply with drought and other water use restrictions.
- Educate landowners and residents about the benefits of conservation, and appropriate methods to prepare for and respond to drought conditions.
- Develop programs based on the “Active Program” model described in the HDR’s technical memo.
- These programs would encourage the following types of programs/best practices:
 - Natural lawn care and healthy soils which have the ability to rapidly take in water when it is available and to retain water.
 - Irrigation efficiency practices
 - Rainwater catchment and storage
 - Drought resistant/native landscaping
 - Smaller lawn size
 - Forest, meadow, and wetland conservation practices
 - Indoor water conservation practices
 - Voluntary metering for feedback and to document benefits

Statewide Mandatory water conservation measures during drought

- Water Conservation Policies are a key component to mitigating water use from permit exempt wells and restoring flows in critical sub basins, and statewide mandatory water conservation measures in unincorporated areas during drought could help maintain flows. The focus would be on limiting landscape irrigation and other outdoor water use. Exemptions for growing food should be considered.
- Key Players
 - State Legislature
 - County Councils and Commissions
 - Department of Ecology
- The Legislature could pass a law requiring counties or the Department of Ecology to implement these policies.
- Ecology could write these into rule with their existing authority.
- County Councils and Commissions could pass ordinances mandating water conservation.



PE Well Metering

Voluntary PE Well Metering

- Pilot a voluntary 5 year program in one or more WRIA 10 subbasins to meter PE wells.
- Supplement program with education and community engagement about water consumption and conservation.
- Responsible: ECY, counties, CD.
- Funding: General operation or appropriated funds from the state, counties, and/or CD related to water, habitat preservation (salmon recovery), or housing. Grants.
- Validate water use assumptions in the plan.
- Inform the adaptive management process and future water management and planning efforts.
- Data could inform:
 - growth policies and patterns.
 - where to target incentives and education/outreach programs.
 - where to place resources across subbasins to help improve streamflow, water levels, and temperature.



We are almost there!

Wrap Up and Next Steps

- Next steps listed on interactive slides.
- Next meeting is scheduled for October 7, 2020 on WebEx.
 - Focus on reviewing/addressing comments on the compiled plan.
 - Updates on water offset projects.