# Ecology logo. A state of Washington shape separated into three bands of color; light blue, green, and dark blue. a sun sits in the middle of the light blue band.Meeting Summary

**WRIA 10 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee**

**Committee meeting**

October 7, 2020 | 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. |[WRIA 10 Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37323/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_10.aspx) |[Webmap](https://hdr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=80d55f4e263d4a27a7f987f62f7846b7)

Location

WebExCommittee Chair

Rebecca Brown

Rebecca.brown@ecy.wa.gov

Handouts

Agenda

[Presentation](https://app.box.com/s/t19ljse7dczshox4q1ojd0glphny42mh)

[Interactive Slides](https://app.box.com/s/d61g2437re0qg8tc2m0fsdtpnwxwgvk2)

[Operating Principles](https://app.box.com/s/zdj1ohh0ffb9dt5nfreea2nb0zcwg4l9)

**Attendance**

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Lisa Tobin (City of Auburn)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Austin Jennings (Pierce County)

Jeremy Metzler (City of Edgewood)

Paul Marrinan (City of Puyallup)

Jason Van Gilder (City of Sumner)

Greg Reed (City of Orting)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Liz Bockstiegel (WDFW)

Scott Woodbury (City of Enumclaw)

Tim Osborne (Lakehaven Water and Sewer District)

Carrie Hernandez (Puyallup River Watershed Council)

Carla Carlson (Muckleshoot Tribe)

Allan Warren (Pierce Conservation District)

Jim Morgan (City of Pacific)

Jessie Gamble (MBA Pierce County)

Merita Trohimovich (City of Tacoma)

Ryan Johnstone (City of Bonney Lake)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

City of Fife

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

Matt Rakow (WA Dept. of Ecology)

Bob Montgomery (HDR)

Mike Noone (WA Dept. of Ecology)

Stacy Vynne McKinstry (WA. Dept. of Ecology)

Josie Cummings (BIAW)

Jeffrey Thomas (Puyallup Tribe)

Jim Pacheco (WA. Dept. of Ecology)

\*Attendees list is based on roll call and WebEx attendees list.

**Meeting Summary**

The September meeting summary was approved.

## Updates and Announcements

* Ecology staff will be working remotely until June 2021, which confirms that plan approval will be virtual.
* The meeting packet included a link to an online survey that gives committee members the opportunity to update their local review process.
  + The survey will be open until November 2, 2020 and it includes an option to select that you are on multiple committees.
  + The due date for Ecology to adopt the plan is June 30, 2020, but Ecology will need additional time before then to approve the plan.
* Streamflow grant recipients were announced on October 7, 2020.

## Public Comment

* N/A no public comments.

## Projects

The committee is still in need of projects to meet the offset target of 277.4 AFY, as the current offset is 167.3 AFY. The committee discussed the following potential projects:

* Stubbs and Carbon River rights
  + The committee discussed whether the Stubs water right is a viable project since its claim is after 1917. More information will be available at the next meeting.
  + The Carbon River right is still a viable project and could provide 14.3 AFY of offset.
* Conducting outreach to water rights holders from the WWT assessment to determine if parties are interested in a water right transaction
  + Paul and Allan are conducting outreach to see if the water right holder at the Linden golf course is interested in a transaction.
* Tallying up PE wells
  + Orville wells will provide 1.2 AFY of offset, a number of other wells have not been tallied up.
* Water System Consolidation
  + Initial screening showed that there would be a limited benefit for the added effort.
* MAR Projects
  + The committee discussed looking into MAR projects in gravel pits using Tacoma Water instead of surface water.
  + Scott identified a gravel pit in Enumclaw, PGG is looking in to seeing if it would be suitable for an MAR project.
  + This could be expensive because it would require purchasing and pumping water.
* The committee discussed including a percentage (acquisition goal) of the WWT water rights to help meet the CU estimate.
  + All rights would have to go through an extent and validity test and Ecology would have to review to ensure they are valid. Thus this would require a lot of work.
    - As long as the committee’s goal is grounded in science, Ecology should not have an issue approving.
  + The committee could add language to track the goal in the adaptive management section.
  + A committee member stated that to fill the offset goal deficit the plan would need to include approximately 30% of WWT water rights.
* PCD is developing a key action for irrigation efficiently targeted at farmers, if it can be quantified it could help reach the offset goal.
* The committee also discussed the potential for efficiency/stormwater retrofits as a potential way to reach the offset goal.
* Floodplain storage
  + Committee member including WDFW and the Muckleshoot tribe expressed concern about this type of project.
* Community forest projects to lengthen rotations
  + Modeling shows that when forest rotation extends from 40 to 80 years there is additional water in the watershed.
  + Committee members questioned if this would provide offset in the 20 year planning horizon.
* The committee also discussed the potential for well injections projects. Ecology will look into it and provide more information to the committee.
* WDFW stated that it may be necessary for the committee to reduce CU impacts by putting locations restrictions or reducing well withdrawals.

## Plan Comment Review

* Chapters 5, 6, and 7 were not complete in the compiled plan and have been changed based on the conversations at the September meeting.
* Rebecca went through comments received on plan draft chapters.
* The recommendation around drought limits in section 6.2.3 had been moved into an appendix that discusses future opportunities.
  + The committee decided to take this out of the appendix.
* The committee requested that Ecology provide clarity in the Adaptive Management section around how Ecology might update the plan in the future.
* The committee discussed also discussed the recommendations that focused on education.
  + The committee decided to revise the language to provide more clarity, coordinate language with the chairs of other watersheds to make sure the recommendation is consistent and revisit the funding sources.

## Operating Principles

* The committee voted in favor to approve a change to the operating principles that allows for virtual approval with voice vote and a roll call vote. Several committee members were not present at the time of the vote; Rebecca reached out to them individually.

## Next Steps and Action Items

* Check-in with TPCHD about including them on education recommendations.
* Send out new amended copy of the operating principles after all committee members have approved them.
* Rebecca will check with WRIA 7 chair to see what percentage of WWT water rights they are counting toward their offset target and the workgroup will discuss what might be a reasonable goal for WRIA 10.
* The HDR team will look into the PCD irrigation efficiency program and see if an offset could be quantified.
* Workgroup to discuss efficiency/stormwater retrofits as a potential way to reach the offset goal.
* Ecology will look into what the offset amount could be from the forest rotation proposal, who the players are and how much timberland exists in WRIA 10. Get in touch with Jeffrey Thomas from the Puyallup Tribe about sources of information and follow up with Carla from the Muckleshoot Tribe.
* Next WRIA 10 meeting: November 4, 2020.