AGENDA

**WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

June 12, 2019 | 12:30p.m. – 3:30 p.m. |[WRIA 12 Committee Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx)

**Location**

University Place Library

3609 Market Pl. Suite 100 University Place

**Committee Chair**

Rebecca Brown

Rebecca.brown@ecy.wa.gov

**Handouts**

Agenda

Discussion Guide

Maps

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Tom Kantz, alternate (Pierce County)

Don Stanley (Lakewood Water District)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Paul Loveless (Town of Steilacoom)

Jessie Gamble (MBA Pierce)

AustinJennings*,* alternate (Pierce County)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Calvin Taylor (City of Tacoma)

Paul Bucich (City of Lakewood)

Kelly Still (WDFW)

Renee Buck, alternate (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Rebecca Kowalski, ex officio (JBLM)

Rebecca Brown (Ecology)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

Pierce Conservation District

Other Attendees

Spencer Easton, facilitator (ESA)

Madeline Remmen, information manager (ESA)

Mike Noone(Ecology)

Jeff Johnson (Regional Water Co-op of Pierce County)

Lisa Dally Wilson, speaker (Dally Environmental)

Mark Blakely

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

# Meeting Agenda and Meeting Summary

* Rebecca sent out a revised meeting summary.
* Comments/edits to the summary generally added more information.
* PE well projection discussion was added on from recollection from Paul Pickett’s notes.
* **Approved with changes.**

# Updates and Announcements

Rebecca provided updates from Ecology.

* HDR team met with counties involved in WRIAs 10, 12, 13, 14, 15 and other data holders to discuss growth projection, Rebecca sent out a meeting summary.
  + Opportunities for counties to figure out how they are going to be working with HDR to do PE well projections.
  + Discussed data needs.
* We are getting Box, which is software that can share large files.
* A few questions came up in our last meeting that I would like to address briefly today.
  + Q. If the committee cannot reach agreement on the plan, will Ecology consider using what we came up with if goes beyond the minimum?
  + A. Ecology will give deference to the minimum requirements of the plan, but may consider above and beyond, especially if the above and beyond is supported by most members of the committee. There is some concern for rulemaking if we go above and beyond, but we may get support if that’s the direction most of the local committee members want to go. There is no guarantee of inclusion of concepts above and beyond if the committee does not approve the plan.
  + Q. With WRIAs that cannot come to consensus, will Ecology be making decisions about what will be included in the plan?
  + A. Most likely, yes. The committees will follow procedures as outlined in the Committee operating procedures. If they reach an impasse after following the operating procedures, Ecology may need to step in to make the decisions.
* The Chambers-Clover Watershed Council is hosting a field trip on July 17 from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm. They will be looking at an upland restoration project on Flett Creek and visiting City of Tacoma stormwater facilities. [Registration and more information](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4255503) is available online.
* Anyone can request a meeting with Ecology staff to discuss the work we are doing here. The Squaxin Island Tribe requested a meeting with the Ecology Chairs for WRIAs 12, 13, 14, and 15, which are the four watersheds that the tribe is participating in. We discussed the different perspectives on the legislation between Ecology and the Tribe, talked about how the planning process was going so far. Despite our differences, Squaxin Island Tribe is committed to the planning process and interested in projects that result in improved habitat for fish, and creative ideas. Ecology made it clear that we not opposed to going above and beyond the minimum requirements in the law, but we have to be mindful of the time and resources it takes to do extra data analysis, research, etc. Ecology will not commit to going beyond the minimums without buy-in from the full committees. It was a good, constructive meeting. The option to schedule a meeting like this with Ecology is available to everyone.

# Public Comment

*No comments.*

# Ex Officio

Entities that are not listed in the legislation that may have something to contribute to the process can be added to the committee as Ex Officio members. This allows them to provide important input and could be very valuable for the committee. Members have mentioned JBLM and Salmon Recovery Lead Entity as potential ex officio members.

* The committee supported including Becky Kowalski from JBLM as an ex officio member.
* A committee member mentioned Camp Murray would be another important ex officio.
* The committee will consider adding the Salmon Recovery Lead Entity at a future meeting.

# Site Visit Ideas

Committee members provided a list of ideas for August site visits. The list is available as a separate document on the [WRIA 12 Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx). Send additional ideas to Rebecca by June 21.

# Plan Considerations

Lisa-Dally Wilson from HDR presented on the WRIA 11 planning experience which included defining subbasins, estimating population growth, calculating new PE connections, estimating consumptive use, identifying projects and the implementation of projects. This presentation gave an overview of the WRIA 11 process and advice on how to develop a successful plan. Presentation is available on the [WRIA 12 Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx). Committee had an opportunity to ask questions throughout the presentation.

# PE Well Projections

Based on conversation last month the committee has advanced Method 1 (using historic well data from Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department) and HDR is working on it. The committee reviewed both Method 1 and Method 2 (development capacity in the areas outside of Group A water systems). The committee discussed the ability for Method 1 to identify areas in the Group A systems that are not yet served by water; many wells have been removed, but not many added; the coordinated water system plan addresses policies for connecting to water vs. PE well exemptions, and reasonable and timeliness for connecting to water.

* Method 2 is not a second method but an additional step of Method 1 to provide additional information and produce an upper limit in the area outside of Group A systems.
* Committee did not have concerns moving ahead with Method 1 and Method 2 as one method.

# Subbasins

Rebecca provided a discussion guide and a number of maps to give context to the subbasin discussion. The technical workgroup suggested using the HUC 12s as a starting point. The committee discussed different subbasin configurations based on prioritizing projects.

* The committee put forth a draft subbasin proposal with three subbasins based primarily on HUC 12 lines. A draft subbasin proposal now will help HDR run their growth projections.
  + The three subbasins are: Clover Creek; Chambers Creek + the Nearshore area (Point Defiance); Sequalitchew Creek.
  + The committee requested that the HUC 12 line between Sequalitchew Creek and Chambers estuary be redrawn to follow the topography, and keep the Chambers estuary in a single subbasin.
* The technical workgroup will work with the HDR team to make sure these subbasins are mapped correctly.
* Kelly (DFW) provided a number of maps of salmon and fish importance. The maps are available on the [WRIA 12 webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx).

# Action Items and Next Steps:

* Rebecca will post the salmon maps on the WRIA 12 webpage.
* JBLM was added an Ex Officio; adding the Lead Entity will be discussed at the next meeting.
* Let Rebecca know about other field trip ideas by next Friday 6/21/19.
* Moving Method 2 forward for PE well projections as a subset of Method 1.
* The technical workgroup will go over the boundaries for the three subbasins at the next meeting, then they will be sent to the technical consultant for use in the PE well projections.