AGENDA

**WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

August 12, 2019 | 12:30p.m. – 4 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

Consumptive Use Approach

Driving Directions

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Don Stanley (Lakewood Water District)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Paul Loveless (Town of Steilacoom)

AustinJennings*,* alternate (Pierce County)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Calvin Taylor (City of Tacoma)

Paul Bucich (City of Lakewood)

Tristan Weiss (WDFW)

Renee Buck, alternate (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Kris Kauffman (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

MBA Pierce

Other Attendees

Spencer Easton, facilitator (ESA)

Jimmy Kralj, information manager (ESA)

Mike Noone(Ecology)

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

Jim Pacheco (Ecology)

Amy Moosman (Ecology)

Lisa Spurrier (Salmon Recovery LE)

\*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 or detail.
* **Approved with changes.**
* Jeff Johnson provided residential water use data and shared with the committee.
  + Information attached.
* Jeff J. also suggested Spanaway Lakes and Spanaway Creek be added to Chambers Creek subbasin from the Clover Creek subbasin.
  + After the meeting, in conversations with other committee members and Rebecca, Jeff opted to not pursue this proposed change, since leaving those areas in the Clover subbasin provides more opportunity for projects in the Clover subbasin, where we expect most growth.

# Updates and Announcements

* Draft permit exempt well projections were provided to the committee through email and [the webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx).
  + There will be time to review and discuss the projections in September and at the August 29 workgroup meeting.
  + Initial estimate is 145 wells that will need to be offset
    - 141 in Clover Creek
    - 4 in Chambers
    - 0 in Sequalitchew
  + HDR will do a bit more work and provide some ranges.
* NEB guidance is out and will be discussed at the next meeting. The main NEB guidance and two short appendices are most useful for committee members. (One appendix is 100+ pages, and is not as important for committee work). It is all available on the [Ecology Website](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1911079.pdf).
* [Ecology Policy Guidance](https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrdocs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/pol-2094.pdf), which explains Ecology’s policy stances on the Streamflow Law, is posted on website.
* Funding guidance is currently [available on the website](https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Streamflow-restoration-implementation-grants) for public comment. Open through September 8.
* Lakes of Lakewood, 7am-8am presentation (8/15) at Burs Restaurant in Steilacoom.
  + Discussing the number of lakes, area covered, chemical quality data, transfer of water into Lakewood

# Public Comment

* No public comment

# Consumptive Use Approach

* HDR will produce a number of consumptive use estimates based on Ecology guidance, metered PUD data, and other alternative methods. Alternative methods can change assumptions for use rates, etc.
  + Helpful to have different scenarios (moderate, worst case) to provide more information for decision making.
  + 60 gallons per person per day may be a bit low.
    - Average home in this area is 2.7 people, and use is slightly higher than 60 gallons.
  + Metered PUDs current usage does not take into consideration new low flow technologies. This technology has a significant impact on water used and may lead to an over estimation of water usage in new construction.
  + Since WRIA 12 doesn’t expect that many wells, the differences between these calculations will likely be extremely small.
  + The committee will review the calculations and decide which estimate to use.
* HDR will also calculate the legal limit (950 gpd) for the committee’s internal reference, but not as a formal element of the plan.
* HDR wants to present on the first two methods by September, and have the final versions done in December. Draft results may not be available until the October meeting. HDR will share their methodologies in technical memo. The committee will have the opportunity to comment along the way.
* HDR and Ecology have decided against a GIS technique discussed in workgroup meetings to calculate outdoor watering areas because of time and budget constraints.
  + Make sure HDR follows specific standards to estimate average outdoor watering areas, and plan for addressing illegal watering.
* Rebecca will look into timing of tasks between consumptive use and refined PE well projections.
* Remember that preliminary PE well projections and heat map are deceiving. Will be mindful on how preliminary information is presented.
* Rebecca looking into linking PE well growth info to the web map that HDR developed
* Adding existing wells to a water system could be a project.
* Conservation measures for exempt wells should be considered as a project.
* How can we get PE wells to be responsive to extreme weather conditions (climate change, drought).
* All systems shown in the Spanaway Water calculations have tiered rates and conservation programs.

# Site Visits

**South Tacoma Holding Basin**

Cal Taylor led a presentation to the committee at the South Tacoma Holding Basin. The primary purpose of this basin is flood control, and during large storm events, storm water is pumped out of the basin through a series of channels into the Thea Foss Waterway. The Puyallup Tribe requested that the city consider alternatives to prevent discharge through the Thea Foss Waterway, and instead keep the storm water in the WRIA 12 basin. This potential project proposes to reroute storm water discharge away from the Thea Foss Waterway into the holding basin towards the Flett Creek basin, and to develop the site to improve permeability. The project is unique in that this is one of the last locations in the city where such a property exists, and the site has the potential for infiltration, leading to groundwater recharge of aquifers. However, the exact water for water benefit is difficult to estimate and would require hydrogeologic analysis. Costs estimates are in the range of $7 million to $11 million total.

**Parkland Prairie**

The Parkland Prairie site provided the committee with an example of a habitat restoration project. The Parkland Prairie is a restoration site adjacent to Clover Creek. Previously, the creek channel had been straightened and paved with asphalt. At Parkland Prairie, a portion of the creek was restored by removing the asphalt, re-meandering the channel, and adding large woody debris and native vegetation. This project restored important salmon habitat, however, a large portion of the creek outside the Parkland Prairie property remains paved with asphalt and straightened. The creek typically dries completely each year in June, however, in 2019 the creek was dry in April.

# Action Items and Next Steps:

* Look at NEB and initial growth projections to prepare for next meeting.
* Next workgroup meeting: Aug. 29, 1 pm-3 pm on WebEx.
  + Please let Rebecca know if you are interested in joining.

**Next meeting: September 11, 12:30-3:30 pm, at the Lakewood Community Center.**

Next 4 meetings (Sept-Dec.) will be at the Lakewood Community Center (9112 Lakewood Drive SW, Lakewood).