Meeting Summary

**WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

November 13, 2019 | 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.| [WRIA 12 Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx)

## **Location**

Lakewood Community Center

9112 Lakewood Drive SW**Committee Chair**

Rebecca Brown

Rebecca.brown@ecy.wa.gov**Handouts**

Agenda

CU Estimates

Project Screening Criteria

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Austin Jennings, alternate (Pierce County)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Lisa Spurrier, ex officio (Salmon Recovery LE)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Kris Kauffman (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Paul Loveless (Town of Steilacoom)

Kelly Still (WDFW)

Don Stanley (Lakewood Water District)

Paul Bucich (City of Lakewood)

Becky Kowalski, ex officio (JBLM)

Tom Kantz, alternate (Pierce County)

Calvin Taylor (City of Tacoma)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

Pierce Conservation District

MBA Pierce

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Tom Culhane (Ecology)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

Mike Noone (Ecology)

Shauna Hansen (City of Tacoma)

Tony Paulson (University Place Planning Commission)

Burt Clothier (Pacific Groundwater Group)

Jeffery Thomas, presenter (Puyallup Tribe Fisheries)

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

# September and October Meeting Summary Review

September and October meeting summaries were approved with changes.

# Updates and Announcements

* [Grant program guidance](https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/How-we-operate/Grants-loans/Find-a-grant-or-loan/Streamflow-restoration-implementation-grants) is available on Ecology’s website. We will host and record a grant workshop webinar this winter (date TBD).
* Rebecca emailed a Local Plan Approval form. Please complete and return this form to Rebecca by Dec. 20, as she will use it to plan next year’s work schedule and timeline.
* Rebecca emailed a glossary and terms. Please let Rebecca know if you would like a hard copy of this document.
* The workgroup has recommended not to change the subbasins the committee delineated in the summer.
* Please send any feedback on the process so far to Rebecca and/or Spencer.

# Public Comment

* *No comments.*

# Consumptive Use

Discussion around Consumptive Use (the Committee’s preferred estimate of future water use based on projected PE wells) and Offset Target (an amount that includes safety factors to account for uncertainties in the analysis). Goal was to come up with a working consumptive use number while analysis and discussions are continuing to develop a final consumptive use number and offset target.

PE well projections—the high, medium, and low PE well projections will be included in the plan regardless of which projection(s) the committee opts to focus on.

* Emphasized that the projections were based on historical well data, not population growth.
* Rebecca work with HDR to get the number of developable parcels outside of water service areas to use as a check against the projections, with the understanding that some new homes within service areas will still use wells.
* Committee will move forward with the moderate PE well projection for the “working” consumptive use estimate and high PE well projections as a factor for the offset target.

The committee discussed a number of topics and factors related to water use: Some committee members are interested in looking at additional water use (not just PE wells); A lot of the municipal water is piped in from other watersheds; a lot of water is piped out through the sewer systems; JBLM is looking at reclaimed water.

The outdoor irrigated area analysis (part of the consumptive use estimate) is undergoing QA/QC, so the current analysis results may change, which means that any “working” consumptive use estimate is also subject to change. Committee agreed to use the 95% confidence level from the outdoor irrigation analysis for the time being: 0.21 acres.

The committee walked through the assumptions that go into the consumptive use estimates. Generally, committee was comfortable with most assumptions. Most other committees will be using the Ecology-recommended assumptions—consistency across WRIAs. The irrigation requirement amount is a conservative assumption. Using the Ecology-recommended assumptions and the outdoor irrigation area of 0.21 acres, and the moderate PE well projection, the “working” consumptive use estimate is 57.4 acre feet and 0.08 cfs.

For offset targets, idea proposed to use a higher irrigation requirement (22 in/year) to account for climate change. Climate change adaptation might also result in better water conservation.

Rebecca will ask HDR to conduct a sensitivity analysis to identify which assumptions are the most sensitive to change. Paul P. can provide a sensitivity analysis that he conducted.

The [Consumptive Use Calculator](https://app.box.com/s/k6ad1uh0u7mctty3hvpd6glnf81mme4h) is available on Box for committee members.

# Salmon Recovery Priorities

Jeffrey Thomas from Puyallup Tribe fisheries gave a presentation about Tribally- Significant Ecological Systems.Lisa Spurrier (Salmon Recovery Lead Entity) and Kelly Still (DFW) presented on Salmon Habitat Protection and Restoration Strategies in WRIA 12. This presentation gave an overview of the history in the watershed and projects in the watershed. Both presentations are posted on the [WRIA 12 webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37324/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_12.aspx).

# Projects

Lisa Spurrier and Kelly Still referred to a number of potential projects and ongoing efforts in their presentation:

Critical Reaches

* Chum and Steelhead: Chambers Creek below Steilacoom Lake; lower Flett Creek; lower Leach Creek
* Coho and Cutthroat: Chambers, Leach, Flett, Morey, Spanaway, Clover, NF Clover Creeks
* Coho and Chum? Sequalitchew Creek, Sequalitchew Lake and downstream

Restoration priorities

* Chambers Bay Dam Removal
* Titlow Lagoon Restoration
* Protect and Restore Habitat in highly productive tributary and main stem areas
  + Char will get this analysis on Box
* Riparian Buffer Enhancement or Restoration: Chambers Creek
* Riparian Buffer Enhancement or Restoration: Clover Creek
* Improving fish passage: Morey Creek Bypass channel
* Restore and Maintain hydrologic regime: Sequalitchew Creek
  + JBLM is working on this project, divert all water back to main stem creek and 100 year over flow will go into the overflow channel. Project includes hydrological studies.
* Restore and Maintain hydrologic regime: Clovers creek

Cal Taylor (City of Tacoma) presented on the South Tacoma Channel Streamflow Restoration Site for Feasibility study. It includes three projects:

1. SW Infiltration facility: Potential for storm water infiltration directly into highly permeable soil.
2. SW Infiltration Gallery: Use BNSF land to create an infiltration gallery at SERA park. Pipe water in one side and out the other side. The project would infiltrate the water to help recharge as a Managed Aquifer Recharge.
3. Flett Creek Stream Channel Restoration: Create holding areas and reconnect the springs. Remove invasive reed canary grass and restore with riparian vegetation.

# Action Items and Next Steps

* Review project screening criteria and project inventory.
  + Add potential projects to the project inventory.
* Next meetings:
  + Project Workshop—Dec. 11, 12:30-3:30 pm, Lakewood Community Center
  + Workgroup Meeting—Dec. 16, 1 pm – 3 pm, WebEx.
  + Full Committee Meeting: January 8, 2020.