Meeting Summary

**WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Project Workshop**

December 11, 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) | [Webmap](https://hdr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9dac3c330fb240889981a7d3fe98ef6b)

## **Location**

Lakewood Community Center

9112 Lakewood Drive SW**Committee Chair**

Rebecca Brown

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

Agenda

Discussion Guide

Map

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Austin Jennings, alternate (Pierce County)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Kris Kauffman (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Kelly Still (WDFW)

Paul Bucich (City of Lakewood)

Becky Kowalski, ex officio (JBLM)

Calvin Taylor (City of Tacoma)

Renee Buck, alternate (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

Chad Wiseman (HDR)

Mike Noone (Ecology)

Erica Marbet (Squaxin Island Tribe)

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

# Overview of Workshop

Spencer went over NEB definitions of projects and actions, and emphasized that NEB needs to be achieved within the whole watershed, not required by subbasin.

* The working CU estimate is 0.08 cfs or 57.4 acre-ft.
* No minimum requirement of number of projects per subbasin.
* The [project list available](https://app.box.com/s/hht73dumyd6tk2cd3lg7q2ypey95d6lw) on Box to committee members is a starting place. We expect to discuss projects at every meeting from now on.

# Getting to a Plan

The purpose of discussion was to surface and flag questions. Facilitator started with a list generated in the WRIA 10 project workgroup:

* For each project:
  + Has the offset been estimated?
  + Is there a water right with the property?
  + Is there a storage/infiltration benefit?
* Where are the projects?
* How do we categorize projects for the plan?
* What are the priority areas?
* What are the implications of including salmon restoration projects in an offset plan?
* What is the HDR team’s scope/process?
* How can we provide flexibility for projects that come up in the future?

Through discussion, the committee added these questions:

* How do projects affect streamflow and where should we invest?
  + Which stream and reach?
  + When fish are moving?
  + Dry season?
  + Velocity?
* Water rights analysis:
  + A preliminary exercise to target Clover Creek subbasin.
* Water diversion.
* Opportunities for reclaimed water (or package treatment plants) and legacy stormwater projects.
  + Feasibility study for stormwater infiltration retrofits (underused parking lots) and assessment of underused parcels.

# Priority Areas

Committee expressed interest in being strategic about where projects go.

* Option to have an offset in each basin with an impact and at least one habitat project in each basin.
* Interest in targeting areas that are impacted by new PE wells.
  + Projects higher in the watershed are more beneficial.
  + Clover creek subbasin is expecting most of the PE wells, so focusing projects there makes sense.
* Interest in targeting critical salmon habitat. Focus on improving salmon habitat. Habitat projects could still produce small water offset benefits.
* Desire by some committee members to have a plan that goes well beyond the minimum and addresses the areas with the most impacts on salmon habitat

# Project Categories

Spencer and Rebecca proposed to put projects in buckets to evaluate what projects are currently on the project list, and identify which projects might be useful to learn more about for offsets: projects with known or easily estimated offsets, projects with unknown offsets and projects without offsets, plus general project types (categorical or conceptual), and regulatory or programmatic actions.

The committee discussed these buckets without deciding to use them. There was interest in different levels of categorization by project type, by subbasin, using grant or NEB categories, etc.

# Projects

Committee reviewed the project list and projects mentioned in the November presentation. Committee also brainstormed additional projects Many project ideas were at the conceptual stage and will require a lot of legwork to get to a point where an offset is identified. Specific projects are listed in the [Project List,](https://app.box.com/s/hht73dumyd6tk2cd3lg7q2ypey95d6lw) which is available on Box for committee members.

# Action Items and Next Steps

* Committee Members: Review project screening criteria and project inventory.
  + Add potential projects to the project inventory.
* Rebecca will develop a draft scope for a water rights assessment to focus on Clover Creek subbasin.
* Workgroup will continue the project discussion at their next meeting.
* Next meetings:
  + Full Committee Meeting: January 8, 2020, Lakewood Community Center.