

WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee Meeting

August 12, 2020



WebEx Participation Tips

- Use a headset/headphones or take the call from a quiet space to reduce background noise/echo.
- Keep your phone or headset muted unless you are speaking to the group.
- If using phone, do not put us on hold. We will have to listen to your hold music!
- Turn off video to conserve bandwidth.

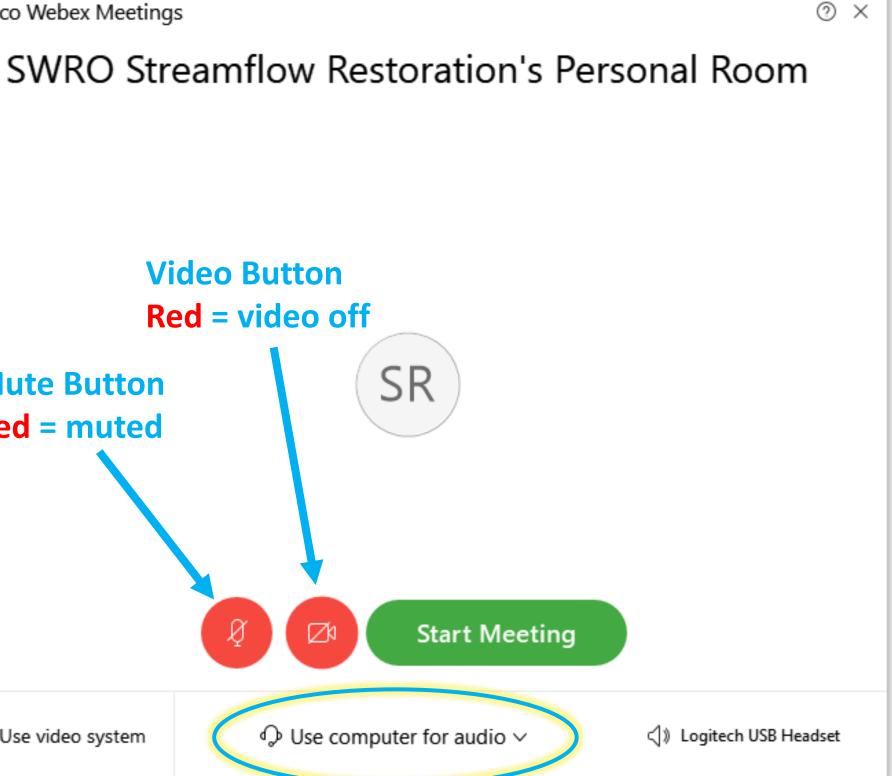
Cisco Webex Meetings

Mute Button

Red = muted

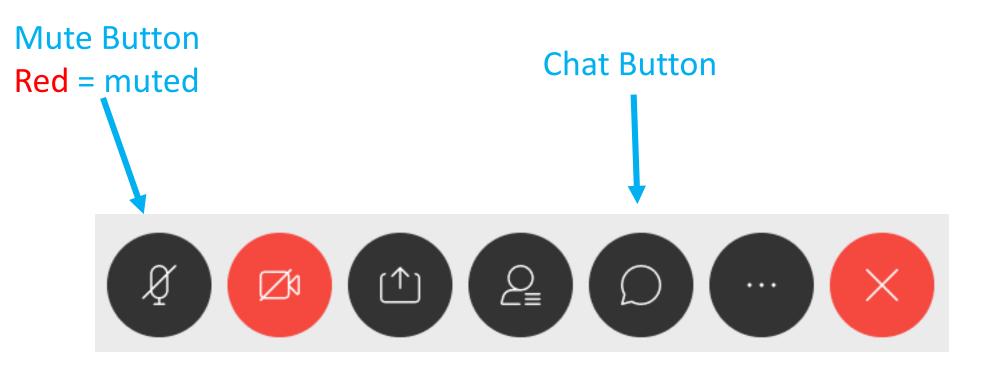
S Use video system

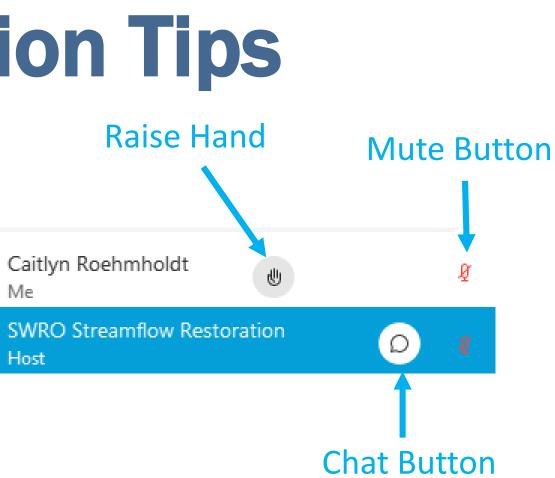




WebEx Participation Tips

- Use the chat function to submit questions and comments and/or request to speak to the group
- Remember to state your name when you speak.





Host

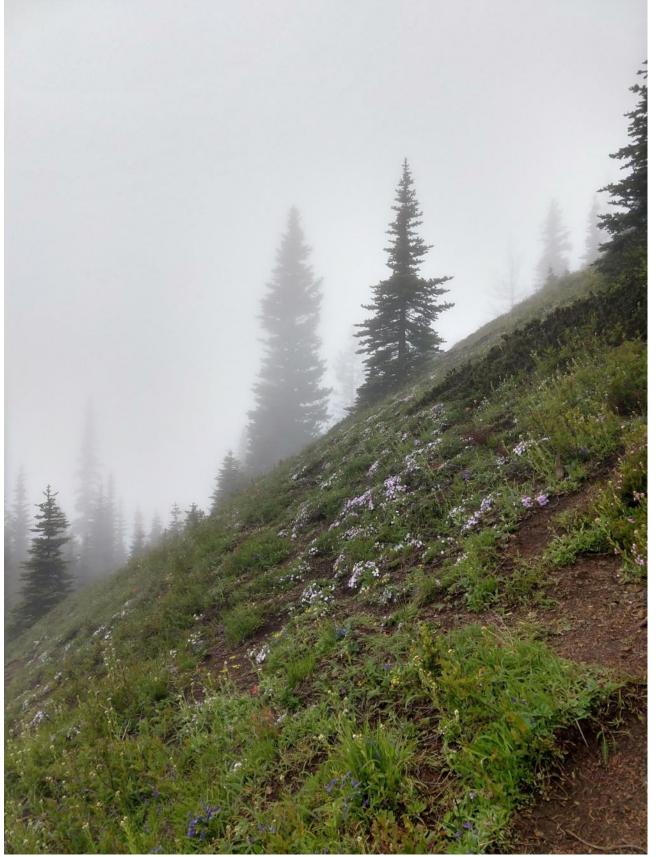
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Welcome, Introductions, and Committee Business

- WebEx logistics and technology check.
- July meeting summary. —
- Announcements and updates. ____
- Public comment.
- Projects
- Break
- Policy, Regulatory, and Adaptive Management Discussion
- Plan Chapter Review
- Wrap up

Announcements and Updates



- Covid-19: Expect to continue meeting remotely.
- Timeline updates.
- Brief decision makers.
- Committee Updates
- Public Comment

WRIA 12 WRE Plan Status Summary

Subbasins Consumptive Use Estimate	 3 Subbasins developed June 12, 2019. Chambers Creek Clover Creek Sequalitchew Creek Moderate Growth Consumptive Use Estimate: 0.08 cfs / 57.4 AFY (finalized March 11, 2020) 	Policy, Regulatory, and Adaptive Management Recommend- ations
Offset Target	High Growth Consumptive Use Estimate: 0.12 cfs / 89.8 AFY (finalized March 11, 2020)	
Projects	 Pacific Groundwater Group is assessing potential water right acquisitions HDR team is developing detailed descriptions and offset estimates for several projects: Sequalitchew Creek Restoration 90 afy low offset estimate South Tacoma Channel 	
	 579 afy low offset estimate Bealaimad water projects 	Resiliency
	 Reclaimed water projects Floodplain reconnection projects in Clover Creek 	Plan Review Status
NEB	 Committee plans to include a habitat project in each subbasin. 	

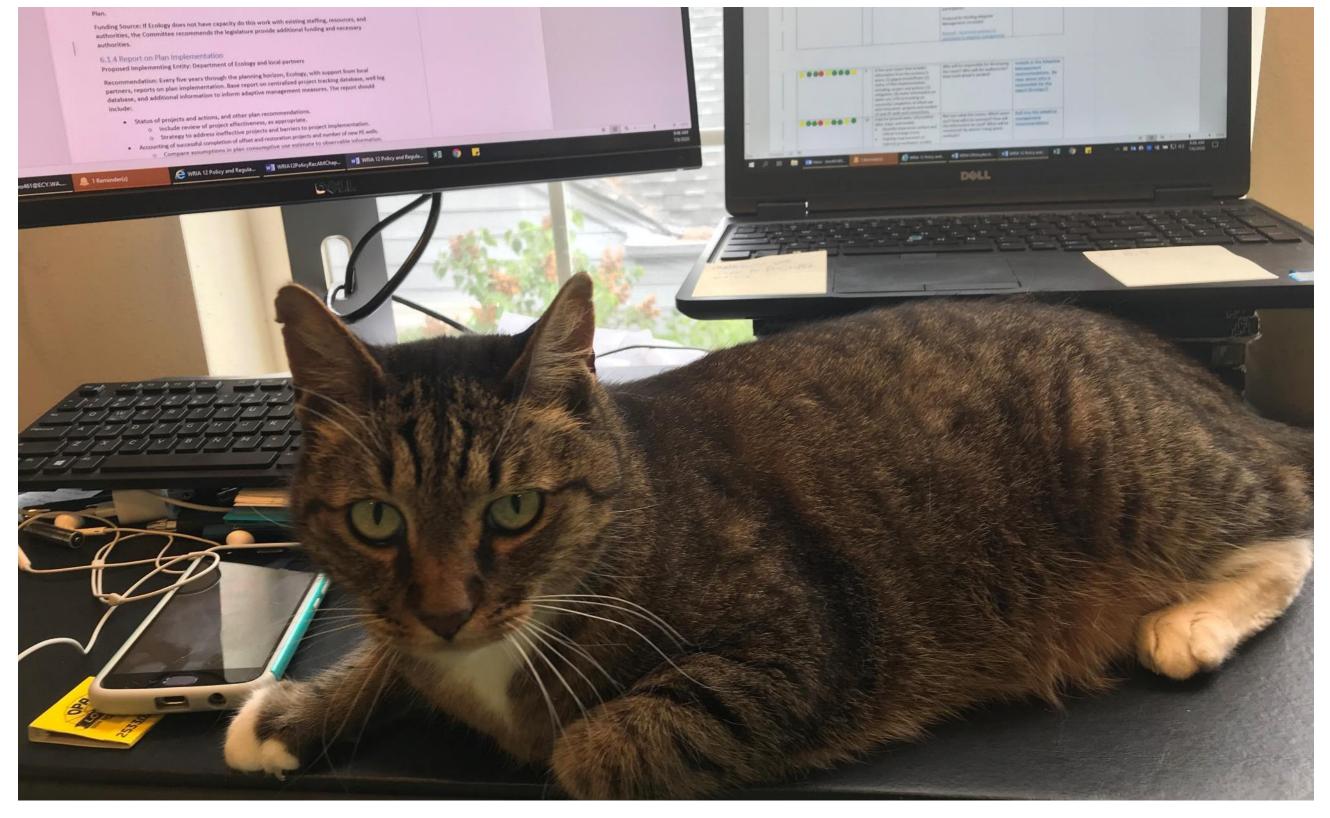
The Committee is currently discussing recommendations that fall into the following categories:

- Implementation
- Funding
- Tracking and Reporting
- Enforcement and Education
- Monitoring and Research
- Drought Response
- PE Well Management
- Regulations
- Water Conservation

Address in project descriptions

Chapters 1-4 reviewed by committee.

Compiled, incomplete draft, expected end of the month.







10 Minute Break





Policy, Regulatory, and Adaptive Management



Remaining Potential Policy Recommendations to Discuss

- Conduct a study of how planning and permitting supports protection and enhancement of streamflow restoration.
- Annual summary report of PE wells installed in the previous year, and offset projects completed in the previous year.
- Continue drought PE water use limits. Rulemaking to change drought restrictions to allow outdoor watering for gardens.
- Describe a strategy for monitoring and research.
- Change gallon per day withdrawal limit.
- Develop information on past and future water use.
- Compliance and enforcement program for drought water use limitations.
- Fund the cost of hooking up to municipal water.
- Create a South Sound Water Steward to focus on education and technical assistance, also some compliance.



Plan Comment Review



Chapter 4 Overview

- Word choice improvements.
- Several requests for additional information on the statistical analyses and some clarifying language and corrections.
 - Adding additional detail on statistical analyses in the tech memo. Will correct and clarify language in the plan.
- Refer to PE well projection method as work the committee or consultant conducted, not Pierce County.
- Include a map with location of existing PE wells.
- Clarify that "conservative" means "overestimate".
- Add gallon per day amounts for indoor, outdoor, and total CU.



Comment: Intro Paragraph

- Lines 7-9 misinterpret the plain language of 90.94.030(3)(e) by restricting estimates to new domestic PE wells.
 - Plan language: "This chapter provides the WRIA 12 Committee's projections of new domestic permit-exempt well connections (referred to as PE wells throughout this plan) and their associated consumptive use for the 20-year planning horizon."
 - Proposed Action: no action. The statement above reflects Ecology's interpretation of 90.94.030 as presented in POL 2094 Streamflow Restoration Policy and Interpretive Statement and the NEB Guidance.

Comment: PE well projection

- Did [the assessment of buildable lands] affect the calculated number of future PE wells? If so, that part of the methodology should be described, along with its effect on the final estimates. The uncertainty that this adjustment creates should also be mentioned in the uncertainty section.
 - The assessment did not affect the future PE well projection.
 - Section 4.2.4 briefly refers to the assessment.
 - Proposed Action: Include more information on the assessment and implications in the uncertainty discussion.

Comment: CU Estimate

- This reads as if the plan estimates an average of .08 cfs consumed per year in the next 20 years. Isn't it more accurate to state that at the end of the 20 year planning period it is estimated at 57.4 acrefeet per year...
 - Proposed Action: Rephrase to accurately reflect that the CU estimate is based on the number of PE wells after 20 years of growth.

Comment: Climate Change

- Include a discussion of the uncertainty introduced by climate change. My calculations estimated 1.6 inches per year higher irrigation requirement due to warming and increased evapotranspiration.
 - Proposed action: Include a statement about uncertainty with future changes to rainfall and drought patterns and potential need for additional irrigation.

Comment: Moderate and high CU estimates

- Shouldn't this chapter clarify how the moderate and high estimates will be used?
 - Proposed action: State that moderate is the reasonable estimate of offset needs, and the high estimate captures uncertainty from any underestimate. Proposed projects will provide offsets beyond even the high CU estimates. Refer to Chapter 5 (projects) and/or Chapter 7 (NEB) evaluation).

Comment: Safety factors

- This paragraph should note specifically that three separate factors of safety were applied: assuming 0.05 acres instead of 0, using the 95th UCL, and assuming commercial application rates.
 - Proposed action: make change.

Plan Review Next Steps

- Compiling Chapters 1-4 with edits, plus Chapters 5-7 as ready for end of August for committee review.
 - Compiled chapters will include maps and new sections.
- Continue work on Chapter 5 (projects), Chapter 6 (policy and adaptive management), and Chapter 7 (NEB evaluation).
- Target October for fully compiled plan prepared for local review.

Wrap Up and Next Steps

- Next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 9, 2020. Expect it to be on WebEx.
- Next workgroup meeting will be scheduled to accommodate schedules.
- See interactive slide for additional next steps.