Meeting Summary

**WRIA 12 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee**

**Meeting**

September 9, 2020 | 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**

WebEx**Committee Chair**

Rebecca Brown

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

Agenda

[Presentation Link](https://app.box.com/s/5i41pxca1njrz84xnob03r11l7w7cy2e)

[Interactive Slide Link](https://app.box.com/s/ewhhjahxz0tqmjsgc4o5c8u9sm1bah0b)

**Attendance**

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Rebecca Brown, Chair (Ecology)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Kris Kauffman (Chambers-Clover Watershed Council)

Char Naylor (Puyallup Tribe)

Cal Taylor (City of Tacoma)

Ryan Mello (Pierce CD)

Paul Bucich (City of Lakewood)

Jessie Gamble (MBA Pierce County)

Don Stanley (Lakewood Water District)

Darrin Masters (WDFW, alternate)

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

Town of Steilacoom

Other Attendees\*

Spencer Easton (ESA, Facilitator)

Madeline Remmen (ESA, Information Manager)

Chad Wiseman (HDR)

Matt Rakow (Ecology)

Mike Noone (Ecology)

Jeff Johnson (Spanaway Co-Op Pierce County)

\*Attendees list is based on WebEx Call attendance

**Meeting Summary**

The August meeting summary was approved with edits.

**Welcome, Introductions, and Committee Business**

* The committee will continue to meet virtually due to COVID-19. If you are unable to participate please let Rebecca know as Ecology is tracking all affected committee members.
* Rebecca asked the committee if their review timeline had changed due to COVID-19. She will be sending out a follow up email.
* Comments on the draft compiled plan are due on September 25, 2020.
  + Some sections of the plan are subject to change.

**Public Comment**

* N/A, no members of the public present on the phone

**Projects**

* The committee currently has an estimated offset of 669 AFY, approximately 579.2 AYF greater than the high CU estimate of 89.8 AFY.
* Rebecca ran though the progress on the water rights analysis. A total of 56 rights were identified for potential future acquisitions. A report including a description on how the list was generated and what criteria was used as well as a map will be released soon.
  + The project list will refer to the report.
  + There are currently no sponsors for the acquisitions, but if someone would like to sponsor a water right acquisition it can be included as an individual project.
* Chapter 5 does not yet have the project descriptions, but they will be added in the next version of the plan.
  + The Sequalitchew project description will be posted on box the week of Sept 14th.
* HDR is still working on the reclaimed water project description.
  + It is more aspiration because no one currently plans to undertake a reclaimed water project, but it will be included in the plan if someone wants to implement it in the future.

**Cross-WRIA Water Conservation Programs**

* The committee discussed two potential policy recommendations that were developed by a cross-WRIA group.
* Cross WRIA Conservation Education and Incentive Program
  + Several committee members expressed concerns about increasing the cost of PE wells as source of funding for this program.
  + The committee decided to add a caveat stating that increasing PE wells fees could not be used as a source of funding for the project.
  + The committee decided to include this proposal as an action in the project chapter.
  + Paul Pickett suggested that this would be good to implement statewide and that the plan should include a line that that states the committee would like to see the legislature fund this in all plans, WRIAs or statewide.
* Statewide Mandatory Conservation Measures during Drought
  + The committee showed support for this idea and agreed to include it in the Policy and Regulatory Recommendations section.

**Adaptive Management**

* Spencer walked through chapter 6.1 Plan Implementation and Adaptive Management Recommendations and discussed key points.
  + Table 11 summarizes the entities responsible for carrying out recommendations and associated funding needs. The committee filled in the remaining blank sections of Table 11.
* The committee discussed two new potential plan sections, section 6.1.4 Ecology Rule-making and section 6.1.5 Assurance of Plan Implementation.
  + Section 6.1.4 is a summary of all the policy recommendations that would likely require rule-making for implementation.
    - The committee decided to include this section at the end of section 6.2 and include a bullet point about exemptions to stream closures for environmental projects.
  + Section 6.1.5 lists the responsibilities of each entity for successful plan implementation.
    - The introduction of 6.1.5 will be edited to indicate that entities are not obligated to implement anything listed in this section.
    - Paul Pickett stated that the County and Ecology have a central role in implementation and that the role for others is uncertain, but there is room to add others to this section.
    - Pierce County develop their own language for this section.
    - Ecology will follow up and develop language for this section.
    - Paul Picket will follow up with the Squaxin Tribe.

**Next Steps**

* Workgroup (and committee) to review and provide comments on project descriptions.
* Committee review draft plan and provide comments by September 25.
* Next workgroup meeting: September 29, 1 pm to 3 pm.
* Project descriptions will be sent to committee with the draft summary for this meeting.
* HDR will work on project costs and project certainty for the plan chapter.
* Committee member follow up on responsibilities of each entity for successful plan implementation:
  + Pierce County develop their own language for this section.
  + Ecology will follow up and develop language for this section.
  + Paul Picket will follow up with the Squaxin Tribe.
* [Meeting materials and draft materials](https://app.box.com/s/kp2cf5bwrzd6p8mdbvsldzs6ke314shz) updated during the meeting are available on Box.