# Ecology logo. A state of Washington shape separated into three bands of color; light blue, green, and dark blue. a sun sits in the middle of the light blue band.MEETING SUMMARY

**WRIA 13 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee**

August 28, 2019 | 9:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. |[committee website](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37325/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_13.aspx)

## Location

City of Lacey
City Hall Community Room
420 College St SE Lacey, WA

**Committee Chair**

Angela Johnson
angela.johnson@ecy.wa.gov**Handouts**

1. Workgroup Meeting Summary

## Attendance

### Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Angela Johnson (*Ecology – Committee Chair)*

Theresa Nation *(WDFW)*

Donna Buxton *(City of Olympia)*

John Kliem *(Lewis County)*

Paul Pickett *(Squaxin Island Tribe)*

Amy Hatch-Winecka *(WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Lead Entity, ex-officio)*

*Cynthia Pratt* (*City of Lacey*)

Julie Rector (*City of Lacey)*

Dave Monthie (*Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team, environmental interests)*

Sarah Moorehead (*Thurston Conservation District, agricultural interests)*

Wendy Steffensen (*LOTT, ex-officio)*

### Committee Representatives Not in Attendance\*

Thurston County

Olympia Master Builders, *residential construction industry*

Thurston PUD

City of Rainier

Nisqually Tribe (*ex-officio)*

City of Yelm *(ex-officio)*

City of Tenino (*ex-officio)*

### Other Attendees\*

Gretchen Muller *(Cascadia Consulting)*

Rebecca Brown (*Ecology*)

Adam Peterson (*Thurston Conservation District)*

Lisa Dennis-Perez (*LOTT*)

Pony Ellingson (*Pacific Groundwater Group*)

Rick Nelson (*Thurston Farm Bureau*)

Mark J Mazeski (*Department of Health)*

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

## Welcome

Angela and Gretchen kicked off the meeting with meeting location logistics. Committee members and other meeting attendees introduced themselves around the room. The group reviewed the meeting agenda.

## Approval of June Meeting Summary

Angela received comments from Committee members on the June meeting summary, which were distributed with the August meeting agenda prior to the meeting. One additional comment was received to correct a typo in the attendance list.

*All of the proposed changes were made. The Committee approved the June meeting summary.*

## Updates and Announcements

Angela provided updates from Ecology.

* NEB final guidance is published online. Angela will present on the final guidance at the September meeting – Committee members should take the time to review the document ahead of the meeting.
* Ecology’s Streamflow Restoration Policy and Interpretive Statement is published online. Committee members are encouraged to review this document as well.
* Grant funding draft guidance is available on Ecology’s website for public comment through September 8, 2019. Final guidance should be available in October 2019, and Ecology will then hold technical assistance workshops for the public –dates and locations TBD. Ecology will likely begin accepting applications for the next round of grant funding in the first quarter of 2020.
	+ A concern was expressed about how watershed restoration and enhancement plans will be implemented with the grant program, when there appears to be a disconnect between grant scoring and the plans.
		- Angela clarified that the grant program is statewide, different WRIAs will have different priorities, and that the grants are not totally disconnected from the plans.

## Ex-officio Membership

The Committee approved the participation of LOTT as an ex-officio member. A proposal for LOTT’s participation was distributed to Committee members for review prior to the meeting.

## Workgroup Report

Angela and the workgroup members provided a summary of the previous workgroup meeting – see workgroup meeting summary from 8/6/19 for more details.

Reference Materials: 8/6/19 WRIA 13 Workgroup meeting summary

The workgroup summary was presented. Committee member discussion followed:

* Data Needs
	+ HDR is working with Thurston County to develop a heat map for the initial growth projection analysis provided to the workgroup.
	+ Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe) has created a spreadsheet with a list of possible assumptions for growth projections and consumptive use, and some ideas for “buffers” to consider for making assumptions more conservative. Angela will distribute this list for the workgroup’s consideration.
	+ Request for Amy Hatch-Winecka to provide information on the salmon stream locations (map) to compare to growth on heat map when available.
* Growth Projections
	+ The group discussed potential assumptions on growth projections, including additional data that may be available from the cities to contribute to alternative scenarios.
	+ Suggestion to look at package of assumptions for a scenario, not just one. Don’t spend too much time tweaking a lot of assumptions. Look at assumptions and choose the ones most likely to have a strong effect.
* Consumptive Use
	+ The group discussed the proposed work plan from HDR for analyzing consumptive use.
	+ HDR will provide an overview presentation on consumptive use at the September Committee meeting.
	+ Paul asked for Angela to distribute the draft CU spreadsheet being developed by HDR (where inputs can be adjusted and compared to outputs) and climate change information.
* Projects
	+ Suggestion to look at a prioritized list of salmon streams to overlay with growth projection heat map.
	+ The group will need to consider how to ensure projects are implementable. Consider site locations, and how to coordinate with local groups for any potential projects on private property.
* Other considerations
	+ There was an emphasis on the need of some entities to reach out to constituents around key decision points.

## Woodland Creek Groundwater Recharge Facility

Julie Rector, City of Lacey, provided a brief presentation on the Woodland Creek Groundwater Recharge Facility which is located in Lacey’s Woodland Creek Community Park. In a partnership with LOTT, City of Lacey, and City of Olympia, this facility uses reclaimed water to recharge shallow aquifers feeding into Lacey’s Woodland Creek and helps stabilize and restore stream flows.

A copy of the presentation will be distributed to Committee members and will be made available on the Committee website.

Committee members participated in the following discussion:

* How long did it take?
	+ It began in 2007 with two years of data collection; in 2010 package approved, mitigation analysis was time consuming. Planning started ~2007; 2 years of data collection started in 2009. City of Lacey submitted the package initially to Ecology in 2010, and it was approved in late 2011.
* What was the biggest source of costs?
	+ Construction is the biggest part. Property already owned (huge savings). Pipe is a big part, but savings from road construction opportunity
* Rule changes during the project affected monitoring methods and other things, but not permit limits
* Where do excess winter flows go?
	+ Most of the winter flow goes to Hogum Bay ponds Budd Inlet Plant for additional treatment.

# LOTT Reclaimed Water Presentation

Wendy Steffensen, LOTT, provided a presentation to introduce the Committee to reclaimed water - how it is produced by LOTT and locally distributed to their users.

A copy of the presentation will be distributed to Committee members and will be made available on the Committee website.

## Public Comment

*No comments.*

## Action Items for Committee Members

* Next meeting is September 25, 2019 at LOTT – 500 Adams t NE, Olympia, WA 98501
* Technical workgroup meeting will be scheduled for September.
* Recommendation by Committee member to watch “Last Call at the Oasis” documentary, as it includes an amusing commentary on the psychology of reclaimed water.

## Action Items for Ecology:

* Angela will schedule the next technical workgroup meeting
* Angela will provide a revised timeline at the next Committee meeting
* Angela will distribute HDR’s PowerPoint slide on project types
* Angela will provide groundwater and TMDL maps from previous workgroup meetings, as requested by some Committee members.

## Field Visit – LOTT Hawk’s Prairie Reclaimed Water Ponds

The Committee participated in a site visit led by Wendy Steffensen (LOTT ) and Lisa Dennis-Perez (LOTT). At this site, Class A reclaimed water flows through several wetland ponds before entering shallow basins where it soaks slowly into the ground.