# 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.APPROVED MEETING SUMMARY

**WRIA 13 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee**

January 27, 2021 | 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. |[committee website](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37325/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_13.aspx)

## Location

Webex**Committee Chair**

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

1. Revised clean plan with changes highlighted
2. Revised plan full track changes

## Attendance

### Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

Angela Johnson (*Ecology – Committee Chair)*

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Dave Monthie (*Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team*)

Sue Patnude *(Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team)*

Adam Peterson (*Thurston Conservation District*)

John Kliem (*Lewis County*)

Donna Buxton (*City of Olympia*)

Wendy Steffensen (*LOTT-Ex Officio*)

Dan Smith (*City of Tumwater*)

Julie Rector (*City of Lacey*)

Cynthia Pratt (*City of Lacey*)

Charlie Schneider (*Tumwater City Council*)

Josie Cummings *(BIAW*)

Ruth Clemens *(Thurston County PUD No. 1)*

Amy Hatch-Winecka *(WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator – Ex Officio)*

Noll Steinweg (*WDFW*)

Kaitlynn Nelson *(Thurston County)*

### Committee Representatives Not in Attendance\*

### Other Attendees\*

Gretchen Muller *(Cascadia Consulting)*

Madeline Remmen (*ESA*)

Tom Culhane (*Ecology*)

Mike Noone (*Ecology*)

Jim Pacheco (*Ecology*)

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

## Welcome

Angela and Gretchen kicked off the meeting with WebEx logistics. Gretchen took a roll call of all Committee member on the call. The group reviewed the meeting agenda.

## Updates and Announcements

* The December and January meeting summaries will be approved over email or at a future meeting if held.
* The purpose of today’s meeting is to go over a few comments and make sure all Committee members are aware and okay with changes being made to the plan.

## Outstanding Comments from Plan Review

Angela reviewed several comments and proposed revisions received from Committee members on the most recent draft version of the plan.

**Executive Summary**

* The Squaxin Island Tribe objected to the sentence stating the Committee determined that the plan achieved NEB. That statement should be revised or removed. The Tribe is ok with including the evaluation, but does not agree with the determination. The NEB guidance says that the Committee does not need to make the NEB determination and can leave it up to Ecology.
  + This change would also remove the section in Chapter 7, which states the Committee believes that plan achieves NEB, but leave the NEB analysis in that section.
  + Committee members expressed no concerns for these proposed changes.

**Chapter 2: Watershed Overview**

* The Squaxin Island Tribe requested more language regarding the links between GMA and water resources planning be added to the plan.
* They noted that this language was worked out in WRIA 15 with Pierce and Kitsap Counties and the Suquamish Tribe, and was agreed upon with the WRIA 14 Committee as well. The basis was agreements about “facts”, while avoiding disagreements on “interpretation”. It’s not all the Tribe wanted, but it’s what we could find agreement on.
* The Squaxin Island Tribe also requested additional language about how instream flows are protected from new water right applications be added to the plan. Angela provided proposed additional language.
* Committee members did not express any concerns about these additions to the plan.

**Chapter 5: Projects and Actions**

* Angela highlighted a few small changes for clarification throughout this Chapter.
* Committee members did not express any concerns about these changes.

**Chapter 6: Policy Recommendations, Adaptive Management, and Implementation**

* Added language about Committee reconvening and list of entities to be included under the Deschutes Watershed Council (DWC) proposal.
* DERT stated that they believed it was important that the DWC stand on its own and not have the lead entity or another agency take the lead.
* DERT also asked if Ecology plans to participate in the initiation of the DWC.
  + Angela is going to ask Ecology management about this question, but it is likely that Ecology would not participate in the initiation of the DWC, but once established would participate in meetings.
    - The Squaxin Island Tribe stated that this is similar to the role Ecology played in WRIA 11.
* The Squaxin Island Tribe added that the Tribe feels Ecology has a legal obligation make sure these plans are implemented. They would like Ecology to take an active role in helping to initiate these types of group as well as helping them once formed.

**Other comments**

* DERT asked if the language about Ecology neither supporting nor opposing any policy recommendations was changed or removed.
  + Angela stated that it was not removed, but placed in a footnote so it less prominent in the plan.

## Public Comment

* No public comment

## Next Steps and Action Items

* The vote for plan approval will be in April, and the Committee will not meet during the local review period unless a meeting is requested or deemed appropriate.
  + All materials for local review (Final Draft Plan, PowerPoint Presentation Brochure, etc.) will be posted on Box and on the public EZ View website.
  + Angela will send out a calendar invitation for the date of the final vote meeting.
  + Reach out to Angela or Gretchen if you need anything to further support your local review process.
  + Committee members should be sure that the representative from their entity authorized to vote on the final plan is present at the April meeting.
  + If an entity’s local review schedule changes, let Angela and Gretchen know.
  + There is not time in the review schedule for substantive edits to be made to the plan during or after local review.
    - This may exclude some typos or factual errors that do not change the overall content of the plan.
  + Statements from Committee members and compendium items will be needed around the time of the vote.
* Angela will keep the calendar holds for the regular meeting times in February and March, but will cancel if they are not needed.