# 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.WRIA 13 Plan Approval Timeline

**Deschutes (WRIA 13)
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee (WREC)**

## Background

Throughout the summer and fall of 2020, WRIA 13 WRE Committee members will be reviewing and refining the individual chapters of the WRE Plan. Once that process is complete, a draft plan will be produced and distributed to committee members for review. From August 2020 through March, 2021, the committee will need to complete the steps:

a. Review and revise the draft plan.

b. Committee meetings to address revisions.

c. Committee meetings to finalize project list and NEB evaluation (as needed).

d. Committee interim approval of the plan for distribution to local decision makers (as needed).

e. Distribution of final plan to local decision-makers that require review/approval.

f. Committee meeting for final approval of the plan. Committee member are expected to vote virtually during a Committee meeting, and provide written approval of the plan (as per the Operating Principles).

Ecology distributed the [WRE Plan Local Approval Process form](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/_1962/images/WREC/WRIA13/201912/WRIA13-WREC-WREPlanLocalApprovalProcessForm-112019.docx) to understand Committee members’ timeline and needs related to internal review and approval of the plan. Based on this information, the chair and facilitator developed the timeline for plan review for the WRIA 13 WREC. For Committee members’ detailed responses to the WRE Plan Local Approval Process Form see the WRIA 13 WRE Plan Local Approval Process responses at the end of this document.

See table below for a detailed timeline: (Shaded rows indicate WRIA 13 WRE Committee meeting dates)

*Please note that the information provided below is a best estimate and may be subject to change.*

| Date | Who | Task |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Spring & Summer 2020 | Committee | Review plan chapters and technical memos as they are completed. The expectation is that Committee members will vet all draft plan components with appropriate decision makers within their entity to seek ongoing, thorough review and approval of plan components. Discuss comments on plan components at Committee meetings. |
| August  | Chair | Distribute draft plan sections not previously distributed. Continue to develop incomplete plan sections, such as the project list and NEB evaluation. |
| September 24 | Chair | Distribute compiled first draft of plan. Some plan sections may be incomplete (projects, NEB).  |
| September 23 | Committee | Committee Meeting* Check-in with Committee members about Plan Review Process
 |
| October 15 | Committee | Deadline for review of first draft of plan.  |
| October | Facilitation Team;Chair | Continue to develop incomplete plan sections, such as project list and NEB evaluation. Compile all comments received on first draft, distribute comments to Committee for review, and build consensus where necessary. |
| October 28 | Committee | Committee Meeting* Finalize any incomplete plan sections.
* Discuss comments received on draft plan.
* Revise plan, as needed, to address comments
 |
| November | Chair | Chair to continue revising draft of plan in coordination with facilitation and technical team.  |
| November 2 – November 13  | Committee | Potential Committee Meetings – *schedule additional meetings, as needed.** Finalize any incomplete plan sections.
* Discuss all comments received to draft plan
 |
| November Committee meeting TBD | Committee | Committee Meeting* Continue discussion on plan revisions and plan elements.
* Work to finalize project list.
 |
| December | Chair | Chair will revise draft for red flag review, based on Committee feedback at previous meetings.  |
| December 16 | Committee | Committee Meeting* Finalize plan components for projects and NEB.
* Discuss any remaining comments from plan review to finalize draft plan.
 |
| December 28 | Chair | Chair will distribute second draft of plan for quick red flag only review ahead of January Committee meeting.  |
| January 20 | Committee | Committee Meeting* Discuss red flags on 2nd draft of plan
* Target date to agree to send plan out for local review following meeting.
 |
| January 27 | Chair | Final Plan and cover memo will be sent to Committee members to initiate local review process. |
| January-April | Committee | Local decision makers review final plan, as needed. Committee members have indicated up to 12 weeks most likely.  |
| February 24 | Committee | Committee Meeting* Meet as needed
 |
| March Committee meeting TBD | Committee | Committee Meeting as needed |
| Mid-April Committee meeting TBD | Committee | Committee Meeting * Potential date for final vote on plan approval.
 |
| April | Chair | If plan is approved by Committee, chair to send final approved plan to Ecology mid-late April.\* |
| May-June | Committee | Committee meetings will be scheduled as needed.  |
| June 30 | Ecology | Director of Ecology will decide on plan adoption  |

\*If the committee is unable to reach agreement on the final draft plan to distribute for local review by January 2021, we are at risk for missing the deadline due to local entity review times and Ecology’s necessary review time. Note that February 1, 2021 was an initial target date for approved plan submission to Ecology, which has been revised to reflect the current anticipated timeline. Ecology will review plans received after this date on a first come, first serve basis. The Director of Ecology will make a decision on plan adoption by June 30, 2021.

## Discussion:

* Committee members shared that their internal review processes would likely take about 12 weeks, and potentially up to 16 weeks.
* The expectation is that Committee members and appropriate decision makers will thoroughly review and provide feedback on the draft plan. All comments on the draft plan will be reviewed and addressed during Committee meetings. **This timeline does not provide time to address comments and make revisions after distribution of the final plan.**

## WRIA 13 WRE Plan Local Approval Process

| Entity | Who at your organization will need to review the plan before approval? | Are there specific individuals or bodies that must authorize approval of the plan prior to your vote? | Briefly describe the process and timeline for reviews, including meeting schedule and/or frequency. | How can Ecology help? |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Department of Ecology | * Water Resources Regional Section Manager
* Streamflow Section Manager
 | * Water Resources Regional Section Manager
* Streamflow Section Manager
 | * Chair briefs the section managers every 6-8 weeks
* 30 days to review draft plan
 |  |
| Department of Fish and Wildlife | * Science team
* Policy team
* Other WDFW staff, as appropriate
 | * Streamflow restoration team and possibly other management staff
 | * 8-12 weeks to review draft plan, possibly 16 weeks.
 | * Provide as much time to review plans as possible
 |
| Squaxin Island Tribe |  |  | Unable to provide estimate |  |
| Thurston County | * Upper management will review the plan and will be informed monthly throughout the process
 | * Thurston County Board of Supervisors and Thurston Planning Director
 | * 8 weeks to review draft plan
 | * Provide materials as early as possible
 |
| Lewis County | * County staff will provide a review of the plan and make recommendations to county commissioners
 | * Lewis County Commissioners
 | * 4 weeks to review draft plan
 |  |
| City of Lacey  | * Plan will be reviewed by several Council committees
 | * Lacey City Council
 | * 8 weeks to review draft plan
 |  |
| City of Olympia | * Plan will be reviewed by Water Resources staff and the Utility Advisory Committee
 | * City Council
* Public Works Director
 | * 4 weeks for staff review
* 8 – 12 weeks for Utility Advisory Committee and City Council
* Total estimate is 16 weeks.
 |  |
| City of Tumwater | * Plan will be reviewed by City staff and the Public Works department.
 | * City Council
 | * 8 weeks
 |  |
| Thurston Conservation District | * Plan will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors
 | * Board of Supervisors
 | * 8 weeks
 |  |
| Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team | * Plans to consult with other environmental groups in the watershed
 |  | * No specific timeline, anticipates a relatively short review
 |  |
| Olympia Master Builders | * Erin Hall and CEO, perhaps the Board of Directors.
 |  | * 6 weeks to review draft plan
 |  |
| Thurston PUD 1 |  |  | No timeline given. |  |
| LOTT (Ex officio) |   |  | * 8 weeks to review reclaimed water projects
 |  |
| WRIA 13 Lead Entity Coordinator (Ex officio) |  |  | * Willing to provide input on salmon recovery issues/projects
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