

**Deschutes (WRIA 13)  
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee  
December 12, 2018 Meeting Summary**

Please send corrections to Angela Johnson ([angela.johnson@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:angela.johnson@ecy.wa.gov)) by January 22, 2019.

Committee website:

[https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\\_1962/37325/watershed\\_restoration\\_and\\_enhancement\\_-\\_wria\\_13.aspx](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37325/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_13.aspx)

**Next Meeting:** January 23, 2019, 9 am – 12:30 pm – Lacey City Hall 420 College St. SE, Lacey WA 98503

**Meeting Information**

Wednesday December 12, 2018

12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Thurston PUD, 1230 Ruddell Rd. SE, Lacey, WA 98503

**Agenda**

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Handouts</b>	<b>Lead</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>	12:30 pm	None		Chair
<b>2.</b>	<b>Approval of agenda and October meeting summary</b>	12:40 pm	Vote	- Agenda - October meeting summary draft	Facilitator
<b>3.</b>	<b>Operating Principles</b>	12:50 pm	Activity, presentation, and discussion	- Draft Operating Principles	Facilitator
<b>4.</b>	<b>Break - 10 minutes</b>	2:30 pm			
<b>5.</b>	<b>Committee needs – training, information, collaboration, etc.</b>	2:40 pm	Discussion		Chair
<b>6.</b>	<b>Next steps</b>	3:30 pm	None		Chair
<b>7.</b>	<b>Public comment – limited to 3 minutes per person</b>	3:45 pm	None		Facilitator
<b>8.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>	4:00 pm	None		Chair

*\*all handouts are available on the Committee website*

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Angela Johnson	Department of Ecology	John Weidenfeller	Thurston PUD (alternate)
Jeff Dickison	Squaxin Island Tribe	Sarah Moorehead	Thurston Conservation District
Dan Smith	City of Tumwater	Donna Buxton	City of Olympia
Sue Patnude	DERT	Dave Monthie	DERT (alternate)
John Millard	City of Tenino	Allison Osterberg	Thurston County
Cynthia Pratt	City of Lacey	Matt Curtis	WDFW

Committee members not in attendance: City of Yelm, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Olympia Master Builders, Lewis County

Other Attendees

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Elizabeth McManus	Facilitator	Rebecca Brown	Department of Ecology
Paula Holroyde	League of Women Voters	Martin McCallum	Stream Team Volunteer
Bob Barnes	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Ben Dennis	Instream Conservation
Amy Hatch-Winecka	TRPC		

Decision Items

The October meeting summary was approved the by the committee.

Meeting Summary

Committee Chair Angela Johnson introduced Elizabeth McManus, the temporary facilitator for the Committee. Ecology is in the process of hiring a long-term facilitator for the Committee.

The primary objective of the meeting was to discuss the draft Operating Principles and Charter, which was distributed prior to the meeting. Prior to the discussion on the Operating Principles and Charter, the committee was asked to participate in an activity which posed the questions “What is the single most important think you’d like your fellow committee members to know about why you’re here?”, and “What makes you feel like a respected member of a group?”.

Comments from activity:

What is the single-most important thing you’d like your fellow committee members to know about why you’re here?	What makes you feel like a respected member of a group?
Embrace opportunity to dig into the issue. New program.	No interruptions.

<b>What is the single-most important thing you'd like your fellow committee members to know about why you're here?</b>	<b>What makes you feel like a respected member of a group?</b>
Organizational perspective on water consumption.	Being comfortable speaking.
Committee has a wealth of experience in different areas. Find a common way to communicate.	Find a common way to communicate.
Understand that there are tribal water rights that were reserved in the treaties. These need to be understood and respected.	Feel comfortable bringing up concerns and receiving constructive criticism.
Finding a better way to manage everything happening in the Deschutes. Environmental aspects are front and center. Make land acquisition a priority.	Be listened to and respected whether you agree or not.
Coordinate between all watershed efforts. Come to an agreement.	No side conversations.
Learning about water and process.	Understanding that each of us represent a perspective in the community.
Solutions for rural residents. Water, affordable housing, etc. Thurston County is in 4 processes and would like consistent implementation.	Listening. Understanding. Ask questions if you don't understand.
City of Olympia has four wellhead protection areas and private wells and septic systems. No policy to connect to existing systems.	Having an opportunity to participate.
Make sure there is enough water for the residents for annexation/GMA planning. Cooperation and environmental sustainability.	Creative solutions to problems.
Limited negative impacts to fish/habitat.	Strive for cohesive and collaborative actions.
Good stewardship from agricultural interest—be the voice for agricultural community/producers.	Understanding individual needs.

The Committee went through the Operating Principles and Charter raising concerns, sharing suggested changes, and clarifying language. A common theme was the mechanism for decision-making, and considering a consensus-based process rather than majority voting. Revisions to the draft will be made by Ecology and the facilitator reflecting the discussion and suggested changes. A revised draft will be distributed to the Committee prior to the January meeting.

The group discussed the needs of the Committee, considering available data, training needs, and opportunities for collaboration. The information from that discussion is listed below.

Data available:

- City of Olympia – various data, will come back to committee with more details.
- WRIA 13 Lead Entity – ECY will continue coordination with Amy Hatch-Winecka.
- City of Tumwater – various data, will come back to committee with more details.
- Thurston PUD – well data and water consumption data.

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- City of Lacey – well data, Woodland Creek and Deschutes data, water rights mitigation projects.
- Thurston County – monitoring data, groundwater model, permit data, growth projections.
- Department of Ecology – NPDES database
- USGS studies – what is available?
- Thurston Conservation District – WSU extension data.

### Data needs:

- Information on stormwater – mapped outfalls, and amount of water coming into Deschutes from outfalls.
- Information on minimum flows and existing water rights.
- Existing watershed plans.
- Better understanding of connectivity between WRIA 13 and Chehalis/Nisqually.
- Water budget – inputs and outputs.
- Improve the well data that exists – Ecology’s well database is not accurate.
- DOH – small water systems and locations.

### Training:

- Training available from Ecology technical staff includes: Instream flows, hydrogeology, water rights 101, water rights acquisitions
- Tribal/Federal Water Use
- Thurston County – Presentation on groundwater model
- Fish ecology (WDFW)

### Collaboration:

- Salmon Recovery Plan Lead Entity
- Deschutes Watershed Council
- EIS lower Deschutes
- Lessons learned/debrief from WRIs 1 and 11.

### Public Comment

- Amy Hatch-Winecka (WRIA 13 Lead Entity Coordinator) shared several comments including:
  - Be sure to know the approval level of the plan early on.
  - Include the committee in grant review process on local projects.
  - Consider alternates sitting at the table to allow them to contribute to the discussion.
  - Develop a table of required plan elements, and a schematic for understanding the approval process as well as committee members’ roles.
  - Prioritize land acquisitions as well as water rights acquisitions for projects.

### Parking Lot

Parking lot items will carry over to future meetings until the Committee agrees they have been addressed.

- Is funding available for WRIA 13 studies to support decisions? If so, how much? How will we access it?

- Suggestion for Ground Rules: use fewer acronyms and more “plain talk”.

#### Action Items

- Ecology and facilitator will work to make edits to the Operating Principles and Charter based on the group discussion and feedback provided. A new draft will be distributed to the Committee two weeks prior to the next meeting.
- The next meeting will focus on finalizing the Operating Principles and Charter. Ecology expects committee members to review the revised draft document, provide input ahead of the meeting if necessary, and come prepared to discuss the document at the January meeting. It is hoped that the Committee can finalize the language at the January meeting, and come back to the February meeting prepared to vote on adopting the document.
- Ecology will continue conversations with Salmon Recovery Lead Entities and Local Integrating Organizations to discuss opportunities and concerns regarding formal/informal engagement in the planning process.
- Ecology will set up a number of trainings over the next few months to bring everyone up to a similar level of base knowledge to ensure we can have informed discussions and decisions going forward. A tentative schedule will be available for discussion at the January meeting.