

Deschutes (WRIA13)
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee
DRAFT March 27, 2019 Meeting Summary

Please send corrections to Angela Johnson (angela.johnson@ecy.wa.gov) by April 23, 2019.

Committee website:

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37325/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_13.aspx

Next Meeting: April 24, 2019 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Tumwater Fire Department Training Room
311 Israel Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Meeting Information

Wednesday March 27, 2019 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Tumwater Fire Department Training Room
311 Israel Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Agenda

	Topic	Time	Action	Handouts	Lead
1.	Welcome and Introductions	9:00	None		Facilitator
2.	Review of Agenda and Approval of February Meeting Summary	9:10	Decision	- March agenda - Draft February meeting summary (provided in email)	Facilitator
3.	Updates and Announcements	9:15		- Committee calendar	Chair and Committee
4.	Workgroup Report	9:25			Workgroup Representatives
5.	County Planning	9:45	Presentations and Discussions	- Local planning presentation outline	Thurston County/Lewis County
6.	Break	11:15			
7.	Public comment	11:25	None		Facilitator
8.	Operating Principles Follow-up	11:35	Discussion		Chair
9.	Proposed Summer and Fall 2019 Schedule	11:45	Discussion	- Proposed meeting schedule	Chair
10.	Parking Lot Items	11:55			Chair
11.	Action Items and Next Steps	12:00			Chair/Facilitator

Handouts:

1. Agenda
2. Local planning presentation outline
3. Updated committee calendar and proposed meeting schedule

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Angela Johnson	Department of Ecology	Sue Patnude	DERT
Scott Steltzner	Squaxin Island Tribe	John Kliem	Lewis County
Cynthia Pratt	City of Lacey	Julie Rector	City of Lacey (alternate)
Allison Osterberg	Thurston County	Theresa Nation	WDFW
Donna Buxton	City of Olympia	Amy Hatch-Winecka	WRIA 13 Lead Entity (ex-officio)
Erin Hall	Olympia Master Builders	Sarah Moorehead	Thurston Conservation District
Linda Oosterman	Thurston PUD	John Weidenfeller	Thurston PUD (alternate)

Other Attendees

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Paula Holroyde	League of Women Voters	Rebecca Brown	Department of Ecology

Decision Items

The February meeting summary was approved by the Committee. The Committee approved an amendment to the Operating Principles.

Meeting Summary

Committee chair Angela Johnson and interim facilitator Angela Johnson kicked off the meeting. Ecology is in the process of hiring a long-term facilitator for the Committee.

The chair provided several committee updates:

- Committee binders have been prepared for reference materials during meetings.
- WRIA 11 lessons learned webinar is available online:
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrdocs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/wrec/LessonsLearnedPresentation.mp4>
- Ecology is in the process of contracting for a permanent facilitator – we should have them on board by our April meeting.
- Ecology has selected a technical consultant that will assist with data needs/information for the Committee, and is in the process of finalizing the scope of work.

Updates from Committee members included:

- Thurston County League of Women Voters will put on their next event in their Water Study lecture series on April 2 at the Olympia Center.

- Deschutes Estuary Restoration Team is hosting a program “What’s up with Mud?” on April 11 at the Olympia Center.

The Committee discussed the outcome of the technical and subbasin workgroups meetings that occurred on 3/22/19. Please reference the technical and subbasin workgroup draft summaries for more detailed information. The group discussed the summaries and had several additional comments/questions:

- Metering: the committee discussed the pros/cons of metering and if this topic would be addressed later on. The group can discuss this topic in more detail within the committee, or with the technical consultants.
- The Committee will work with the technical consultants when they are on board to tailor the technical needs specific to WRIA 13 – effort will be made to not duplicate data that has already been developed (growth projections, etc.). The chair will consult with the Committee to ensure that the resources of the technical consultant are being used effectively for the needs of the group.
- There is an opportunity to learn from other planning groups.
- Population projections may include multiple scenarios (i.e. timber industry land use changes, climate change, and other factors that may impact housing patterns).
- Thurston County provided subbasin delineations based on a previous project that used Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program (SSHAP) data. The workgroup will continue to use this map as a starting place, and will determine how best to lump or separate the basins considering other factors and needs (salmon habitat, geology, etc.).
- The workgroups will have a second meeting before the next WREC meeting to discuss this information further.
- The Committee should plan on making a decision on subbasin delineations by May or June.

The Committee received County planning presentations from Lewis County representative John Kliem, and Thurston County representative Allison Osterberg. The presentations will be available on the Committee website. Committee members participated in discussion following each presentation and raised issues such as:

- Frequency of harvest on timberlands in the watershed, impacts on streamflows
- Compliance and enforcement of gallons per day regulations
- Land use designations – if/when the counties would change them
 - Most changes are unlikely and would require significant process
- Population growth projections – counties can provide data on where growth is expected to occur. Lewis County portion of WRIA 13 is mostly private timberland, but Thurston County has data to share.
- Urban Growth Area (UGA) – how this regulates development and if/when homes connect to city services for water.
- Committee should consider actions that would require counties to change their comprehensive plan, and the time/process involved in that.
- “Well authority” – Lewis County does not have this, however Thurston County does and will not allow homes within city services to drill permit-exempt wells.

- Concern about homes exceeding the 950 annual gpd average, or the 5,000 gpd daily limit – how can counties/Ecology ensure this will be followed?

Committee chair raised a proposed amendment to the approved Operating Principles. Thurston PUD proposed changing the language in Section 2 to clarify that the chair may revise the Committee roster and timeline without needing Committee approval, however all other changes to the appendices will require Committee approval. This amendment was approved by the Committee, and the Chair revised the document which will be sent out to the Committee.

The chair distributed a proposed meeting schedule for the remainder of 2019, a copy of this can be found on the website.

The next meeting will include a city planning panel with information from the City of Olympia, City of Lacey, and City of Tumwater. It was requested that the chair reach out to the City of Rainier to discuss receiving a presentation – the committee would like to learn more information on the development of a sewer system and how it would affect their ability to develop more densely.

Public Comment

No public comment was given.

Parking Lot

Parking lot items will carry over to future meetings until the Committee agrees that they have been addressed. The Committee reviewed these parking lot items at the March meeting.

- 12/12/18:
 - Is funding available for WRIA 13 studies to support decisions? If so, how much? How will we access it?
- 1/23/19:
 - How will Ecology determine the timing components of projects (i.e. when mitigation benefits can be seen)?
 - Include a strategy in the plan to follow up on plan elements.
- 2/27/19
 - What are the conditions that old water rights need to meet?
- 3/27/19
 - Can the committee do studies outside of the scope of work of the technical consultant? If the scope of work includes items/data the group has already completed, is there an option to ask for other work? Does the committee have funding outside of the technical consultant contract?

Action Items

- Ecology chair will revise the amended Operating Principles, and will follow up with each entity for a signed copy of the signature page.
- Ecology chair will distribute the RFP for the scope of work with the technical consultant.

- Ecology chair will continue to set up presentations/trainings for the committee including Thurston PUD, water rights 101
- Ecology chair will set up a second meeting for the technical and subbasin workgroups – the meeting date will be distributed to the Committee.