

**Deschutes (WRIA13)
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee
January 23, 2019 Meeting Summary**

Please send corrections to Angela Johnson (angela.johnson@ecy.wa.gov) by February 26, 2019.

Committee website:

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

Next Meeting: February 27, 2019 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
Tumwater Fire Department Training Room
311 Israel Rd. SW, Tumwater, WA 98501

Meeting Information

Wednesday January 23, 2019 9:00 am – 12:30 pm
Lacey City Hall – Community Room
420 College St. SE, Lacey, WA 98503

Agenda

Topic	Time	Action	Handouts	Lead
Welcome and Introductions	9:00	None		Chair
Approval of December meeting summary and review of agenda	9:10	Vote	- Agenda	Facilitator
Training: Hydrogeology	9:15	Presentation		Tom Culhane (ECY)
Plan requirements overview	10:15		- Plan requirements document	Chair
Break	10:45			
Public comment	11:00	None		Facilitator
Operating Principles and Committee Structure discussion	11:15	Discussion	- Operating Principles - Consensus Discussion Guide	Facilitator
Next steps	12:15		Documents distributed following meeting.	Chair

**all handouts are available on the Committee website*

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Angela Johnson	Department of Ecology	Sue Patnude	DERT
Jeff Dickison	Squaxin Island Tribe	Dave Monthie	DERT (alternate)
Cynthia Pratt	City of Lacey	Julie Rector	City of Lacey (alternate)
Allison Osterberg	Thurston County	Dan Smith	City of Tumwater
Donna Buxton	City of Olympia	Theresa Nation	WDFW
Erin Hall	Olympia Master Builders	Sarah Moorehead	Thurston Conservation District

Other Attendees

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Amy Hatch-Winecka	TRPC	Stacy Vynne	Department of Ecology
Rebecca Brown	Department of Ecology	Katilyn Nelson	Thurston County
Tom Culhane	Department of Ecology	Jim Pacheco	Department of Ecology
John Millard	City of Tenino	Ben Dennis	Instream Conservation
Paula Holroyde	League of Women Voters	Elizabeth McManus	Ross Strategic (Facilitator)
Martin McCallum	Stream Team		

Decision Items

The December meeting summary was approved the by the committee.

Meeting Summary

Committee Chair Angela Johnson and Elizabeth McManus (temporary facilitator) kicked off the meeting. Ecology is in the process of hiring a long-term facilitator for the Committee.

Tom Culhane, Department of Ecology hydrogeologist, provided a presentation on hydrogeology. The presentation was a general overview of the subject, with some information specific to WRIA 13. The presentation will be made available on the Committee website. Committee members participated in a thorough Q&A after the presentation. Some topics from that discussion include:

- The key concept to take away from the presentation is a sense of how pumping affects streams. When wells are pumped, that pulls from baseflow which is critical to fish – and that is what we need to consider when offsetting for permit-exempt wells.
- WRIA 13 has a number of small streams, and future development may have affect those streams; this will impact project selection and location.
- The committee will need to look at indoor vs. outdoor use, and how to determine those numbers – this may be something that we can request as part of our technical needs.

- The impacts of freshwater/saltwater mixing could potentially be a component of NEB determination.
- RCW 90.94 does not address climate change specifically, but the planning unit could do so by determining offset projects that consider climate change impacts.

Angela Johnson provided a presentation of a draft committee timeline and plan components. The timeline is subject to change based on Committee needs and progress. The group will continue to evaluate the timeline as we move forward. The plan components were broken out into “required” and “optional” elements. The committee discussed this topic and provided many comments, including:

- Ecology should consider clarifying how they are interpreting the time components of offsets. For example, how soon do the benefits of a mitigation project need to take place to meet NEB? What is Ecology’s standard of acceptance?
- Ecology is determining NEB, and will use the final NEB guidance document (final expected in summer 2019). NEB guidance will not go through rulemaking.
- The draft timeline will be revised based on input from the Committee – for example, subbasin delineation should be done earlier so that the county growth projections can be done in a way that incorporates that information.
- There was a recommendation that the Committee receive information on NEB guidance before the guidance document is finalized so that they can make comments during the comment period.
- The Committee may want to have project discussions earlier in the process.
- Several Committee members posed questions on project types, funding, and how the projects will be implemented – this is information that the Committee will continue to go over at future meetings.

The Committee went through the Operating Principles and Charter revisions brought forward by the Chair. Additional changes were discussed and agreed upon by the Committee. The mechanism for decision making was discussed in detail, and the Committee has agreed to use full consensus. Clarifying language on how the Committee will make decisions will be provided in the next draft. 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 February meeting.

Groups identified as potential ex-officio members include the Salmon Recovery Lead Entity (Amy Hatch-Winecka), LOTT, and the Fire District. The Committee chair will confirm availability and commitment of proposed members prior to the February meeting. The Committee will be asked to decide on membership of proposed groups at the February meeting.

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.

- 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.

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 final draft will be distributed to the Committee prior to the next meeting. It is expected that the Committee will approved the document at the February meeting.
- Ecology will continue reach out to organizations identified to be ex-officio members for a decision on their participation at the next meeting.
- Ecology will continue to set up trainings and presentations over the next several meetings based on the draft timeline identified at the January meeting.