# Kennedy-Goldsborough (WRIA 14) Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee April 11, 2019 Meeting Summary - Approved

**Committee website:** <https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37326/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_14.aspx>

**Next Meeting:**May 9, 2019, 9 am – 12:30 pm, Mason County Public Works, 100 W Public Works Drive, Shelton, WA 98584

# **Committee Chair:**

Angela Johnson, Washington State Department of Ecology

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# Agenda

| Topic | Time | Action | Handouts | Lead |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Welcome and Introduction** | 9:00 am |  |  | Facilitator |
| **Approval of March Meeting Summary and Review of April Agenda** | 9:10 am | Decision | -March meeting summary  -Agenda | Facilitator |
| **Committee Updates and Announcements** | 9:15 am | Discussion |  | Chair and Committee |
| **Local Planning** | 9:25 am | Presentations |  | Mason County, Thurston County, City of Shelton |
| **Break** | 11:00 am |  |  |  |
| **Technical Workgroup Report** | 11:10 am | Discussion |  | Chair and Workgroup Representatives |
| **Proposed Summer and Fall 2019 Schedule** | 11:45 am | Discussion | -Proposed meeting schedule | Chair |
| **Parking Lot Items** | 11:55 am | Discussion |  | Chair |
| **Public Comment** | 12:05 pm |  |  |  |
| **Action Items and Next Steps** | 12:15 pm |  |  | Chair/Facilitator |

# Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Paul Pickett | Squaxin Island Tribe | Kevin Shutty | Mason County |
| Larry Boltz | Mason Kitsap Farm Bureau | Barbara Adkins | Mason County |
| Allison Cook | Department of Fish and Wildlife | Fern Schultz | Department of Health |
| Seth Book | Skokomish Indian Tribe | Kaitlin Nelson | Thurston County |
| Marilyn Vogler | Washington Chapter Sierra Club | Angela Johnson | WA Ecology |
| Erin Hall | Olympia Master Builders | Ron Gold | Mason County PUD No.1 |

# Other Attendees

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Susan Gulick | Sound Resolutions (Facilitator) | Jimmy Kralj | ESA (Information manager) |
| Gino Lucchetti | Squaxin Island Tribe | Kell Rowen | Mason County |
| Erica Marbet | Squaxin Island Tribe | Dana Sarff | Skokomish |
| Alison Osterberg | Thurston County | Shelley Spalding | Sierra Club |
| Jason Dose | City of Shelton | Mark Ziegler | City of Shelton |

# Approval of March Summary and review of April Agenda:

## Discussion:

* Language was clarified in the March meeting summary to reflect the following:
  + Squaxin Island Tribe Grant Project: Squaxin Island has received a FY19 Streamflow Restoration grant in cooperation with City of Shelton and Dept. of Corrections.
  + Mason County and the Squaxin Island Tribe have developed an agreement to work collaboratively.
  + The “etc.” from the data needs discussion paragraph in March meeting Summary was removed. It was replaced with “related issues” to reflect that the workgroup has a clear direction.
  + Although ex-officio members are non-decision making members, they are asked to sign and agree to the operating principles. The language was clarified to state that the operating principles will not be changed, and that an ex-officio member would like to join the committee, they must agree to the already established operating principles.

## Outcome:

* Meeting summary was approved with the above amendments, with all members in agreement.

# Committee Updates and Announcements:

* Binders were produced for participants containing operating principles, maps, instream flow rules, meeting agendas, rosters, and related materials.
* Ecology hosted a WRIA 11 webinar to share lessons learned. This is available online.
* Upcoming webinars (tentative dates).
  + May 30 – Streamflow Restoration Project Examples – Angela will send out a calendar invite.
* WRIA 1 rule amendment preliminary draft language and rule are open for public comment. Angela will check on whether the WRIA 1 rule workshops will be available as webinars.
* Draft for final net ecological benefit guidance will be out soon – Angela will send out information when it is available.
* Ecology has selected HDR, subcontracting to Pacific Groundwater Group, as the technical consultant for WRIA 14. Ecology hopes to have the contract signed by April 15th.
  + Squaxin Island Tribe was concerned that the scope of work was too narrow. Concerns were shared with Ecology.
  + Angela will provide committee members with the contract scope of work.

# Local Planning Presentations:

## Discussion and Presentations:

* Thurston County, Mason County, and City of Shelton discussed their planning processes to inform decisions on growth projections and estimates for permit exempt wells. The goal was for the committee to understand the roles of Counties and the City in directing growth, how regulations work, and how they interact with this Committee.
* Allison Osterberg, Senior Planner, Thurston County: Thurston County Planning Process
  + The group discussed the implications of considering a range of growth projections for planning and expressed a desire to have estimations of where the majority of growth might occur.
    - Thurston County generally uses a mid-range growth project, between the maximum and minimum. Members would also like to have a “worst case” estimate to set a high estimate of possible future growth.
    - It is most useful to look how much growth will occur in areas where permit exempt wells would be needed. Growth projections are important, but it is more important to know if growth will occur in locations with municipal water supplies or in rural locations.
  + The group discussed certificates of water availability, the duty to serve and when a large system might allow an exempt well within its service area, usually when a hookup isn’t feasible.
  + The group agreed to discuss permit exempt wells in UGA areas during future meetings.
* Jason Dose, City of Shelton
  + Discussed the drivers of development and the difficulties in predicting where development will occur.
  + The committee agreed that they should consider increased clarity on whether the focus should be on wells vs. connections to wells.
    - Similarly, concerns related to water loss from DSL (distribution service leakage) were raised.
    - The group stated they would like to hear from the county about how they implement decisions between wells vs. connections.
  + Exempt wells can go into the UGA if they are beyond the distance when hook-ups are required.
  + The urban setting provides opportunities for multi-purpose habitat projects.
* Mason County
  + Discussed the importance of water features on the north end of WRIA 14 near Allyn.
  + Growth projection numbers were provided to the group:
    - 2036 projection: Expecting a 34% total increase to 83,800. Rural parts of the county are expecting 22% growth to 55,000.
  + Committee members emphasized the importance of regional pressure from growth in Seattle and its effects on Mason County. Some members suggested the committee consider maximum growth projections, meaning that at most, WRIA 14 will over mitigate and have conservative water use.

# Technical Workgroup Report:

## Discussion:

* Questions were raised about how the Technical Workgroup will interact with the larger committee.
* The Technical Workgroup is the only workgroup for now, but new workgroups can be created. Any committee member can join the committee at any time. Additionally, the committee can consult outside technical experts.
* Ecology stated that the initial focus of the technical consultants will be to address the data gaps, subbasin delineation, and growth projections. .
  + The Technical Workgroup will provide feedback to the consultants, but only after the Workgroup consults with the full committee.
* The committee discussed examples from the Nisqually Watershed Planning Unit.
  + Committee member asked why there were three different consumptive use calculations created when the Nisqually Planning Unit ultimately used Ecology’s Recommendations for Water Use Estimates.
    - The first calculation used Thurston PUD data of observed water use in the watershed.
    - The second calculation looked at the legal right (if everyone used the full 3,000 gallons per day). This was an unrealistic amount of use, but the Nisqually tribe was interested in this because they wanted the maximum benefit for salmon.
    - However, the Planning Unit used Ecology’s methodology which was somewhere in the middle of first the two calculations for consistency with NEB determination.
* In WRIA 14, the committee is not required to use Ecology’s Recommendations for Water Use Estimates, and is able to use different calculations, but a strong justification is needed to ensure that a different calculation is consistent with Ecology’s Net Ecological Benefit determination.
  + Committee members would like to explore a tiered approach to identify where there will be higher and lower rates of consumption.
* Committee members stated that in person meetings, when possible, were much more productive than those done with WebEx – Angela will try to schedule an in-person meeting for the next Workgroup meeting.
* Sub-basins
  + The committee needs to delineate sub-basins to determine whether offset projects are in-time and in-place.
  + Committee will need to make sub-basin determination within the next few months.
    - Sub-basins can be adjusted in the final plan, but a decision needs to be made so that the process can be moved forward.
  + The committee suggested addressing other data such as:
    - Specific hydrogeological analyses that are part of development projects;
    - UGA
    - Group A/B water systems
    - Control points in the basin and where those are located; and
    - GIS layer of where we expect future permit exempt wells to occur.
  + It was recommended that the committee use the subbasin delineations from the RCW 90.82 WRIA 14 planning map as a starting point, and also include the “South Shore” subbasin along the southern shore of Hood Canal (previously included in WRIA 16 planning). For the purposes of RCW 90.94, WRIA 14 will be considered as it is defined in the WAC 173-500. It will not be split into WRIA 14a and WRIA 14b as was done for the RCW 90.82 planning effort.
  + Committee members agreed to create a list of questions to help answer their concerns with sub-basin delineation, identify important GIS layers, and compare that information to the WRIA 14/16 planning map from RCW 90.82 to see whether or not changes need to be made.
    - Potential questions:
      * Where is the growth pressure and trends that will drive exempt wells?
      * Where will the first priority for mitigation projects be?
      * What drives the size of a subbasin? When is large ok, when is small better?

## Outcome:

* Angela will bring the WRIA 14 sub-basins map with additional information to the next technical workgroup meeting.
* Angela will send out a doodle poll to help determine the date of the next workgroup meeting.

# Proposed Summer and Fall 2019 Schedule:

* Angela presented a proposed meeting schedule for the remainder of 2019. She will send out a revised version to correct erroneous dates.

# Parking Lot Items:

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

* 10/31/18: How do permit-exempt wells impact/interact with instream flow rules, and how are they governed by them?
* 1/10/19: What is the expected review time for Ecology after the Committee approves and submits the final plan?
* 3/14/19: Is there funding available for studies outside of the work done by Ecology technical staff or the technical consultant (i.e. to start long-term stream gauging)?

# Public Comment:

* No public comment was given.

# Action items and next steps:

* Ecology chair will continue to follow up with entities for signatures on the Operating Principles.
* Ecology chair will provide the Committee with resources on water rights, and will set up a presentation for further information.
* Ecology chair will set up workgroup meetings with those participating, and will notify the committee of the date.
* Ecology will continue to set up trainings and presentations over the next several meetings based on the draft timeline.
* Consider future discussion on “what does success look like?”
* Committee members proposed meeting near the Union area, closer to Hood Canal. For now, the Committee will continue to meet in the Mason Public Works building, but Ecology chair will look into alternative meeting spaces for the future.
* The group discussed a water purveyor panel, including Mason PUD #1 and possibly WDOH or an SMA like NW Water.