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

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

**Next Meeting:** April 11, 2019, 9 am – 12:30 pm, Mason County Public Works, 100 W Public Works Drive, Shelton, WA 98584

## Meeting Information

Thursday, March 14, 2019   
9:00 am – 12:30 pm

Mason County Public Works  
100 W Public Works Drive, Shelton, WA 98584

## Agenda

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Topic | Time | Action | Handouts | Lead |
|  | **Welcome and Introductions** | 9:00 |  |  | Facilitator |
|  | **Approval of January Meeting Summary and Review of March Agenda** | 9:10 | Decision | * January meeting summary (provided in email) * Agenda | Facilitator |
|  | **Committee Updates and Announcements** | 9:15 |  |  | Chair and All |
|  | **Public Comment** | 9:25 |  |  | Facilitator |
|  | **Instream Flows\*** | 9:40 | Presentation |  | Jim Pacheco, Ecology |
|  | **Break** | 10:40 |  |  |  |
|  | **Operating Principles** | 10:50 | Decision | Operating Principles | Chair/Facilitator |
|  | **Ex-Officio Decisions** | 11:40 | Decision |  | Chair/Facilitator |
|  | **Data Needs and Workgroups** | 11:50 |  |  | Chair |
|  | **Action Items and Next Steps** | 12:20 |  |  | Chair/Facilitator |

**\*Instream Flow Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-XT3I_cNVvk&feature=youtu.be>.

## Committee Representatives and Alternates in Attendance

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Angela Johnson | Department of Ecology | Seth Book | Skokomish Indian Tribe |
| Erica Marbet | Squaxin Island Tribe (alternate) | Craig Gregory | City of Shelton |
| Kevin Shutty | Mason County | Erin Hall | Olympia Master Builders |
| Darrin Masters | WDFW | Larry Boltz | Mason Kitsap Farm Bureau |
| Shelley Spalding | Washington State Chapter Sierra Club | Marilyn Vogler | Sierra Club (alternate) |
| Cindy Wilson | Thurston County | Kaitlynn Nelson | Thurston County (alternate) |
| Ron Gold | Mason PUD 1 |  |  |

## Other Attendees

| **Name** | **Representing** | **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| John Bolender | Mason Conservation District | Dana Sarff | Skokomish Tribe |
| Rebecca Brown | Department of Ecology | Fern Schultz | Department of Health |
| Kell Rowen | Mason County | Barbara Adkins | Mason Conservation District |
| Paul Pickett | Squaxin Island Tribe (pending) | Jim Pacheco | Department of Ecology |

## Decision Items

The January meeting summary was approved the by the committee. The committee approved two ex-officio members: Mason Conservation District, and the Washington State Department of Health. The committee approved the Operating Principles and Charter.

## Meeting Summary

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

Squaxin Island Tribe noted that they had received FY19 Streamflow Restoration grant funding for a project in collaboration with the City of Shelton and Dept. of Corrections.

Mason County noted that the county and the Squaxin Island Tribe have developed an agreement for working collaboratively.

Jim Pacheco, Department of Ecology biologist, provided a presentation on Instream Flows. The presentation was a general overview of the subject, with some information specific to WRIA 14. The presentation will be made available on the Committee website. Committee members participated in a thorough Q&A after the presentation and raised issues such as:

* What hydrological data is available?
  + Jim has hydrologic data for Goldsborough Creek, but not PHABSIM data. The Instream Resource Protection Plan (IRPP – summary of the history of the resources and the rationale behind the instream flow rule) is from an old gauge that is no longer in operation, however there is a newer gauge in Shelton with 16 years of data.
  + Planning partners could consider helping to fund USGS gauges in other areas of the watershed for more data. Squaxin Island Tribe currently has an EPA grant to operate a USGS gauge.
* Data for the instream flow rule is older, and there may have been impacts on the stream since then. ECY technical staff could potentially overlay current data with IRPP data to see where changes have been.
* How do the instream flow rule and seasonal closures affect potential mitigation projects?
  + In WRIA 14 there are summer closures only.
  + The committee may need to verify if winter water is available – ECY technical staff could potentially help with toe-width method data. If it is available, projects could include capturing high flows in the winter to offset for the summer.
* Climate change models and what they show for long-term trends
* Net Ecological Benefit - benefits from the plan should exceed the impacts from projected water use. The Committee will continue to talk about this and define it more clearly for our planning process.
* Reclaimed water projects – determining how best to implement them in WRIA 14 so that they show a benefit to the system.

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 Committee approved the document, and Ecology chair Angela Johnson will follow up with all members with a signature page and next steps.

Data needs were discussed by the Committee, and the chair asked for a technical workgroup to be formed. The technical workgroup will meet in between regular committee meetings to discuss data, methods, subbasin delineations, and related issues. They will present information to the entire Committee. Entities who currently volunteered to be on the technical workgroup include: Thurston County, Mason County, Squaxin Island Tribe, Skokomish Indian Tribe. The DOH and Mason PUD will participate as their schedules allow.

The Committee chair will organize a meeting for the workgroups before the April 11th meeting, and will send out the meeting information to all committee members.

Data needs from the previous meetings were discussed and distributed during the meeting, along with revisions received by the chair. The Committee discussed topics such as:

* Obtain source area water protection mapping from DOH – Group A and B wells
* DNR data on fish/non-fish bearing streams
* Identify where wells are now and where they are likely to go in the future
* Identify areas where future homes may be developed – may want to tie into buildable lands analysis
* Identify where water rights are located in WRIA 14 – break out by subbasin, which ones are agricultural, opportunities for senior water right purchases, etc.
* Data on water withdrawal and usage from A and B systems would be important to understand
* Committee should consider counties participating on multiple WRIAs and the need for consistent methodology
* What are the options for long-term stream gauging related to this process? Is there funding available for this kind of work? *(added to parking lot)*
* Better WRIA 14 map to show stream systems more clearly
* Consider climate change impacts within WRIA 14 and how it affects the 20 year impacts and mitigation strategies

The Committee approved the participation of two ex-officio members: Mason Conservation District and Washington State Department of Health. The chair will follow-up with these members for agreement to the Operating Principles.

## 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.

* 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)?

## Action Items

* Ecology chair will finalize the approved Operating Principles and will follow up with each entity for next steps and a signature page.
* Ecology chair will provide the Committee with resources on water rights, and will set up a presentation for further information.
* Ecology chair will distribute Instream Resource Protection Plan and will make Jim Pacheco’s presentation available on the Committee website.
* Ecology chair will inform the Committee of the date of the workgroup meetings.
* 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?”