WRIA 14 WREC Data Needs Discussion 3/14/17

This is information we discussed at our December meeting, and additional items I’ve received comments on since then. What else do we need to add? Think about how the technical workgroup can prioritize this.

# Data available:

1. USGS Model – consider having a presentation.
2. Thurston County – population growth, water quality, hydro model, patterns of development.
3. Squaxin Island Tribe – various data. There have been coordinated efforts both with Ecology and Mason County.
4. Mason County – currently working with Squaxin Island Tribe on flow and consumptive use.
5. The Mason Conservation District, Salmon Recovery LE - available information relevant to this program, Committee review of the Salmon Recovery Plan (available when?)
6. DNR data on fish bearing streams
7. Source area water protection mapping from DOH
8. Monitoring data from Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

# Data needs:

1. Try to identify sources that are data rich vs. data poor
2. Committee needs to ID data gaps, and identify funding available for data collection
3. Assessment of the current number of permit-exempt wells in each subbasin in WRIA 14
   1. Note that a pilot study is being initiated by the Ecology Wells division for a separate project. Angela will coordinate to schedule a report from the Ecology staff working on the project when it is available, and reevaluate after that.
4. Forecast of the number of permit-exempt domestic wells that could be drilled, and forecasted consumptive use from those wells – info for each subbasin in WRIA 14.
   1. Consider tying into buildable lands analysis
   2. DOH may need to look into service area policy
5. A thorough review of all certificated water rights with a source (ground or surface) in WRIA 14; and identification of water rights that may be candidates for either permanent protection in the trust water rights program or otherwise help mitigate for water use impacts.
   1. Identify water rights within Group A and Group B systems
   2. Look into WRIA 11 water rights project
6. Measurement of streamflow in all regulated streams under Chapter 173-514 WAC (WRIA 14 Instream Flow rule)
   1. Note that this data gap exists, although the Committee may not be able to complete this task with technical funding support. There is a potential for a long-term project, but it is being raised to express where the data gaps are and how big they are.