

**Kitsap Peninsula (WRIA 15)
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee
DRAFT March Meeting Summary**

Please send corrections to [Stacy](mailto:Stacy.Vynnemckinstry@ecy.wa.gov) (Stacy.Vynnemckinstry@ecy.wa.gov) by March 26, 2019.

[Committee webpage:](#)

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37327/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_15.aspx

[Next Meeting:](#)

Thursday, April 4, 2019
9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Kitsap Conference Center

[Meeting Information](#)

Thursday, March 7, 2019
9:30 am to 12:30 pm
Eagles Nest Community Center

[Agenda](#)

	Topic	Time	Action	Handouts	Lead
1.	Welcome and introductions	9:30am			Chair
2.	Approval of agenda and February meeting summary	9:35am	Decision	- Agenda - February summary (limited copies)	Facilitator
3.	Updates and Announcements	9:40am		-Committee calendar	Chair and All
4.	Workgroup Report	9:50am			Workgroup Representatives
5.	County and City Planning Panel	10:00am	Presentations and discussions	-Panel discussion agenda (see back of this page) -Handouts from counties and cities	
6.	Proposed Summer and Fall 2019 Schedule	12:10pm	Discussion	-Proposed meeting schedule	Chair
7.	Action Items and Next Steps	12:15pm			Facilitator and Chair
8.	Public Comment- <i>limit to 3 minutes per person</i>	12:20pm			Facilitator
9.	End	12:30pm			

Handouts:

1. Agenda and detailed planning agenda
2. Updated Committee Calendar and 2019 Meeting Schedule
3. Handouts from counties and cities

SCHEDULED 2019 COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Thursday April 4th, 9:30am Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton
Thursday May 2nd, 9:30am Eagles Nest Community Center, Bremerton
Thursday June 6th, TBD

Thursday August 1st, TBD

SCHEDULED 2019 WORKGROUP MEETINGS

Thursday April 4th, 1:30-3:30pm Kitsap Conference Center, Bremerton

Wednesday April 17th, 1pm- 2pm TBD (contact [Stacy](#) for details)

Thursday May 9th, 2pm-3pm TBD (contact [Stacy](#) for details)

Wednesday May 15th, 2pm-3pm TBD (contact [Stacy](#) for details)

Tuesday June 4th, 11am-12pm TBD (contact [Stacy](#) for details)

Committee Representatives in Attendance*

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Greg Rabourn	King County	Dave Ward	Kitsap County
Christian Berg	Bainbridge Island (alternate)	Dave Nash	Kitsap County (alternate)
Trent Ward	Gig Harbor	Brian Stahl	Kitsap Conservation District (representing agricultural interests) (alternate)
David Winfrey	Puyallup Tribe	Seth Book	Skokomish Tribe (alternate)
Alison O’Sullivan	Suquamish Tribe (alternate)	Randy Neatherlin	Mason County
Mayor Becky Erickson	Poulsbo	Allison Satter	Bremerton (alternate)
Joel Purdy	Kitsap Public Utility District	Austin Jennings	Pierce County (alternate)
Brittany Gordon	WDFW	Sam Phillips	Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe
Nam Siu	WDFW (Alternate)	John O’Leary	Suquamish (alternate)
Teresa Smith	Bremerton	Sandra Staples-Bortner	Great Peninsula Conservancy (representing environmental interests)
Stacy Vynne McKinstry	Department of Ecology	Dan Cardwell	Pierce County
Thomas Hunter	Port Orchard	Jeff Dickison	Squaxin Island Tribe
Paul Pickett	Squaxin Island Tribe (alternate)		

Committee Representatives Not in Attendance*

Representing
Kitsap Building Association, representing residential construction interests

Other Attendees*

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Stephanie Potts (facilitator)	Department of Ecology	Jennifer Sutton	Bainbridge Island
Larry Boltz	Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau	Shawn O’Dell	Washington Water Service
Bob Hunter	Kitsap Public Utility District	Dana Sarff	Skokomish Tribe
Ingria Jones	Department of Ecology		

*based on sign in sheet

Approval of Agenda and Meeting Summary

Facilitator provided an overview of the agenda and requested changes to the agenda. No changes were proposed by committee members. Facilitator requested changes to the February meeting summary. Stacy made a few corrections to the meeting summary attendance records and a reference to ex officio interest. The Committee approved the meeting summary and Stacy will post to the Committee webpage.

Updates and Announcements

Committee binders: Ecology provided binders for committee members with meeting materials, planning information, and general resources. Committee members can take binders with them or leave them with Ecology staff. Please bring binders to meetings for reference.

Technical support: Ecology is reviewing bids from firms to assist with subbasin delineations, consumptive use, and project identification. Stacy shared the list of firms that bid on the process and requested a red flag review by March 6th. Ecology will be making a decision very quickly so that firms can start work.

Facilitation Support: Ecology is continuing the review of the negotiated scope of work and is moving forward bringing on support as quickly as possible.

Operating Principles Signature Page: Stacy has not received signature pages from all Committee members. Please sign and return to Stacy before the April meeting. Once all signatures are received, Ecology will combine into the final operating principles and post on the committee webpage. The Committee is expected to abide by the approved operating principles while Stacy collects the remaining signature pages.

Ex Officio Membership: The Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau and Washington Water Service have expressed interest. Stacy spoke with Hood Canal Coordinating Council. They are not interested in ex officio membership at this point, but interested in project selection this fall. Discussion and decision on ex officio membership will be on the April agenda.

Committee Calendar: Small adjustments were made to the Committee calendar. The updated Committee calendar and proposed 2019 schedule will be posted on the Committee website.

Committee member updates: Jeff Dickison introduced Paul Pickett who will participate on the committee as a representative for the Squaxin Island Tribe.

Workgroup Report

Joel provided update on the technical workgroup. Phone meeting on March 4th was attended by 9 people. Meeting included an overview of the purpose of the workgroup, overview of the scope of work for a technical consultant, and discussed in detail the data available to support the delivery of work products. The committee may need to look further into data on Gig Harbor saltwater intrusion and DOH limitations on wells.

Workgroup discussed some of the unique features of the Kitsap Peninsula--small subbasins and groundwater supply universal to all. Because of its uniqueness, the workgroup recommends a technical consultant with local knowledge of the WRIA.

The southern area of the WRIA has potential for saltwater intrusion. USGS model does not cover key islands and data is relatively unavailable for those places. Workgroup identified that KPUD has data set and the workgroup is interested in an overall water budget for the WRIA, including water rights. KPUD also has a database of all wells submitted to DOH, including well logs, that could be valuable for the committee's work.

Workgroup had an initial discussion on approaches to subbasins and the ability to reach a recommendation and decision without support from the consultants. Members of the workgroup noted the isolation of islands and potential need to keep these as their own subbasins, e.g. Anderson Island. There was also a suggestion to look at overall precipitation regime across the WRIA when developing subbasins as well as political reality of boundaries within the subbasins and ability to implement projects within subbasins. The workgroup will discuss proposed ideas for subbasins at the April meeting and share draft maps following the meeting.

Clarification was provided that the workgroup is open to all committee members or other entities that may provide good input. Ecology will continue to coordinate the workgroup and ensure their discussions and recommendations are at the direction of the committee and focus on upcoming decisions. Ecology will ensure that the committee is aware of the meeting schedule and agenda items for the workgroup and provide a high level summary of the discussion and any recommendations to the committee.

Next workgroup meeting will happen immediately after April Committee meeting, convening at 1:30 at the Kitsap Conference Center. At the next meeting, the workgroup will continue subbasin discussions, and may come up with recommendations to bring before the Committee for decision in May. The workgroup may begin discussing growth projections at the next meeting, depending on status of consultant work. Workgroup will continue discussions on growth projections in May and June and the Committee has an anticipated decision on population projections in June.

County and City Planning Presentations and Discussion

See meeting overview presentation for summary of session objectives.

Kitsap County:

Dave Ward, Kitsap County, provided an overview presentation of the Growth Management Act. See presentation on committee webpage.

Questions and Discussion

- The West Sound Salmon Recovery Lead Entity and West Central Local Integrating Organization voted to combine their entities at their last meeting to align efforts. Concern expressed about limited funding to LIOs and that it is important to streamline planning efforts to build efficiencies.
- The Committee may want to consider legacy lots as they look at estimates for new wells. Developed legacy lots may not conform with current codes. There is a difference between a legal lot and a nonconforming lot. Kitsap County does not allow lots that are nonconforming to add features that would make them more nonconforming.
- Some lots are not buildable due to limitations such as ability to site a septic system, flooding challenges, or steep slopes.
- Reasonable use exception denials are not frequent. When denials from County or City go to the Courts, the Takings Clause of the 5th Amendment of the Constitution can limit County and City ability to disallow reasonable use exceptions. Kitsap County avoids placing people in the position where they would need to request a reasonable use exception.

King County:

Greg Rabourn provided an overview King County's planning. See committee webpage for handouts.

Questions and Discussion

- The Public Benefit Rating System is a list of categories that assign points for tax reduction. Conservation easements and PBRs can co-exist. An individual can make money from an easement and also receive tax benefits from the PBRs.
- Some water systems may be tapped into perched aquifers.

Mason County:

Commissioner Neatherlin provided an overview of Mason County's planning. See committee webpage for handout.

- Mason County has approximately 65,000 people and only the northern portion of the county is included in WRIA 15.
- There is one UGA and there are issues with growth. There are a lot of permit-exempt wells within the county and the high cost for utilities is one reason. The county is working with Bremerton to bring in their sewer system. Growth is somewhat limited by wetlands, hillslopes and critical aquifer recharge area.

Pierce County:

Dan Cardwell provided an overview presentation of Pierce County planning. See committee webpage for presentation.

Questions and Discussion

- Group A water systems have designated service areas that require hookups for developments within the area. There are Group B systems that may be within the boundaries of the Group A systems. The Group B systems are typically constructed for a specific subdivision to meet its needs and are not intended to expand. Group B water systems do not have water rights so the integration of Group A and Group B systems is complicated.

City of Poulsbo:

Becky Erickson provided an overview of the City's planning.

- Poulsbo is the classic GMA city and is building densely within 4.5 square miles of urban area. New development must connect to city water.
- There are approximately 30 legacy wells, which are encouraged to hook up to City water as is possible.
- Population growth rates are high and City has increasing employment opportunities. Systematically replacing old infrastructure to reduce per capita water consumption.

Questions and Discussion

- Clarification that residents must pay for water infrastructure, which is a disincentive to constructing a private well. City does not actively decommission wells but encourages the legacy wells to connect.

City of Bainbridge Island:

Jennifer Sutton provided an overview of the City of Bainbridge Island's approach to GMA. See committee webpage for presentation.

Questions and Discussion

- Bainbridge uses the County's taxation program and has a goal of advertising this program.
- Easements in the critical areas are not required but landowners can work with the county on easements.
- Bainbridge Island is unique, sort of like a County. Much of the island is covered by a water service area and the city has a water purveyor in the Winslow area and Island Center.
- Designation of critical recharge areas will encourage the Island to continue to be rural in character, which means permit-exempt wells. A large number of permit exempt wells may go in on the Island.
- The Island is working on a groundwater management plan, which includes awareness and conservation. The City's Water Resource element Policy 2.3 encourages the expansion of water system as opposed to shallow residential wells.

Gigs Harbor

Trent Ward discussed the City of Gig Harbor's water system.

- The City is the primary water purveyor within the City, but is not the only purveyor within the City limits. Anticipate a need for additional water rights in the future due to growth.

- City has an ordinance restricting permit exempt wells, Chapter 13 of Municipal Code. This code requires certain types of buildings to connect to the water system.
- City allows permit exempt wells to be drilled within the City's boundaries. The City's policy was updated to reflect RCW 90.94 water use restrictions and building permit fee. Trent is not aware of any permit exempt well proposed within the City in his 6 years at the City.

Bremerton

Allison Satter discussed the City of Bremerton's water system and population.

- The City provides water to a majority of the City, but not to all areas.
- The City code does not prohibit exempt wells, but in 12 years with the City she has only seen one proposed.
- Sewer and water are not provided to all areas within the manufacturing and industrial center. Puget Sound industrial area could see some wells. The city is actively working on hooking up existing wells to the water system.
- More information is needed on studies addressing the impacts of converting from septic to sewer in the aquifer recharge areas.

Port Orchard

Thomas Hunter provided an overview of Port Orchard's planning.

- Most of the City residents are on public water and sewer, due to the way the City has expanded.
- The Code requires houses within 200 feet of a water system to hook up.
- Thomas has not seen a permit exempt well go in during his time with the City. The City is growing fast and developing its water system.

References:

- [RCW 36.70A](https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.70A)
<https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=36.70A>
- [King County Comprehensive Plan:](https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/king-county-comprehensive-plan.aspx)
<https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/executive/performance-strategy-budget/regional-planning/king-county-comprehensive-plan.aspx>
- [Mason County Comprehensive Plan:](https://www.co.mason.wa.us/community-services/planning/2036-comp-plan-update/index.php)
<https://www.co.mason.wa.us/community-services/planning/2036-comp-plan-update/index.php>
- [Pierce County Comprehensive Plan:](https://www.co.pierce.wa.us/950/Comprehensive-Plan)
<https://www.co.pierce.wa.us/950/Comprehensive-Plan>

Proposed Summer and Fall 2019 Schedule

Stacy presented a proposed schedule for the Committee for 2019, designed to prepare Committee for major decision points. See slides on committee webpage.

- Request to have a water purveyor panel. Stacy will try to schedule for April or May.
- The goal is for the Committee to reach a decision on growth projections in June.
- Data will need to be pulled from Office of Financial Management (OFM). For considerations of future census data, the Committee will need to discuss adaptive management, which could include new data on population estimates. Committee may also want to consider ranges.

- Clarification that the Committee's minimum requirement is to examine the planning from January 2018 to January 2038. We are not necessarily following the 20 year planning period required by counties and cities.
- Joel provided the Committee a map with location of where new wells have been drilled in Kitsap County since 2014. Data for this map is open to anyone who wants it. Joel offered to overlay this data with other layers, such as water system boundaries. Maps are available on committee webpage.

Next Steps and Action Items

- Next workgroup meeting will be April 4th at 1:30, following the Committee meeting. All are welcome to join. Focus of discussion is subbasins and initial discussion on growth projections.
- The April meeting will include USGS presentation on the Kitsap Peninsula ground water model & ex officio nominations.

Action Items for Facilitator and Chair

- Stacy will send out meeting summary in approximately one week.
- Stacy will provide parking details for the April meeting.

Action Items for Committee

- Send Stacy ex officio recommendations for consideration at the April meeting.
- Bring binders to April meeting if taken home!
- Review the decisions and timeline to identify internal review timelines.

Public comment

There was no public comment.