AGENDA

**WRIA 15 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Committee Meeting**

May 2, 2019 | 9:30 a.m.-12:30p.m.|[WRIA 15 Committee Webpage](https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1962/37327/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_15.aspx)

## **Location**

Eagles Nest Community Center

1195 NW Fairground Road,

Bremerton

**Committee Chair**

Stacy Vynne McKinstry

Svyn461@ecy.wa.gov

(425) 649-7114

**Handouts**

Agenda

April Meeting Summary

Ex Officio Nomination

# Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates \*

| **Name** | **Representing** |
| --- | --- |
| Sandra Staples-Bortner | Great Peninsula Conservancy |
| Trent Ward | City of Gig Harbor |
| Stacy Vynne McKinstry | WA Department of Ecology |
| Greg Rabourn | King County |
| Dave Ward | Kitsap County |
| Sam Phillips | Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe |
| Teresa Smith | City of Bremerton |
| David Winfrey | Puyallup Tribe |
| Alison O’Sullivan (alternate) | Suquamish Tribe |
| Becky Erickson | Poulsbo |
| Mike Michael | Bainbridge Island |
| Joel Purdy | Kitsap Public Utility District |
| Dana Sarff (alternate) | Skokomish Tribe |
| Joy Garitone | Kitsap Conservation District |
| Nam Siu (alternate) | Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| Randy Neatherlin | Mason County |
| Erica Marbet (alternate) | Squaxin Island Tribe |
| Austin Jennings (alternate) | Pierce County |
| Dan Cardwell | Pierce County |
| David Windom (alternate) | Mason County |
| David Nash (alternate) | Kitsap County |
| John O’Leary (alternate) | Suquamish Tribe |

Committee Representatives and Alternates in Not Attendance\*

|  |
| --- |
| **Representing** |
| City of Port Orchard |
| Washington Water Service (ex officio) |
| Kitsap Building Association |

Other Attendees\*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Affiliation** |
| Susan Gulick | Sound Resolutions, Facilitator |
| Larry Boltz | Mason Kitsap Farm Bureau |
| Amy Moosman | WA Department of Ecology |
| Bob Montgomery | Anchor QEA |
| Eric Evans | Kitsap Public Health |
| John Covert | WA Department of Ecology |
| Stephanie Potts | WA Department of Ecology |
| Caroline Burney | Cascadia Consulting Group, Information Manager |

\*Attendees list is based on sign-in sheet.

# Welcome

Stacy introduced Bob Montgomery, technical consultant with Anchor QEA. Anchor QEA is a subcontractor with HDR and Bob is the point person for WRIA 15.

Sandra retires May 31 and anticipates the new executive director to take her place on the Committee.

# Meeting Agenda and Meeting Summary

Susan reviewed the agenda.

*No revisions to the agenda.*

Stacy received two comments about the meeting summary:

* Joel Purdy offered correction to Lonna’s presentation about USGS model
* Paul Pickett provided clarifications around modelling

*No further refinements to the meeting summary recommended.*

# Updates and Announcements

Stacy provided updates from Ecology.

* Technical consultant contract will be signed soon and Ecology can share final scope of work with those interested. Technical consultant team will work very closely with the committee throughout this process.
* Draft Final Net Ecological Benefit Guidance scheduled for release on May 6 with public comment period open through June 7. Ecology will use the final guidance to evaluate the plan. Ecology will hold a short webinar on May 13th for committees in WRIAs 10 and 15 to provide an overview of the guidance. Ecology will record the webinar and make available to those unable to attend on the scheduled date.
* Streamflow projects webinar scheduled for May 30th. Ecology and DFW staff will talk generically about what projects to consider in this planning process. Ecology will record the webinar and make available to those unable to attend on the scheduled date.
* Tacoma-Pierce County and Kitsap public health districts will participate in committee process on an ad-hoc basis.
* Legislative & budget highlights
  + Ecology received authority to allocate funding towards the next round of streamflow restoration projects. Grant round timeline available in the coming weeks.
  + Ecology authorized five additional staff for water compliance and enforcement in Puget Sound (Water Masters).
  + Budget included for adjudications to resolve water rights. No further information available on where adjudications may occur.
  + Ecology and committee members will distribute additional legislative or budget summaries as available.

# Ex Officio Consideration: Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau

The committee reconsidered the nomination of the Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau as an ex officio (non voting) member.

Reference Material

* Nomination form posted on committee webpage.

Discussion

* Mason County spoke in favor of the farm bureau’s participation.

*All committee members approved Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau joining the WRIA 15 committee as an ex officio member. KBA provided approval over email. Squaxin Island Tribe provided approval during the lunch break. Stacy will confirm approval with Port Orchard over email.*

**Decision:** TentativelyApproved

# Workgroup Report

Austin Jennings provided a summary of the two April workgroup meetings (one in person, one via webex). Notes from workgroup meetings are posted on the committee website. Request made for Ecology acquisitions staff to attend a future committee meeting (Stacy confirmed scheduled for June meeting).

*No questions or clarifications.*

# Subbasin Considerations and Recommendations

Purpose of discussion was to review the recommendations from the workgroup and provide further direction to the workgroup and consultants.

Reference Materials

* Subbasin Discussion Guide

Discussion on General Considerations

* Not too big, not too small.
* Surface water flows and rain flow patterns.
* Anticipated rural growth and where there is little growth will likely drive projects and impacts.
* Priority areas for salmon recovery.
* Isolated areas like islands without connectivity.
* Recognition that committee can revise subbasins throughout the process.

With those considerations, the workgroup came up with following initial considerations for subbasins:

1. Vashon/Maury

2. Bainbridge

3. Three larger drainage basins including Hood Canal, Puget Sound and South Puget Sound

4. Gig Harbor- combine two HUC 12s into one subbasin

5. Key Peninsula - combine two HUC 12s into one subbasin

6. Use a layering approach- choose when to go big/small

Additional Considerations and Discussion

* Map needs to recognize that groundwater does not always match surface water boundary.
* Subbasins should be based on surface water flows, but when looking at projects, additional considerations (groundwater, possibly aquifer thickness) are important.
* The committee was in general agreement of a nesting approach where projects are identified closest to the place of impact (small subbasins).
* The committee recognized it is a priority to have offsets in the same time and place as the impact, but it is okay to expand to a larger subbasin as long as projects stay within the drainage.
* The committee recognized that there are other subbasins delineations (and the workgroup looked at some of them), but we need to find something that meets our needs.
* There was general agreement that the islands (Bainbridge, Vashon/Maury, Pierce county islands) need to be their own subbasins.
* The committee identified that further discussion is needed on the north end of the Kitsap Peninsula regarding how to divide the area based on the drainage.
* It was recognized that many of the points raised in discussion are important for the committee as they get into project consideration.
* Members of the committee worked on drawing the drainage delineation on the map so the committee and workgroup have a visual to respond to in their discussions.
* Several county representatives raised concern about providing growth projections at the geographic sub areas because the smaller the basin, the less accurate the projections.
* WDFW will have further discussion on how they prefer to divide the WRIA based on distinct fish runs.
* Members of the committee expressed that U&A boundaries, political boundaries (county, LIO, LE) may need to be considered as that can influence projects and funding of projects in the future. We may also want to look at investment in other areas, such as agriculture, and where the impacts are.
* The committee recommended the workgroup start with the 3-4 drainages (more discussion needed on North end) plus islands as a “do not cross” boundary for projects and that the workgroup discuss smaller subbasins within.

# Growth Projection Considerations and Recommendations

Purpose of the session was to learn about Ecology’s recommended approaches to growth projections and advise the workgroup and technical consultant on next steps.

Resources

* Growth Projections Discussion Guide
* Growth Projections Overview Presentation

John Covert summarized the three approaches recommended by Ecology and examples of how other WRIAs have approached growth projections.

Considerations and Discussion

* Committee needs clarification on whether we are projecting new permit exempt wells or connections. If a well already exists, but there is potential for more connections, do we need to calculate that? Clarification will be provided in the NEB guidance on Ecology’s interpretations.
* Pierce County plans on providing the well permit data from Tacoma Pierce Public Health Department for each of the committees where they participate. They are able to look back 20 years at trends and can also look at different geographic scales.
* Pierce County recommends that the committee includes an adaptive management statement to ensure we revisit the plan to assess if our projections are playing out.
* Kitsap County has well log data that surpasses Ecology’s dataset. Kitsap will also look at the forecasting included in their comprehensive plan.
* General agreement that we will need a range for projections (high and low) as well as an adaptive management approach.
* Mason County will use a combination of methods including populating growth data and building permit trends.
* Squaxin Island Tribe would also like to see where the public water system growth is anticipated as well as all future water use.

# Public Comment

*No comments.*

# Introduction to Consumptive Use

Purpose of session was to provide a high level introduction to the concept of consumptive use.

Resources

* Consumptive Use Presentation
* Ecology’s Consumptive Use Guidance

John provided an introduction to consumptive use, approaches to calculating, and examples from other watershed approaches.

Discussion

* We should recognize the potential for low impact development and on –site offsets for domestic systems (e.g. Capturing rainwater).
* Jurisdictions should share how they are approaching LID at a future meeting.
* Kitsap Conservation District invited the committee to see the LID efforts on their property. The committee will likely meet at KCD in August.
* There are rural developments in WRIA 15, particularly on Bainbridge Island, where properties may be on sewer and a well. This will impact consumptive use calculations.
* Request made for Ecology to coordinate internally to have a better understanding of how streamflow, stormwater and NPDES will work together.
* Committee members believe there is real data that WRIA 15 can use for calculating consumptive use (county data, USGS model) as opposed to following general guidance.
* Ecology will look into the number of injection wells.

Recommendation to form a projects workgroup

* Based on lessons learned from other planning process, a proposal was brought forward to start a project workgroup and begin developing projects now.
* Good opportunity to engage the salmon recovery lead entities, vet acquisition opportunities, and provide input into planning a summer field trip.
* Stacy will work on balancing the need with recognizing capacity constraints. Initial work done over email. Committee members interested in participating include: Greg, Alison, Nam, Sam, Joel, Austin, Paul, GPC and KCD.

# Action Items for Committee Members

* Next meeting: June 6, Eagles Nest
  + There is no committee meeting in July.
  + August meeting will be short, followed by project site visits.
* Work with your entity to determine which decision you can make on behalf of your agency and which decisions you’ll need an extensive review process through council or board. Ecology will need to build timeline around decisions to ensure adequate review.
* Prepare to revisit your interests, desires and concerns for the planning process at the June meeting.

# Action Items for Ecology:

* Clarify whether we are projecting number of new permit exempt wells or new connections.
* Identify opportunities to coordinate across streamflow, stormwater, NPDES programs.
* Research how many injection wells in WRIA 15.
* Stacy will continue to work towards getting operating principle signatures from WWS, Mason Kitsap Farm Bureau (assuming approval by Port Orchard), and Squaxin Island Tribe.
* Stacy will initiate a project workgroup.