AGENDA

WRIA 15 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee Meeting

April 2, 2020 | 9:30a.m.-1:20 p.m. | WRIA 15 Committee Webpage

Location
WebEx Only
(See instructions below)

Committee Chair
Stacy Vynne
Svyn461@ecy.wa.gov
(425) 649-7114

Handouts
- Agenda
- Revised subbasin technical memo
- Refined list of policy and regulatory recommendations
- Refined list of adaptive management recommendations
- Projects inventory

Welcome

9:30 a.m. | 5 minutes | Susan Gulick

Meeting Agenda and March Meeting Summary

9:35 a.m. | 5 minutes | Susan Gulick

Updates and Announcements

9:40 a.m. | 10 minutes | Stacy Vynne, All

Committee Feedback on Technical Memos

9:50 a.m. | 20 minutes | Stacy Vynne, All

- Overview of comments received
  - Subbasin Memo
  - Growth and Consumptive Use
- Questions/Discussion
- ! **Decision on sub-basin delineations**

Projects: Status and Needs by Sub-Basin

10:10 a.m. | 2 hours (including short break) | All| Discussion

- Water Rights Assessment – update and input
- Discussion of potential projects within each sub-basin. See Project Inventory.
- Are there sufficient projects to offset potential impacts? Where are the gaps?
- What direction can be provided to technical consultants regarding next steps in project development?

Approximately 20-25 minutes per sub-basin:

1. North Hood Canal
2. South Hood Canal
3. West Sound
4. South Sound
5. Islands: (3 sub-basins: Vashon/Maury, Bainbridge, and Anderson/McNeil & Ketron Islands) *

(subbasins not discussed at this meeting will be covered in May)

Refinement of Plan Recommendations

12:10 p.m. | 60 minutes (including short break) | Susan Gulick, All | Discussion

- Review refined list based on discussion at the March meeting (policy and regulatory recommendations, climate change considerations, adaptive management and implementation)
- Proposals from committee members
- Discussion and next steps

Public Comment

1:10 p.m. | 5 minutes | Susan Gulick

Next Steps and Action Items

1:15 p.m. | 5 minutes | Susan Gulick, Stacy Vynne

- Special meeting to discuss Consumptive Use – April 22, 2020, 10:00 a.m., WebEx Only

- Next meeting—Thursday, May 7, 2020, 9:30 a.m., Kitsap County Commissioner's Chambers, Port Orchard, 9:30-2:30 (anticipated, WebEx Only Likely)

WRIA 15 Upcoming Meetings: https://ecy.box.com/v/WRIA15UpcomingMtgs

WebEx Information

Thursday, Apr 2, 2020 9:00 am | 5 hours | (UTC-07:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
Meeting number: 802 024 633
Password: Dby2Vcn6KM4
https://watech.webex.com/watech/j.php?MTID=m0a7d777582186f14d4115447b9f53969

Join by video system
Dial 802024633@webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Join by phone
+1-415-655-0001 US Toll
+1-206-207-1700 United States Toll (Seattle)
Access code: 802 024 633

MEETING SUMMARY

WRIA 15 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Committee Meeting

March 5, 2020 | 9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. | WRIA 15 Committee Webpage

Location
Kitsap County
619 Division Street
Port Orchard, WA

Committee Chair
Stacy Vynne McKinstry
Svyn461@ecy.wa.gov
(425) 649-7114

Handouts
- Agenda
- Technical Progress Update
- Plan Development and Review Memo
- Mason County White Paper – Cumulative and Eventual Proposal

Attendance

Committee Representatives and Alternates *

Joel Purdy (*Kitsap Public Utility District*)
David Winfrey (*Puyallup Tribe)*
Stacy Vynne McKinstry *(WA Dept of Ecology)*
Greg Rabourn *(King County)*
Allison Satter *(alternate - City of Bremerton)*
Mike Michael *(City of Bainbridge Island)*
Christian Berg *(alternate - City of Bainbridge Island)*
Dave Ward (*Kitsap County)*
Dave Nash (alternate-Kitsap County)
Zach Holt *(alternate - City of Port Orchard)*
Alison O'Sullivan (*alternate - Suquamish Tribe)*
Joy Garitone *(Kitsap Conservation District)*
Brittany Gordon *(WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife)*
Becky Erickson *(City of Poulsbo)*
Shawn O'Dell (*Washington Water Service - ex-officio)*
Austin Jennings (*alternate - Pierce County*)
Dan Cardwell *(Pierce County)*
Seth Book *(alternate- Skokomish Tribe)*
Dana Sarff (*alternate - Skokomish Tribe*)
Nate Daniel *(Great Peninsula Conservancy)*
Paul Pickett *(alternate - Squaxin Island Tribe)*
David Windom *(alternate - Mason County)*
Randy Neatherlin *(Mason County)*
Russ Shiplet *(Kitsap Building Association)*
Larry Boltz *(Mason-Kitsap Farm Bureau - ex-officio)*

Committee Representatives Not in Attendance*

City of Gig Harbor
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Other Attendees

Susan Gulick *(Sound Resolutions, Facilitator)*
Angela Pietschmann (*Cascadia Consulting Group, Information Manager*)
Burt Clothier *(Pacific Groundwater Group)*
Bob Montgomery *(Anchor QEA)*
John Covert *(WA Dept of Ecology)*
Stephanie Potts *(WA Dept of Ecology)*

*Attendees list is based on sign-in sheet.

Meeting Agenda and Meeting Summary

Susan summarized the last meeting and reviewed the homework assignments and the agenda. *No revisions to the agenda.*

Stacy reviewed revisions to the February meeting summary, based on feedback from Pierce County and Squaxin Island Tribe. The Squaxin Island Tribe wants to share their concerns around uncertainties with the USGS method for estimating consumptive use. The concerns include: (1) outdoor water use is low compared to the range of metered data; (2) climate change is not considered (historical rather than forward-looking); and (3) possible higher growth is not considered. Accounting for these three factors could almost triple the USGS estimate.

There was general agreement that there was no agreement regarding using a range of consumptive use values.

Ecology will post the final meeting summary on the committee webpage. *No further refinements to the meeting summary provided.*

Updates and Announcements

Stacy provided updates from Ecology:

- The next Project Workgroup meeting will be held at Bremerton Public Works on March 19th. The Workgroup is seeking direction from the committee on how to focus their next conversation. If interested in attending, let Stacy know.
- Ecology met with the Great Peninsula Conservancy to discuss project ideas, the planning process, and upcoming grant round. Updated notes on specific projects are captured in the WRIA 15 project inventory.
- Ecology met with Barbara Zaroff from Kitsap County to discuss a potential reclaimed water project at the Kingston wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Stacy has provided a link on Box under project resources.
- Reminder to the committee to submit comments on Subbasin and Growth Projection memos by Friday, 3/6/2020.
- Stacy noted that Ecology's July 2019 policy interpretation of the Streamflow Restoration Act (RCW 90.94) differs from some of the Squaxin Island Tribe's interpretations that were distributed to the committee earlier this year. Ecology is asking the committee to meet the minimum requirements of the law as described in the policy interpretations and NEB guidance, but will be responsive to the interests of the committee. If the committee wants to go above and beyond these minimum requirements, Ecology will support and help move the committee forward in that direction.
- If members want to share information with other committee members, please make a specific request to the chair and provide information in a shareable format.

Updates from committee:

- Kitsap County, City of Bremerton, and City of Port Orchard are collaborating on Kitsap County Resiliency Planning. This work is expected to wrap up by the end of March and takes a "broad but shallow" look at all potential climate change impacts.
- Kitsap County noted instances where eradicating Japanese knotweed stands restored perennial streams that had only intermittent flows. Dave Ward is looking for additional documentation/research on this strategy as a potential consideration for projects.

- Kitsap County is working on an Action Agenda Near Term Action to develop a Natural Resources Asset Management Plan. Dave Ward envisions that outputs from the WRE committee could help build the program.

Plan Development and Review Process

Stacy presented slides on the plan development, review, and approval process and timeline. Committee members are expected to review and vet components of the plan on an ongoing basis. Ecology is planning to distribute a compiled draft of the plan by mid-August. Ecology has set February 1, 2021 as the target date for the committee to complete an approved plan. Ecology intends to review all approved plans that are submitted by committees, but must do so ahead of the statutory deadline of June 30, 2021.

Reference Materials

- Plan Development and Review Memo

Discussion

- The committee discussed how much lag time will be needed for circulating plans through local jurisdictions' elected officials for review and approval. Consider holiday schedules and potential impacts of COVID-19 (remote work schedules, sick time, etc.).
- Some jurisdictions may want to review all plans at once (if participating in multiple planning processes).
- Ecology noted that the committee needs to be comfortable with the extent that projects included in the plan are developed. The committee should confidently demonstrate how projects can meet offset or habitat benefits. John Covert will be a resource for determining whether more content is needed for specific projects.

Technical Progress to Date

Stacy shared a summary of the committee's technical progress to date in the following areas:

- Sub-basins
- Growth projections
- Consumptive use estimates
- Projects

Refer to the "Technical Progress Update" memo link in the "Reference Materials" list below for details. Note this memo will not be included as an appendix to the committee's plan; it is for reference only.

Dave Windom (Mason County) presented a Cumulative and Eventual Proposal (Domestic Use Water Model for Central Mason County). Refer to the white paper link in the "Reference Materials" list below for details.

Reference Materials

- Technical Progress Update Memo
- Mason County White Paper – Cumulative and Eventual Proposal
- Gravel Pit Projects Summary

Discussion

- **Subbasins**

- The committee discussed whether further refinement was needed to the region delineation prior to considering them as subbasins. Committee members felt that ~~N~~no further revision is needed, provided projects where included close to impacts and where salmon resources were benefitted. ~~It was recognized that~~Some members of the committee do~~es~~ not like the term "subbasin" because the current delineation, in some cases, is not reflective of geology or hydrology. The committee will use the term "subbasins" (instead of "regions" or "sub-areas") going forward for consistency with legislation and with other WRIAs. Stacy will work with Bob to ensure the plan includes language clarifying that "subbasin" (as used in the plan) is a planning term, not a geological/hydrological/ecological term. Stacy will add the language to the subbasin memo before bringing to the committee for final review in April.
- The committee agreed that projects should be located as close as possible to impacts. The committee may consider further dividing subbasins informally as needed to assess projects (e.g. into subareas).

- **Growth projections**
  - Some committees are using a range of growth projections (those where Pierce County participates), while others are choosing a specific number (those where King and Snohomish Counties participate). The committee provided no further input or revisions to the growth projections. There is concern from some committee members that WRIA 15 is still considering a range for growth projections as it complicates consumptive use.
- **Consumptive use estimates**
  - The Skokomish Tribe is working on an outdoor irrigation estimate.
  - Committee members discussed pausing the conversation on consumptive use estimates until there is more discussion on projects/adaptive management.
    - Stacy will coordinate a sub-group meeting in late April for those interested in developing a consumptive use proposal (for committee approval). All committee members will be invited; attendance is optional.
    - At the May meeting, the committee will discuss what would make each member comfortable with an agreed upon offset target.
  - Burt Clothier (PGG) is reviewing Ecology's Water Rights Database to look for opportunities for water right acquisitions in WRIA 15. PGG wanted a target for total offsets to use in their analysis, and wanted to know which scenario to use. There was concern by the committee that PGG is considering the high end of the consumptive use estimate and that this might set a precedent for other technical work by the committee. Others noted that not all offsets needed to be from water right acquisitions, so a medium scenario was ok. Stacy will work with Burt on an~~other~~ approach, ~~such as~~ which could include limiting the analysis to a specific amount of PGG work hours.
  - Since the February meeting, Ecology has refined the project inventory by:
    - Assigning subbasins to each project where possible and also creating subbasin tabs within the inventory.
    - Moving conceptual ideas (rain gardens, beaver dams) to separate tab.
    - Including DFW's feedback on long list of projects from salmon recovery 4-year workplans.
    - Connecting with sponsors of large projects with real interest (Kingston WWTP, Port Orchard Airport, and gravel pit projects).
  - Updates on gravel pit project research:
    - Technical consultants reviewed proposed projects from the last meeting using maps of geologic areas suitable for infiltration facilities (based on underlying geographies/USGS model data). They have identified seven potential sites that

appear to be suitable for infiltration. Refer to Gravel Pit Projects Summary for results.
        - Ecology will follow up with WA DNR about mine reclamation documentation to determine the process for changing a reclamation plan to include more ecological benefits. Stacy will see if DNR can come to the next project workgroup meeting to discuss gravel pits.
    - Kitsap PUD is working with Silverdale Water District to develop a two-page overview/synopsis of reclaimed water moving into existing stormwater ponds, gravel pits, etc.
    - City of Bainbridge Island added a potential habitat project to the inventory. Through the Spring Creek Project, the City has identified a fish passage barrier near the mouth of Fletcher Bay.
    - The committee discussed strategically envisioning projects to address priority areas and finding project sponsors (versus relying solely on existing projects).
    - The Suquamish Tribe added a potential storage/infiltration project opportunity on Ruby Creek to the project inventory based on the Wild Fish Conservancy's water typing project.
    - The Skokomish Tribe is working on additional project opportunities.
- **Mason County's Cumulative and Eventual Proposal**
    - Dave Windom clarified that the report he distributed was developed last fall and hasn't been revised yet based on input since then.
    - HDR is working with Mason County to assess what the benefits are if the committee is interested in pursuing the county's proposal as a project in the plan.
    - Ecology will need to assess the potential offset of the proposal.
    - If the committee approves the proposal, Mason County would expedite adoption.
    - John Covert (WA Dept of Ecology) noted that Mason County could only get credit for the amount of water saved through this potential change in building codes that is greater than the water savings under the current code--not for the entirety of water saved.

Policy and Regulatory Ideas

Susan recapped the policy and regulatory ideas brainstorm exercise from a previous committee meeting. She noted that these types of projects are outside the technical team's scope of work; however, facilitation support is available for committee members willing to develop policy and/or regulatory projects for committee consideration. The committee discussed which ideas they would support and/or take a leadership role on and any ideas that stand out as yellow/red flags.

Reference Materials

- WRIA 15 brainstorm and other WRIAs
- Paul Pickett - WREC Policy and Implementation packages list

Discussion

- Pierce County emphasized that regulatory actions included in the plan are recommendations not obligations for implementation. This is consistent with Ecology's policy interpretations. The Puyallup Tribe expressed disappointment with the county's position.
- Squaxin Island Tribe provided their input via Paul Pickett's handout, which~~.~~ categorizes ideas and defines a purpose for each. It is intended to simulate thinking and support future discussions. These are Paul's ideas (not official position of the tribe), but ~~These~~ are all items the Tribe is likely to support moving forward in the plan.
- WDFW would be interested in:

    - Collaboration with local governments on beaver-related legislation (e.g., including beavers as a species of local importance in critical area ordinances; no trapping/modification in these areas; mitigation sequence using non-lethal methods before trapping).
    - Strategies that can be implemented on existing residential properties, not just new development (e.g., encouraging/incentivizing efficient irrigation systems on existing and new parcels).
    - Incentivizing/funding ways to transition wet farmland crops to more suitable crops; working with farmers on properties that have opportunities for flood storage.
    - PEW metering for monitoring/adaptive management (could encourage voluntary improvement in water use when water users are conscious/mindful of how much they are using.
    - Exploring reopening Ecology's wetland rating system.
- Kitsap PUD would lead efforts around voluntary PEW metering to gather additional data. Kitsap PUD would cover meter costs and help install system free of charge to motivate residents to install a voluntary meter (no regulation or increased PEW fee).
    - Multiple committees are considering voluntary or required PEW metering; Ecology can work with the facilitation team to develop consistent recommendation language (as appropriate) across plans.
- Pierce County is interested in exploring additional funding for adaptive management (e.g., recommendation Ecology take a central leadership role in implementation and resource monitoring). The County would have a hard time supporting recommendations that result in specific enforcement. The County has concerns about obligations to continue meeting and suggests recommending that existing groups assume the responsibility to monitor plan implementation.
- Kitsap County would consider:
    - Rural policies around vegetation management and retention and soil conservation (it would need to produce a measurable impact).
    - Regulations that prohibit bottled water plants/exporting water out of state.
    - Different approaches to monitoring/metering PEWs.
    - Incentivize hooking up to municipal water by offsetting costs.
- Kitsap Building Association would be selective about support for any fee increases. They would consider:
    - Voluntary PEW metering.
    - Hooking up to PUD (if all costs are transparent up front).
    - Public education (e.g., water reuse, conservation, and efficiency).
- City of Port Orchard would be interested in taking a leadership role on monitoring.
- Great Peninsula Conservancy would consider scalable policies; incentivizing residents to hook up to public water; well metering (use revenue from people using the water to finance long-term adaptive management); and education and outreach. GPC would be interested in working with other groups interested in headwaters and could use additional help identifying priority areas/acquisition projects.
- Skokomish Tribe is interested in updating the Washington Irrigation Guide based on more local and recent data.
- King County is interested in and could help lead policies around a volunteer PEW monitoring program, existing groundwater monitoring programs, enforcement of rules around surface water withdrawals on Vashon without permits, outreach and education (conservation, landscape management).

- City of Bremerton is interested in and could help lead regulations to encourage hook ups to public water; using the best available science to identify key areas where wells are affecting streamflows; restricting shallow wells; opportunities for funding to study and identify sensitive streams; education.
- Suquamish Tribe would not advocate for fees unless they could demonstrably address putting water back in the ground. The Tribe would consider land use regulations that prioritize/promote low impact development for managing stormwater; homeowners assistance to promote infiltration (e.g., raingardens/trenches); retaining vegetation; requiring commercial/industrial development in rural areas to use drought tolerant native vegetation; incentives for hooking up to public water; CAO protection of headwater wetlands, aquafer recharge areas.
- DFW suggested that the groups with the highest stake in the committee's plan getting approved step up/increase capacity to take on leadership roles.
- Ecology is not promoting any policies/regulations/adaptive management and will take a back seat to these conversations and follow the direction the committee wants to go. Ecology will vet the committee's recommendations with Ecology leadership and bring back any concerns to the committee.
- Ecology will summarize regulations/policies of interest to the committee and bring back for further conversation at the next few meetings.

Climate Change and Adaptive Management

The committee reviewed which climate change, adaptive management, and implementation ideas they support or have concerns about.

Reference Materials

- WRIA 15 brainstorm and other WRIAs
- Paul Pickett - WREC Policy and Implementation packages list

Discussion

- Susan gave an overview of some of the ways the committee might choose to include adaptive management in the plan:
    - Recommendation to legislature to fund ongoing work of the committee and/or Ecology's role on the committee; and/or ongoing monitoring. Ecology and the facilitation team would work across watersheds to ensure consistency as appropriate to ensure the same language across all plans.
    - Within the plan, include adaptive management recommendations for projects.
    - Recommendation to adaptively manage the assumptions made in the plan.
- The committee discussed the uncertainly about what will happen after plan is adopted:
    - Who will meet and what are their responsibilities?
    - Who will make decisions after the plan is in place?
    - How will they report out?
    - How will it be paid for?
- The committee also discussed potential enforcement methods (e.g., a Water Master responsible for enforcement, education, outreach, assessment of PEW).
- Durability of the plan was also a concern: how do we ensure a lasting commitment for 20+ years.
    - One option proposed was an interlocal agreement (organizations make contract/commitment in writing) to lay out structure.

- A consideration was Pierce County noted that committee members are not obligated to participate beyond the adoption of the plan. There was a concern from some members about committee capacity to continue meeting in the future.
- Squaxin Island Tribe noted that, if the plan is not approved by the Committee, Ecology will prepare the plan, provide to SRFB for technical review and recommendations, and then write a rule- which might include regulatory obligations.~~which will include some regulatory obligations~~.
- It was suggested that working with existing watershed planning groups on adaptive management might be an alternative to having the committee continue to meet or creating a new group through this plan.
- Meeting frequency options considered:
  - Once a year
  - Every other year
  - Virtual correspondence (email updates, reports distributed)
  - Smaller regions or subbasins may meet more frequently at the local level to track implementation and adaptively manage.

- Adaptive management may depend on which projects the committee chooses; more engineered projects may require more monitoring and adaptive management.
- Ecology commits to bringing adaptive management recommendations directed at Ecology back to their leadership, vetting them in good faith, and agreeing to them in the plan if Ecology leadership is supportive.

Commented [PP1]: Who said this should be noted, and not hidden behind passive voice.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Action Items for Committee Members

- **Next meeting**: Thursday, April 2, Kitsap County Commissioner's Chambers, Port Orchard, 9:30AM-2:30PM (estimated).
- Review technical memos and send initial comments by Friday March 6, 2020.
- Provide the chair with input on how the project workgroup and technical consultants should focus time on project refinement and development.
- The committee will approve subbasin delineations at the April meeting.

Action Items for Ecology and Consultants

- Ecology will connect with PGG on approach to water rights assessment.
- Ecology will work with Anchor QEA to ensure WRIA 15's plan includes language clarifying that "subbasin" (as used in the plan) is a planning term, not a geological/hydrological/ecological term.
- Ecology will coordinate a subgroup meeting in late April for those interested in developing a consumptive use proposal (for committee approval). All committee members will be invited; attendance is optional.
- Ecology will follow up with WA DNR about mine reclamation documentation to determine the process for changing a reclamation plan to include more ecological benefits. Potential presentation on gravel pits to Project Subgroup and/or committee.
- Ecology will share with the committee:
  - Technical Memo: Gravel Projects
  - Paul's document (policy and regulatory approaches)

- Summary of today's meeting feedback on policy and regulatory ideas + adaptive management considerations for the April committee meeting.

Technical Memorandum
WRE Committees Technical Support

To:	Stacy Vynne McKinstry, Washington State Department of Ecology
From:	Bob Montgomery, Anchor QEA; Chad Wiseman, HDR
Date:	February 12, 2020
Subject:	WRIA 15 Subbasin Delineation (Work Assignment WA-01, Task 2)

1.0 Introduction

HDR is providing technical support to the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) and the Watershed Restoration and Enhancement (WRE) committee for Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 15. The Streamflow Restoration law (Revised Code of Washington [RCW] Chapter 90.94) requires that WRE plans include actions to offset new consumptive-use impacts associated with permit-exempt domestic water use. RCW 90.94.030(3)(b) states, "The highest priority recommendations must include replacing the quantity of consumptive water use during the same time as the impact and in the same basin or tributary." Therefore, delineations must be developed for the subbasins in WRIA 15 that will be used as a spatial framework for growth projections, consumptive-use estimates, and priority offset projects. The Net Ecological Benefit (NEB) evaluation will also be based on this framework. This technical memorandum addresses the basis for subbasin delineation in WRIA 15 (Kitsap).

2.0 Subbasin Delineation

This section explains the initial and final delineations for WRIA 15. The term "subbasin" is used by the WRIA 15 WRE committee for planning purposes only and to meet the requirements of RCW 90.94.030 (3)(b).

2.1 Initial Delineation

The WRIA 15 workgroup (a subcommittee of the WRE committee) was tasked to delineate subbasin boundaries for discussion at WRE committee meetings. An initial discussion was held at the April 4, 2019, workgroup meeting and Pierce County, the Kitsap Public Utility District (PUD), and the Squaxin Tribe subsequently developed maps of proposed subbasin boundaries and provided those to Ecology and the WRE committee.

The initial, general considerations included the following:

- Subbasins should be neither too big nor too small.
- Surface water flows and rain flow patterns should be included.
- Anticipated rural growth and where there is little growth will likely drive projects and impacts.
- Priority areas for salmon recovery should be included.
- Isolated areas like islands without connectivity should be included.

- There should be recognition that the WRE committee can revise subbasins throughout the process.

The maps were further discussed at the May 2, 2019, WRE committee meeting and the workgroup meeting that immediately followed that meeting.

The result of the discussion on May 2, 2019, was a proposal that divides WRIA 15 into “regions” that are an initial delineation of subbasins that will be revisited as the watershed planning process continues. The key points discussed are as follows:

- Considerations for subbasins include starting large, using a nesting approach, and ensuring that there is justification for offset projects outside of a subbasin.
- The workgroup is committed to finding projects closest to the impact and revisiting subbasin delineations throughout the process.
- The regions map will be used for generating growth projections and consumptive use. The counties shared that they can project growth at any level but recognize that the smaller the subbasins are, the less reliable the data are. It is helpful for the counties to have the proposed size of regions for providing their growth projections.
- Some workgroup members are interested in using smaller assessment areas as well, such as Hydrologic Unit Code 12 (HUC12) boundaries, to look at particular stream impacts.
    - Workgroup members also suggesting using Assessment Units (from Ecology’s Puget Sound Watershed Characterization Project) as a starting point for mitigation.
- The Squaxin Tribe would like to see a road map of how the subbasin delineations will be revisited throughout the process.

Further discussion of the regions approach occurred in the June 4, 2019, workgroup meeting and the June 6, 2019, WRE committee meeting. Agreement was reached on proceeding with use of the regions with the following caveats:

- The regions approach is a nested approach where regions are essentially a “do not cross” line for finding projects to offset impacts.
- Projects will be found that are closest to the impact and beneficial.
- The WRE committee will continue to revisit delineation of subbasins once growth projections and projects are developed.

The June proposal included three main regions: South Sound, West Sound, and Hood Canal. The boundary between the West Sound region and the Hood Canal region in the northern Kitsap Peninsula was left flexible with the recognition that projects in one region could benefit streams in the other region. The other regions are Bainbridge Island, Vashon-Maury Island, and the three south Puget Sound islands (McNeil, Anderson, and Ketron).

2.2 Revision to Hood Canal Region

The Skokomish Tribe proposed to revise the region delineation by dividing the Hood Canal region into North Hood Canal and South Hood Canal regions. The reason is differing precipitation amounts, development and status of fish species. The proposal was first presented to the WRIA 15 Committee in October who passed it to the workgroup for discussion. A subset of workgroup members reviewed

the proposal and recommended the proposal be accepted. The proposal was further discussed at the November 7, 2019 WRIA 15 Committee meeting. There was agreement amongst all Committee members present to accept the revision to the Hood Canal region.

2.3 Final Delineation

Agreement was reached at the March 5, 2020 WRIA 15 committee meeting to accept the region delineations as the subbasin boundaries. Figure 1 presents the subbasins as agreed to at that meeting.

3.0 Conclusion

The WRIA 15 WRE committee delineation of subbasins will be used as an organizational framework for growth projection and consumptive-use scenarios. References

Revised Code of Washington (RCW). 2019. Watershed Planning, Chapter 90.82 RCW. Accessed on June 23, 2019, at https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=90.82.

RCW. 2019. Streamflow Restoration, Chapter 90.94 RCW. Accessed on June 23, 2019, at https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=90.94.

U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (USGS). 2013. Federal Standards and Procedures for the National Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD) (4 ed.): Techniques and Methods 11–A3, 63 p., https://pubs.usgs.gov/tm/11/a3/.

Figure 1. WRIA 15 Subbasin Delineation

WRIA Boundary

Subbasins

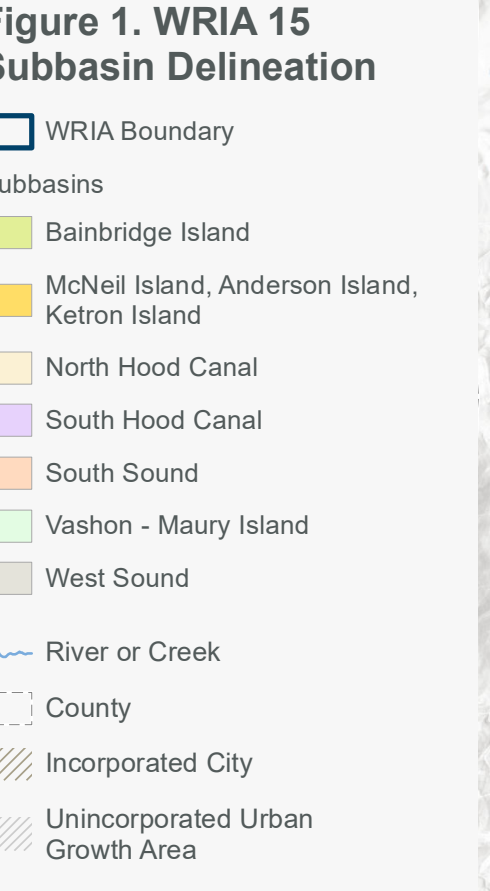
- Bainbridge Island
- McNeil Island, Anderson Island, Ketron Island
- North Hood Canal
- South Hood Canal
- South Sound
- Vashon - Maury Island
- West Sound

- River or Creek
- County
- Incorporated City
- Unincorporated Urban Growth Area

The committee is committed to finding projects closest to the impact.

Subbasins were delineated using surface water boundaries and other considerations. Note that aquifer boundaries and groundwater movement may differ from surface water basin boundaries.

Version Date: 3/12/2020



DATA SOURCES: USGS, WA DEPT. OF ECOLOGY, WSDOT

DATE: 3/12/2020

WRIA 15 Policy and Regulatory Recommendations – Refinement (v16March2020)*				
Category	**Description**	**Purpose**	**Potential Lead**	**Next steps**
Incentives – wells and water supply	Increase incentives for programs for water service connections (PEW to municipal water supply) and for well decommissioning.	Reduce reliance on PEWs.	KPUD	
Education, Incentives- water conservation	Education, outreach and/or incentives for vegetation management for homes and businesses (drought tolerant plants, zero-scaping, landscapes that promote infiltration, etc).	Water conservation for the WRIA (not limited to PEWs?)		
Education and Incentives – water conservation)	Pilot program on rural lot water budget management. Include cisterns, rain water capture, runoff management, and septic waste management.	(note, pulled from WRIA 14 Mason Co input)		
Education	Education for home builders and homebuyers on well use and efficient irrigation.	Water conservation for the WRIA (not limited to PEWs?)		
Outreach and incentives – farmland	Agricultural outreach and incentives: transition wet farmland crops to more drought tolerant crops; increase storage opportunities on ag land.	Support aquifer recharge for streamflow.		
Data	Update of the Washington Irrigation Guide and use of Ag Weather Net	Improved guidelines for irrigators	Skokomish	
Funding, Data	• Increase building permit fee (~$2000) with a reduced fee if agree to a voluntary metering program. • Increased fee is provided to [ECY or permitting agency?] and invested in xyz in the watershed.	Provide an ongoing funding source for projects in WRIA 15; gather data from PEWs	GPC	
Funding	Permit exempt well fee (building permit fee) collected by Ecology is invested in projects in WRIA 15.	(note, pulled from WRIA 14 Mason Co input)		

Data - metering	Implement a voluntary metering program for home owner education and data collection. Requires funding to provide equipment and capacity to manage data. (note, some entities interested in mandatory metering)	Collect data on PEWs	• KPUD • King Co	
Enforcement – surface water	Increase enforcement for surface water withdrawals.	Ensure surface water rights holders stay within their water allocation.		
Enforcement-PEW	Increased enforcement of PEW water use.			
Regulations-critical areas	Restrict shallow wells in critical areas (would need hydrology studies to determine where).	Improve streamflows by reducing the impact of PEWs on streamflow.		
Regulations-critical areas	Increase protection for headwater wetlands and aquifer recharge areas through increased regulations of critical areas or improvements to ECY's wetland rating system.	Improve streamflows		•
Regulations - beaver	Implement a local ordinance or regulation to support beaver protection and/or non-lethal removal for problem beavers. [any state legislation recommendations?]	Encourage and support beaver to improve streamflows.		
Regulations-bottled water	Regulation to prohibit bottled water plants that export water out of the state.	Reduce water withdrawals from the WRIA.		
Regulations- land use	Increase land use regulations to prioritize/promote low impact development and management of stormwater.	Promote onsite aquifer recharge.		

*Does not include recommendations put forward by Squaxin Island Tribe which are available at this Link.

WRIA 15 Adaptive Management, Monitoring and Implementation Recommendations -Refinement (v16March2020)*				
Category	**Description**	**Purpose Statement**	**Potential Lead**	**Next steps**
Monitoring	Create a pilot monitoring program to collect more frequent streamflow data. Using a modeling tool (such as USGS's streamflow permanence method of PROSPER model) to better understand which streams dry up and at which times of the year. This work would help understand where to employ certain projects and their potential impact.	Help understand when and where streams go dry and identify solutions. Help understand impacts of projects on streams.	• Port Orchard • PGST	• Zach and Sam will connect to develop a write up. • Zach will pull together a group to further discuss and develop.
Adaptive Management	Work with existing organization to take on adaptive management (LIO, watershed councils, Ecology, others) and reconvene as needed.			
Reporting	Provide regular, brief written updates on progress or project implementation (and new wells?) to interested parties.			
Adaptive Management	Develop a mechanism to assess whether the assumptions used in the plan (e.g. growth, outdoor watering, etc.) are validated over time or will need to be revisited as part of adaptive management.	(note, pulled from WRIA 14 recommendations from Mason Co)		
Adaptive Management	Adaptive Management on a subbasin by subbasin scale to track implementation of the projects and permit- exempt wells.			
Adaptive Management-funding	Secure ongoing funding for adaptive management and implementation from the legislation.			
Adaptive Management	Develop an Inter Local Agreement amongst the committee members for ongoing implementation and adaptive management.			

Adaptive Management - projects	Focus adaptive management at the project level (e.g. engineered projects may need more refinement than other projects).			

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