Meeting Summary

**WRIA 15 Watershed Restoration and Enhancement**

**Plan Recommendations: Workgroup Meeting**

Monday, April 27, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

## **Location**

Webex Only –See below

**Committee Chair**

Stacy Vynne McKinstry

Svyn461@ecy.wa.gov

(425) 649-7114

**Handouts**

Agenda

Recommendation Matrix

Proposals

**Documents Available on Box Here:** [**https://ecy.box.com/v/WRIA15PlanRecommendations**](https://ecy.box.com/v/WRIA15PlanRecommendations)

# Participation

Stacy Vynne McKinstry (Ecology)

Susan Gulick (Sound Resolutions)

Sam Phillips (Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe)

Allison O’Sullivan (Suquamish Tribe)

Paul Pickett (Squaxin Island Tribe)

Dan Cardwell (Pierce County)

Austin Jennings (Pierce County)

Dave Ward (Kitsap County)

David Nash (Kitsap County)

Mike Michael (City of Bainbridge)

Roma Call (Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe)

Paulina Levy (Ecology)

# Purpose of Meeting

To agree on a way to bring developed draft recommendations to the Committee for their consideration.

# Information to Include in Proposals Before Committee Discussion

* Susan introduced certain proposal components such as:
  + Proposal proponent
  + Short description/abstract
  + Challenges and benefits of proposal
  + Magnitude of proposal, affected areas and jurisdictions
  + Responsible party (for implementation)
  + Budget estimate and funding options
  + Roles of various Committee members and other key players
* Paul suggested some policy recommendations may have alternative ways to implement, and would like those to be included. Discussing how a proposal is implemented is key for its development.
* Many members agreed that a cost estimate is important to include.
* Dave mentioned that despite proposal beings in different phases, all need descriptors before further consideration.
* Members acknowledged that a cost estimate will be difficult for policy recommendations, but some analysis should be conducted if proposal is to be considered.
* Dan mentioned that beyond local government’s costs, the cost to homeowners should be included as well.

# How to Get from a Laundry List to Realistic Proposals?

* The group reviewed the current list of proposals and expressed interest or concerns for each policy suggestion. WRIA 12 followed this method and Paul offered a recap of how the discussion went:
  + Paul mentioned WRIA 12 is smaller (1 county, 2 tribes, and additional members), but they all shared common goals: successful projects, implementation, plan that adds value to ecosystem
  + Adaptive management was discussed in reference to the role the Nisqually tribe plays in WRIA 11. WRIA 12 small group agreed that ECY needs to continue having a supportive role, but that a local group could take the lead after plan adoption.
  + Monitoring and reporting ideas were brought up. A main suggestion was to create a website where information could be updated. Ecology’s role would be to maintain consistency if multiple WRIA’s choose this website approach to reporting. Dan supports the transparency and the accountability in this type of reporting.
  + Another main discussion topic surrounded how to acknowledge commitment (which leads to durability).
  + Susan suggested separating policy recommendations and adaptive management since the latter has greater support and will be a big topic of discussion going forward.
* The group went through each current proposal idea for policy or regulatory change recommendations. The group did not discuss adaptive management. Notes were taken directly on the table which can be found on Box under [WRIA15PolicyAMRefinementv2](https://app.box.com/s/ck2t9eyb324w0pjz91cag49w6056750p). A few additional comments are included below.
  + Members agree cisterns are promising, but Dan cautioned that the Pierce County Health Department should be brought in to provide feedback.
  + Members expressed concern over raising the $500 building permit fee required under 90.94.030 ($150 retained by permitting authority, $350 sent to Ecology).
    - Ecology is preparing a summary of how state is using the current portion of fees collected. The law directs the funds to be invested in the WRIA.
    - Paul mentioned that in WRIA 11 they estimate $50K per year to keep the committee going. Alison is also interested in the cost for implementation, beyond administrative necessities.
    - It was recommended that we wait until the end of the process to determine whether we want to include a recommendation for raising the building permit fee in order to determine if we have other funding sources. Stacy emphasized that jurisdictions will need to start vetting early any consideration for raising the fee in order to make the case to their decision makers. Developing funding solutions may need to occur earlier and in conjunction with other policy suggestions.
    - Funding discussion will be given more time in future meetings.

# Action Items and Next Steps

* Summarize recommendations for Committee – see edits in the plan recommendation matrix.
* Present information to Committee for feedback.
* Determine if future meeting is needed for the workgroup to vet proposals or further refine the process.