

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

Please send corrections to Stacy (Stacy.Vynnemckinstry@ecy.wa.gov) by January 9, 2019

Committee webpage:

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37327/watershed_restoration_and_enhancement_-_wria_15.aspx

Next Meeting: Monday, January 14, 2019, 10:30am – 1:30pm at the Poulsbo Library

Meeting Information

Tuesday, December 18, 2018
9:30am to 1:00 pm
Eagles Nest Community Center

Agenda

	Topic	Time	Action	Handouts*	Lead
1.	Welcome	9:30 am	None		Chair
2.	Introductions	9:45	Vote	-Agenda -October minutes (limited copies)	Facilitator
3.	Operating Principles	9:50 am	Presentation and discussion	- Draft Operating Principles	Facilitator
4.	Break	11:15 am			
5.	Geography Overview and Committee Needs- training, information, collaboration, etc.	11:30 am	Discussion	Map	Chair
6.	Next Steps	12:30 pm			Chair
7.	Public Comment- limit to 3 minutes per person	12:45 pm			Facilitator
8.	End	1:00 pm			Chair

*All handouts and presentations are available on the Committee website.

Handouts:

1. Agenda
2. Draft Operating Principles
3. WRIA 15 Map

SCHEDULED 2019 MEETINGS

Monday January 14, 2019: Poulsbo Library

Thursday, February 7, 2019: Eagles Nest

Thursday, March 7, 2019: Eagles Nest

Thursday, April 4, 2019: TBD

Thursday, May 2, 2019: Eagles Nest

Summer 2019: We will likely meet one or two times and have a project site visit

Committee Representatives in Attendance*

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Greg Rabourn	King County	Dave Ward	Kitsap County
Mike Michael	Bainbridge Island	Dave Nash	Kitsap County (alternate)
Allison O’Sullivan	Suquamish Tribe	Joy Garitone	Kitsap Conservation District (representing agricultural interests)
Mayor Becky Erickson	Poulsbo	Trent Ward	Gig Harbor
Joel Purdy	Kitsap Public Utility District	Russ Shiplet	Kitsap Building Association (representing residential construction industry)
Allison Satter	Bremerton (alternate)	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	Tiffany O’Dell	Pierce Co (alternate)
Thomas Hunter	Port Orchard	Jeff Dickison	Squaxin Island Tribe

Committee Representatives Not in Attendance*

Representing	Representing	Representing
Mason County	Puyallup Tribe	Skokomish Tribe

Other Attendees*

Name	Representing	Name	Representing
Susan Gulick	Sound Resolutions (facilitator)	Ingria Jones	Department of Ecology
Larry Boltz	Kitsap-Mason Farm Bureau	Dave Berry	-
Tristan Weiss	WDFW		

*Attendees based on sign in sheet

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

- Agenda modifications: Sandra recommended the committee invites members of the media to attend meetings. This item was put in the “parking lot” for later discussion during the operating principles or end of meeting.
- Susan sought corrections to meeting summary. One change was made to correct a misspelling in a name. All committee members in attendance at the first meeting approved the meeting summary. Ecology will post the final meeting summary on the committee webpage.

Operating Principles

Group Exercise

Committee members worked in small groups to discuss two questions: 1) what makes you feel like a respected member of a group; 2) what is one thing your government/organization wants to get out of this process. Below is a summary of the report out:

Respected member of group: be heard/listened to; people work to understand perspective, not just listen; how does this process impact future water rights processing; ability to provide knowledge/resources; respect different opinions and backgrounds; find common ground; correct misperceptions; agree to disagree.

Interest: Protection of tribal treaty resources and sovereign tribal treaty rights; ensure resources are protected to support salmon; consistency with municipal water planning; cleaner streams; funding for projects; process aligns with the law; all perspectives considered in the development of the plan.

Operating Principles

Susan provided an overview of the operating principles. She then opened up for discussion by section.

Section 7:

- Most recent version includes redline changes, such as Robert’s Rules which are not designed for reaching consensus.
- Thumb sideways: Ambivalent vote is intended to represent a potential disagreement, but not wanting to block progress by the group. Note that all dissenting or ambivalent votes will be documented to ensure different opinions are captured. Using this voting method is also helpful for a straw poll.
- There are 20 members on the committee. If we use 2/3 for a quorum, it is 13 people present to even have a vote.
- The way they are written, the chair or facilitator can call for vote but the goal is to reach consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, and a quorum is present, the operating principles propose a 2/3 majority vote to pass a motion (only interim decisions).
- Recommendation to add language around straw poll voting.
- Squaxin Island Tribe does not support majority voting in any part of the process and believes the committee needs to work towards consensus at the outset and not end up having interests pitted against each other.
- The term “net ecological benefit” is debated and not spelled out in the operating principles. Ecology will add language about NEB guidance.

- Legislature said all plans must meet NEB, but did not define it. Ecology released interim NEB guidance in June only intended for evaluation of plans from WRIAs 1 and 11. There was a public comment period in the fall and there will likely be another public comment period in early 2019. Anticipate final NEB guidance in mid 2019. Throughout the year we'll have presentations about what NEB means and what standards our plans must meet.
- Page 8, line 6 – clarify what 2/3 majority refers to. Is it 2/3 of members present or 2/3 of all members?
- Some members feel that consensus on interim decisions is an acceptable approach given that we have to reach full committee approval of the plan.
 - Ecology requests that if the committee decides to require consensus for all decisions, an “off ramp” is developed in case the plan development process is stalled because consensus cannot be reached on an early decision, which would prevent the Committee from moving on to work on the remaining elements of the plan. If all members of the Committee cannot agree on a plan, Ecology still wants to bring in as much local input as possible prior to moving towards rule making. Ecology will develop draft language for committee consideration.
 - Full consensus can protect the interests of all committee members.
- Other members are concerned about requiring consensus for interim decisions because if there are items the committee cannot reach consensus on, the planning falls to Ecology.
 - Recognize it is worth taking the time to work towards consensus.
 - If full approval cannot be reached, Ecology wants to have as much information as possible from the committee before going into statewide rule making.
 - Proposal to develop one option where we identify critical decisions (e.g. population estimates) vs procedural decisions (e.g. meeting summary approval, consultant selection) for those that need to be by consensus and those we could take a vote on. One option is to have consensus for all critical decisions that are essential components of the plan and majority vote for items that are more about process or administrative decisions.
 - Ecology will identify anticipated the decisions and timeline for plan development.
- The legislation does not specify how interim decisions are made.
- Consensus would be by all members present at the meeting when the item is discussed.

Other Sections:

- Change language around vested financial interests to “personal” financial interest.
- “Latecomers” section is probably not as relevant to our committee as all invitees have chosen to participate. However, section is applicable if an entity replaces another.
- Ecology will add language on “disappearing” committee members.

Section 2:

- Ecology will work on clarification of language. Concern from some that the document is long. Move some of the background information to an appendix or remove.

Section 3:

- Revise language so anyone can bring forward amendments at any time. Approval by consensus.

Section 4:

- While there was not full agreement from the committee (recognizing how critical in person interactions are), Ecology will revise language to allow for remote participation (as the exception, not the norm), and voting can occur with full engagement of those participating on the phone. Recognize some meeting locations may have limitations. As much notice as possible must be given to Ecology to accommodate remote participation.
- Allow for representatives at the table to call on alternates at any time.
- If someone is calling in a lot and/or not showing up to meetings, chair and facilitator need to work with them to figure out what is going on.
- If a quorum is not present at a meeting, meeting can go on but no decisions made. Chair and facilitator should know ahead of time who will attend the meeting and will cancel or reschedule decisions as appropriate.
- Ecology will add language on minimum time for review of materials.
- Ground rules: Ecology will make some edits to clarify language.

Section 5:

- Ecology will add language regarding “disappearing” members. Note that the Puyallup Tribe has not attended the first two meetings and is still discussing their level of engagement.
- If an entity is replaced by another entity, the latecomers principles should still apply.
- Caucusing likely isn’t applicable for this committee (was intended for committees with many cities). May consider removing and then can amend the operating principles later if anyone decides to caucus.

Section 6

- We have Susan as a facilitator for 2 meetings. Ecology has a competitive solicitation out for bid and anticipates our long term facilitation support on board for our February meeting. They will be on contract through 12/2021.

Section 8:

- Can delete and include disclaimer on any written products.

Section 9:

- Ecology will take every measure possible to post materials in a reasonable timeframe.
- Public notification: Ecology operates a committee listserv available to anyone as well as houses a public webpage. Meeting information is also posted on Ecology’s public meetings calendar.
- Add a note that public comment will happen at each meeting, but timing will be determined by chair and facilitator depending on what makes the most sense for the agenda.

Section 10:

- No comments

Section 11:

- Delete Line 30.
- Ecology will not actively invite members of the media to committee meetings (unless directed by the committee) but committee members can invite whomever they'd like.

Final comments/Next steps

- Ecology will share a revised version of the operating principles – aiming for January 2nd so top of inbox after holidays. Further discussion at January 14th meeting and aim for approval in February.
- Some members feel strongly about allowing a voting option to ensure we can get work done. Experience with other committees has demonstrated the importance of voting and it can also encourage good discussions and better listening.
- In order to not delay agreement of the operating principles, any language in the operating principles that summarizes language from the legislation should be removed if it includes language that is up for interpretation
- Add actions along with projects for inclusion in the plan.

[Geography Overview and Committee Needs](#)

Stacy provided a broad overview of the WRIA 15 geography and raised geography complications and potential opportunities for collaboration.

Inclusion of Vashon and Maury Islands in WRIA 15:

- Vashon and Maury Islands are part of WRIA 15, but are included in WRIA 9 salmon recovery planning.
- King County's Vashon Steward (WRIA 15 representative) stated that King County recommends Vashon and Maury Islands inclusion in WRIA 15 because it is more ecologically similar to Kitsap. The committee members in general defer to King County on their recommendation. A briefing memo on the pros/cons is not needed. Committee recommended Ecology develop a process document on how to engage/coordinate with WRIA 9 salmon recovery forum on project identification and development for Vashon/Maury. Ecology planning staff and King County salmon recovery staff will coordinate closely.
- There are no foreseen funding implications for Vashon/Maury inclusion in WRIA 15.

Coordination with Local Integrating Organizations and Salmon Recovery Lead Entities

- WRIA 15 geography overlaps with 3 salmon recovery planning areas and 3 local integrating organizations.
- Most of the committee felt strongly we should coordinate with existing entities. There is some concern about engagement with the West Central LIO.

Data availability and needs

- Kitsap Ground Water Model: A more in depth presentation will be provided in early 2019 by partners that developed the model to discuss opportunities and limitations for use of the model in this process.

- Port Orchard uses the model and recognizes limitations and need for refinement. Others agree that it is a good starting point. The model was intended as a regional assessment of groundwater flow and need to respect limitation for local use.
- Conservation District has comprehensive ag layer that was built with Kitsap County that could be useful to the conversation.
- All committee members should start thinking about data availability and needs. Likely consider forming a work group in early 2019 to sort through data and other immediate technical needs.

Presentations

- Ecology has identified a series of presentations to start to bring everyone up to a similar level of understanding. Initial list developed, with a presentation on instream flows for January and hydrogeology in February.
- Alison recommended a presentation from a Tribal Attorney on Tribal Water Law 101. Stacy will pursue.
- Have USGS provide the groundwater model presentation.
- Consider combining presentations across watersheds for members that participate in numerous committees so do not have to participate in the same presentation multiple times.
- Bring in the net ecological benefit presentations early and often.

Action Items and Next Steps

For the chair:

- Chair will post meeting materials and approved meeting summary on the committee website.
- Chair and facilitator will send updated operating principles on January 2nd.
- Ecology will develop proposed decision points and timeline for plan development.
- Chair will call committee members before next meeting.
- Chair will prepare a process summary on how the committee can coordinate with WRIA 9 salmon recovery forum on identification and development of projects for Vashon/Maury (Stacy to work with Greg and WRIA 9 staff).

For the Committee members:

- Committee members should identify and send the chair any additional presentation needs for the committee, including presentations they or their staff are willing to provide.
- Committee members should think about data needs and coordination with other groups and send thoughts to chair.
- If committee members have concerns about including Vashon/Maury in WRIA 15, please send to Stacy ASAP.
- Committee members should review updated draft operating principles before the next meeting.

Upcoming meetings:

- Next meeting will be on a Monday, January 14th at 10:30am at the Poulsbo library. Note that we'll start later because of the library schedule.
 - Items for discussion: revised operating principles, ex officio members, formation of technical workgroup, instream flows

- Future meetings on 1st Thursday of the Month. Stacy sent out calendar invites.

Public comment

- There was no formal public comment, but a question was raised about video recording committee meetings.
 - Ecology is not planning to record meetings and there has been no specific requests to do so for WRIA 15.
 - A committee member was interested in inviting Chris Dunagan (retired from Kitsap Sun) to the meetings. Ecology is not planning to actively invite members of the media, unless instructed to by the committee, but there is nothing restricting members of the committee from inviting whomever they'd like.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30.