WRJA 1 Proposed Rule Amendment
Public Hearing Information
January 7-9, 2020

Ecology is holding three public hearings on the proposed amendment to the WRJA 1 (Nooksack) rule, chapter 175-501 WAC.

More information on the proposed rule amendment is available at our website:

Each hearing will follow the same format:
- Presentation from Ecology staff on the proposed amendment
- Questions and answer session
- Formal public comments

General information on the hearings:
- The speaking order for public comments will be random
- Signs in the hearing room will be limited to 8.5 by 11 inches, larger signs may be left at sign-in

Public comments are due by January 17, 2020 at 11:59 pm.

Ways to comment*

| Online: | http://oth.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=fdG6m |
| In person: | January 7, 2020, 6:00 pm  
Fairhaven Middle School, Commons Area  
110 Parkridge Rd, Bellingham, WA 98225 |
| | January 8, 2020, 3:00 pm  
Lynden Middle School, Commons Area  
8750 Line Rd, Lynden, WA 98264 |
| | January 9, 2020, 10:00 am  
Ecology’s Padilla Bay Reserve  
10441 Bayview Edison Rd, Mt Vernon, WA 98273 |
| By mail: | Annie Sawabini, Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program  
PO Box 47600, Olympia WA 98504-7600 |

* All comments are considered equally by Ecology whether they are online, in-person, or written.

To request ADA accommodation at the hearings, call 360-407-6831, 711 (relay service), or 877-833-6341 (TTY); or email: ecyADACoordinator@ecy.wa.gov by December 30, 2019.
PUBLIC HEARING GROUND RULES

Ecology is committed to providing safe and effective public hearings. Public input is a very important part of this process. Hearings are an opportunity to involve the public to hear questions, concerns and comments.

Ecology believes all interested parties have a common goal for public events – a desire for a secure, non-intimidating and respectful atmosphere that allows all voices to be heard. Ecology proposes specific ground rules to achieve this goal. We will ask all individuals who do not follow the ground rules and create an unsafe or intimidating environment to leave.

Ecology asks all participants to honor the ground rules, to help maintain an open, secure and respectful tone for the event, and allow everyone’s voice to be heard equally.

Hearing Ground Rules:

1. Please hold down the noise - we need to be able to hear everyone speak. We also need to make sure we get a good recording of your comments.
   a. Silence cell phones.
   b. Step outside for conversations.

2. No distracting, disruptive or intimidating behavior.
   a. Respect the right of others to have an opinion, even if you do not agree.
   b. Use respectful language.

3. In anticipation that many people want to provide oral comments, a time limit per speaker will be set and enforced.
   a. Come up to testify in the order your name is called. Speaking order will be random.
   b. Clapping, cheering, or jeering disrupts the hearings, contributes to an intimidating atmosphere, and is prohibited.
   c. Silent expressions of support or opposition by giving a “thumbs up” or “thumbs down” for a few seconds are not disruptive and are allowed.

4. Signs no larger than 8.5” x 11” are allowed in the public hearing.
   a. Signs should not be held up for extended periods, as they block the view of others.
   b. Larger signs may be left at the Sign-In desk.

5. Ecology reserves the right to close the hearing at any time if disruptions interfere with the event or if there is a safety risk.