

WRAC CHARTER

Initially Issued March, 2000

Revised December, 2001

I. Mission Statement

The water resources of Island County must to be managed and protected in such a way as to ensure their sustainable use while protecting habitat, environmental and human health.

II. Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Island County Water Resource Advisory Committee (WRAC) is to develop, oversee the implementation of and evaluation of a comprehensive water resource program for Island County. The WRAC will function as the representative watershed planning unit that will be the organization used to facilitate consensus decision-making concerning future water resource management in Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 06. Encourage public awareness, education and involvement in water related issues. (Island County Resolution C-50-99, May 3, 1999 and C-89-00, September 18, 2000).

III. Structure

The Island County Water Resource Advisory Committee consists of the following members:

- ◆ Citizen Component – Twelve voting members
Four members from each of the county's distinct geographic areas:
North Whidbey, South/Central Whidbey and Camano Island.
- ◆ Technical Advisors – non-voting members
 - One or more representatives of Island County Health, Public Works and Planning Departments, Whidbey Island and Snohomish Conservation Districts and WSU Cooperative Extension;
 - One representative each from the City of Oak Harbor, City of Langley and Town of Coupeville;
 - One representative of each local Native American tribes (Tulalip, Skagit Systems Cooperative, Point No Point Tribe) claiming jurisdiction in Island County; and
 - One representative each from the following state agencies: Departments of Health, Transportation, Ecology, Natural Resources, Agriculture, Fish and Wildlife, and Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team.
- ◆ Terms
The initial appointments of the voting members shall be for staggered terms. Three terms (one from each geographic district) shall expire in

one year, three (one from each geographic district) in two years and three (one from each geographic district) in three years. Initial members shall be assigned these terms at random. After these initial terms, all terms shall be for four years.

Subcommittees

Subcommittees can be created by the advisory committee at any time a need for this structure is deemed necessary. The subcommittee will remain operational for the duration of time that they are needed. When they become obsolete they can be dissolved at the discretion of the WRAC.

IV. Goals/Objectives for Water Resource Planning

A. Water Resource Planning

Goal: To address the water resource management/planning issues in WRIA 06.

Objectives:

1. Determine the water resource situation in Island County and recommend program actions to address that situation;
2. Function as the planning unit for 2514 Watershed Management Planning; (RCW 90.82/ESHB 2514)
3. Provide guidance and oversight to Nonpoint Pollution Prevention Watershed Planning; (WAC 400-12) and
4. Investigate alternative sources of water and new water conservation and sanitation methods.

Tasks:

1. Reviewing existing water resource plans: Groundwater Management Program, North Whidbey Watersheds Nonpoint Pollution Prevention Action Plan, Comprehensive Stormwater and Flood Hazard Management Plan;
2. Monitoring implementation of said Plans as well as similar future plans and programs dealing with surface and groundwater;
3. Recommending management of, and improvement to, the plans and programs;
4. Coordinating efforts with other water resource management activities in the county; and
5. Conducting public meetings, education forums and behavior change activities.

B. Salmon Recovery

Goals:

1. Oversee, review and recommend salmon recovery/habitat restoration efforts per 2496 Salmon Recovery Act (RCW 75.46.060)
2. Provide oversight as needed to the county's Salmon Recovery Program

Objectives: Include strategies to protect and restore ecological functions for healthy salmon stocks.

Tasks:

1. Review Salmon TAG's Limiting Factors Report for Island County and updates
2. Solicit, review and rank salmon habitat project list on a cycle determined by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. and submit recommendations
3. Provide assistance in the development of the Island County Salmon Recovery Plan

C. Marine Resources

Goal: The committee will work with the MRC to assure that the county's nearshore and marine resources are adequately addressed in Island County's Water Resource Management Program/Plan

Objective:

1. Coordinate and collaborate with Island County's Marine Resource Committee (MRC)
2. Advocate for the county's unique nearshore environment

Amendment of the Charter

This Charter may be amended by consensus of the members of the WRAC.

Appendix

The current WRAC members are as follows:

Citizen Component

Bill Attwater	Central/South Whidbey
Gordon Eaton	Central/South Whidbey
Sego Jackson	Central/South Whidbey
Don Lee	Central/South Whidbey
Greg Cane	North Whidbey
Chuck King	North Whidbey
John Leuchauer	North Whidbey
Steve Frostad	North Whidbey
Larry Bach	Camano Island
Barbara Brock	Camano Island
Robert Friedman	Camano Island
David Livengood	Camano Island

Technical Advisors, Island County

Doug Kelly	Hydrogeologist	Health
Janet Kearsley	Watershed Project Manager	Public Works
Keith Higman	Environmental Health Director	Health
Phil Cohen	Surface Water Manager	Public Works
Phil Bakke	Director	Planning

Technical Advisors, Local

Benye Weber	Whidbey Island Conservation District
Carol Holman	Whidbey Island Conservation District
Don Meehan	WSU Cooperative Extension
Malcolm Bishop	Town of Coupeville
Lloyd Furman	City of Langley

Technical Advisors, State

Ann Wick	Washington Department of Agriculture
Ben Brown	Washington Department of Transportation
Geoff Tallent	Washington Department of Ecology
	Washington Department of Health
Joan Drinkwin	Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team
Kim Levesque	Snohomish Conservation District

Loren Wheeler	Washington Department of Natural Resources
Rich Johnson	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Steve Seymour	Washington Department of Transportation

Technical Advisors, Tribes

Bob LaRock	Skagit Systems Cooperative
Daryl Williams	Tulalip Tribes
VACANT	Point No Point Tribe

DRAFT STANDARDS AND OPERATING PROCEDURES

I. Procedures

The WRAC meets monthly on the first Thursday of the month. Meeting notices with agenda, time and location are posted in local newspapers two weeks prior to each meeting date. Agendas, minute and support materials will be sent to the advisory committee members a week prior to the meeting.

II. Decision Making

. The committee has chosen to use the consensus process for making decisions for all the issues brought before them which requires that a decision be made.

Definition Of Consensus for Island County Water Resource Planning is defined in terms of agreement along a continuum. Committee Members may register the degree of their agreement with the language in any of the first six columns:

Endorse	Endorse with a minor point of contention	Agree with reservations	Abstain	Stand aside	Formal disagreement but will go with the majority	Block
"I like it"	"Basically I like it"	"I can live with it"	"I have no opinion"	"I don't like this but I don't want to hold up the group"	"I want my disagreement to be noted in writing but I'll support the decision"	"I veto this proposal"

(Adapted from "Facilitator's Guide to Participatory Decision-Making," 1996)

The last (shaded) column on the right side of the continuum is not considered acceptable for consensus in this process. However, anything to the left could be considered "agreement by consensus."

Conduct for Collaborative Decision Making

The WRAC agrees to the following points of conduct for collaboration on difficult and complex decision-making:

1. The purpose of WRAC discussions is to find agreement between interests;
2. Discussions of substance and development of solutions will focus on interests and concerns rather than positions and demands;
3. WRAC members will act in "good faith" in all aspects of the process. This includes early disclosure of issues or problems, following through on commitments, sharing information on matters related to discussion, and characterizing caucus viewpoints fully and accurately;

4. WRAC members will listen carefully to each other to understand each participant's views and interests about a topic. Members will ask questions for clarification and make statements that attempt to educate or explain an interest or issue, rather than taking positions;
5. WRAC members commit to fully explore issues, searching for solutions in a problem-solving atmosphere, fully commit to listening carefully and check rumors with the facilitator prior to making any decision to act;
6. In order to facilitate the broadest possible consideration of options and solutions, all suggestions and offers will be regarded as tentative until a full and clear decision is made;
7. WRAC Members will not make attacks or characterizations directed at people or organizations;
8. WRAC members will make a good faith effort to accurately characterize the process and substance of the planning process to their constituents, the public, and the media and will accurately characterize the interests of their constituents to other members of the WRAC;
9. WRAC members will not agree to any provision of action for which they are unwilling to seek the concurrence of those they represent;
10. WRAC members will raise with the Committee any perceived violations of this Charter or of "good faith" discussions.

Authorized Spokesperson

The committee may choose to appoint the chairperson, co-chairperson or a designated member of the committee to speak on behalf of the group at public meeting and with the Board of County Commissioners.

Articles written for the media about issues pertaining to Water Resources will be drafted by the county staff and submitted to the WRAC for review, revision and approval.