Rural Water Supply Strategies
Technical Workshop
August 27, 2014 - 1pm to 5pm
Ecology HQ Lacey WA – Auditorium ROA 32-34
Video Conference – NWRO 2A&B, CRO 204 A Waterfall, ERO 1 NW-18 and in the Bellingham field office

1-1:10 pm: Intro

1:10-2:10 pm: Technical methods and process on how Instream Flows are set in Washington State; Jim Pacheco, Instream Flow Biologist, Department of Ecology
  • What is an instream flow? What does it accomplish? How is it limited?
  • Methods for calculating instream flows; scientific justification
  • Flow setting and administration of water rights

2:10-2:25 pm: Break

2:25-3:45 pm: How we have set up mitigation banks to support instream flow rules, and examples of in-kind/out-of-kind mitigation; Kelsey Collins, Statewide Trust Water Coordinator, Department of Ecology, and Amanda Cronin, Project Manager, Washington Water Trust
  • Overview of mitigation banking authority and factors to consider when starting a mitigation bank
  • Highlights of private and public mitigation banking scenarios; example of a out-of-kind mitigation
  • The process used to determine where mitigation banking is available in a basin
  • Description of technical review and planning efforts that went into developing the tiered approach to mitigation.
  • Description of the level of commitment from stakeholders and partners

3:45-4:00 pm: Break

4:00-4:30 pm: The use of the overriding consideration of public interest (OCPI) in previous rules and individual permitting decisions. Steve North, Assistant Attorney General, Division of the Department of Ecology, Jennifer Holderman, Environmental Planner, Department of Ecology
  • Factual discussion of OCPI determinations in existing rules. WRIA 5, 17, 18 and 28. Also how did Ecology make a finding of OCPI in these rules?
  • Use of OCPI for Lacey, Olympia and Yelm water right transfer and application decisions

4:30-4:45 pm: Questions and Closing remarks