

## Meeting Summary

**Subject:** Deschutes Watershed Stakeholder Workgroup Meeting #5

**Date/Time:** Sept. 2, 2016, 11-1PM

**Location:** Thurston Regional Planning Council office  
2424 Heritage Court SW, Suite A  
Olympia, Wash. 98502

**Attending:** *Michael Burnham, Michael Ambrogi — Thurston Regional Planning Council; Charissa Waters, Allison Osterberg — Thurston County; Amy Hatch-Winecka; Katrina Van Every; Greg Schundler; Lisa Dennis-Perez; Martin McCallum; Jon Pettit; Gretta “Lou” Guethlein; Lydia Wagner; Darric Lowery, Daniel Lihach.*

Osterberg kicked off the meeting with an overview of the agenda and a recap of the community workshop – June 30, 6-8PM, at Thurston County’s Tilley Road complex. The goal of that meeting was for the general public to learn about and comment on the project and the scenarios considered by the workgroup.

Some actions presented at the meeting garnered split support and other ideas garnered unanimous support. The actions and level of workgroup support were then put into an action feasibility table (*See next page*), which will be part of the project’s final report. The table included a draft cost estimate, per one of the suggestions at the community workshop.

Actions 1-9, which covered education and outreach and restoration and conservation, garnered support from all workgroup members. Actions 10-13, which covered zoning regulations, garnered split support from the workgroup. Actions 14, 15 and 18 (development regulations and monitoring) garnered support from all workgroup members; actions 16 and 17 drew split support.

Pettit questioned the data the project team used to estimate the countywide septic failure rate. He pointed to a recent Thurston County report that estimated that the failure rate is about 100 septic systems failing annually – far below the estimate 14 percent of systems noted in this project.

After Osterberg reviewed each action in the table, Waters reviewed the cost estimate for each action and elicited feedback from the workgroup. Hatch-Winecka contended the water conservation cost estimates were too low; she offered to share with the project team estimates the Thurston Conservation District created for water-related education and outreach efforts.

## Action Feasibility Table

SCENARIO & CATEGORY	EFFECTIVENESS	WORKGROUP		COST	FUNDING	EFFORT	LEAD	TIME
		PRIORITY	SUPPORT					
Watershed Stewardship								
ACTION 1: Increase investment in time and funding			ALL	\$100,500	Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, TCD, other partners	Short / Ongoing
Farm Plans								
ACTION 2: Work with Thurston Conservation District to increase the number of farm plans			ALL	\$4,400	Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, TCD, other partners	Short / Ongoing
Septic Inspections								
ACTION 3: Expand septic system operation & maintenance program			ALL	\$43,000	TC, Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, other partners	Short / Ongoing
Water Conservation								
ACTION 4: Increase water conservation education & outreach and incentives			ALL	\$10,500	TC, Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, other partners	Short / Ongoing
ACTION 5: Encourage temporary water rights donations or short-term leases to conserve water during drought periods			ALL	\$3,000	TC, Grants, Partnerships	M	TC, other partners	Short / Ongoing
Restoration								
ACTION 6: Increase funding and incentives for restoration			ALL	\$123,000	CF, Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, TCD, other partners	Long / Ongoing
ACTION 7: Assess opportunities for and implement stormwater retrofit projects			ALL	\$250,000	TC, Grants, Partnerships	H	TC, other partners	Med-Long
Conservation								
ACTION 8: Include more lands in the Purchase of Development Rights and Transfer of Development Rights programs			ALL	\$13,000	PDR/TDR, CF, Grants, Partnerships	L	TC, TCD, other partners	Short
ACTION 9: Prioritize the preservation of areas contiguous with existing conservation areas to maximize the benefit to habitat			ALL	\$12,500	CF, Grants, Partnerships	L	TC, TCD, other partners	Short
LEGEND: CF = Conservation Futures TC = Thurston County TRPC = Thurston Regional Planning Council  PDR/TDR = Purchase of Development Rights/Transfer of Development Rights TCD = Thurston Conservation District								

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SCENARIO & CATEGORY	WORKGROUP PRIORITY	WORKGROUP SUPPORT	COST ESTIMATE	FUNDING	EFFORT	LEAD	TIME
Bacteria & Pathogens in Surface Water							
ACTION 10: Rezone parcels currently zoned RRR 1/5 to R 1/20 in areas with nonporous soils near waterbodies	SPLIT		\$18,800	TC	L	TC	Short
Sediment & Erosion							
ACTION 11: Rezone parcels currently zoned RRR 1/5 to R 1/20 in areas with steep slopes near waterbodies	SPLIT		\$18,800	TC	L	TC	Short
Nutrients & Algae Blooms							
ACTION 12: Rezone parcels currently zoned RRR 1/5 to R 1/20 in Lake Lawrence, McIntosh and Offutt Lake basins	SPLIT		\$18,800	TC	L	TC	Short
Salmon Habitat							
ACTION 13: Downzone areas near cold-water thermal refugia	SPLIT		\$18,800	TC	L	TC, other partners to ID areas	Short
Impervious Surface Limits							
ACTION 14: Reduce limits for parcels in Lake Lawrence, McIntosh Lake and Offutt Lake basins currently zoned RRR 1/5	ALL		\$13,000	TC, TRPC, Other Partners	L	TC	Short
ACTION 15: For remaining parcels, reduce limits to that typical of new developments (10% for lots 2.5+ acres and 60% for lots less than 2.5 acres	ALL		\$13,000*	TC, TRPC, Other Partners	L	TC	Short
Septic Inspection							
ACTION 16: Implement a mandatory septic system operation and maintenance program	SPLIT		\$234,000	TC, Grants, Other Partners	H	TC	Medium / Ongoing
Water Use Monitoring							
ACTION 17: Require water meters be installed for all new surface and groundwater uses, including permit exempt wells	SPLIT		\$10,000	TC, Other Partners	L	TC	Short / Ongoing
Water Quality Monitoring							
ACTION 18: Increased water quality monitoring in Offutt and McIntosh lakes	ALL		\$9,000	TC, Other Partners	L	TC, Lake Districts	Short / Ongoing

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Following Osterberg's and Water's presentations of the actions and cost estimates, workgroup members were given four sticky dots and asked to place a dot or dots next to the action(s) they deemed highest priority.

Action Feasibility Table					
SCENARIO & CATEGORY		WORKGROUP PRIORITY	COST ESTIMATE	EFFORT	TIME
EDUCATION & OUTREACH	<b>Watershed Stewardship</b>				
	ACTION 1: Increase investment in time and funding ●●		\$100,500	H	Short / Ongoing
	<b>Farm Plans</b>				
	ACTION 2: Work with Thurston Conservation District to increase the number of farm plans ●●●●		\$4,400	H	Short / Ongoing
	<b>Septic Inspections</b>				
EDUCATION & OUTREACH	ACTION 3: Expand septic system operation & maintenance program ●●●●●●●●		\$43,000	H	Short / Ongoing
	<b>Water Conservation</b>				
	ACTION 4: Increase water conservation education & outreach and incentives ●●●●		\$10,500	H	Short / Ongoing
	ACTION 5: Encourage temporary water rights donations or short-term leases to conserve water during drought periods ●●●●		\$3,000	M	Short / Ongoing
	<b>Restoration</b>				
RESTORATION & CONSERVATION	ACTION 6: Increase funding and incentives for restoration ●●●●●●		\$123,000	H	Long / Ongoing
	ACTION 7: Assess opportunities for and implement stormwater retrofit projects ●●●●		\$250,000	H	Med-Long
	<b>Conservation</b>				
	ACTION 8: Include more lands in the Purchase of Development Rights and Transfer of Development Rights programs ●●		\$13,000	L	Short
	ACTION 9: Prioritize the preservation of areas contiguous with existing conservation areas to maximize the benefit to habitat ●●		\$12,500	L	Short
DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND MONITORING	<b>Impervious Surface Limits</b>				
	ACTION 14: Reduce limits for parcels in Lake Lawrence, McIntosh Lake and Offut Lake basins currently zoned RRR 1/5 ●		\$13,000	L	Short
	ACTION 15: For remaining parcels, reduce limits to that typical of new developments (10% for lots 2.5+ acres and 60% for lots less than 2.5 acres) ●		\$13,000*	L	Short
	<b>Water Quality Monitoring</b>				
DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS AND MONITORING	ACTION 18: Increased water quality monitoring in Offut and McIntosh lakes ●		\$9,000	L	Short / Ongoing

Waters and Osterberg concluded the meeting by noting that they will provide the Thurston County Planning Commission a briefing on the project recommendations. The meeting will be on Wednesday, Oct. 5, at 6:30PM, at the Thurston County complex.

Waters and Osterberg will provide a briefing to the Board of County Commissioners at a later date (TBD).

A summary of the workgroup discussions and prioritized actions will be in the final project summary report. All materials will be accessible on Thurston County's project website.

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