

NWRO Water Resources Program Update

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Impacts of Budget Cuts

- Reduced water rights processing capacity by 2.5 FTEs. Remaining processing capacity is about 3.5 FTEs.
- Ceased processing of new water right applications in WRIA 3 and 4 (Skagit River Basin), and 6 (Island County).

Water Right Processing

- We will still process applications that qualify for priority processing.
- Will try to get to change applications as they come in the door.
- Only new application processing that is planned to be accomplished for a geographic area in the coming year is on Orcas Island (WRIA 2) and Lake Cavanaugh (WRIA 5).
- Conservancy Board (Island County)
- Cost reimbursement

Cost Reimbursement

- Phase I: Determination of source, # of senior applications, and potential issues.
- Phase II: Investigation and drafting of Report of Examination.
- Applicant has option of providing Ecology with Phase I report, or they can pay Ecology to prepare the Phase I report.
- Phase II is put out to bid among pre-qualified consultant pool and the lowest bid is awarded the contract.

New Application Backlog

PENDING NEW APPLICATIONS (October 2009)									
	Total Pending	% of total	Priority Date				Oldest	Mean	Median
			Pre-1980	1980-1989	1990 - 1999	2000 - 2008			
WRIA 1	710	48	2	31	511	166	8/5/1971	5/15/1996	10/18/1993
WRIA 2	80	5	2	0	32	46	7/31/1978	11/30/2000	9/25/2004
WRIA 3	159	11	1	3	112	43	10/30/1963	12/8/1997	5/12/1998
WRIA 4	25	2	0	3	16	6	3/7/1989	2/18/1997	7/11/1996
WRIA 5	51	3	0	1	38	12	9/8/1986	4/2/1997	11/4/1994
WRIA 6	33	2	0	0	3	30	7/29/1991	5/1/2006	5/18/2007
WRIA 7	110	7	5	3	53	49	7/14/1936	7/30/1998	7/11/1998
WRIA 8	51	3	0	6	21	24	7/28/1983	4/11/1999	3/18/1998
WRIA 9	35	2	0	5	22	8	3/7/1985	4/7/1996	1/22/1996
WRIA 10 - NWRO	3	0	0	2	0	1	11/12/1987	7/24/1995	6/22/1989
WRIA 15 - NWRO	217	15	0	6	187	24	7/19/1985	1/7/1995	11/8/1993
Total	1474		10	60	995	409			

Change Application Backlog

PENDING CHANGE APPLICATIONS (October 2009)

	Total Pending	% of total	Application Date				Oldest	Mean	Median
			Pre-1980	1980-1989	1990 - 1999	2000 - 2008			
WRIA 1	49	42	0	0	27	22	1/25/1993	4/12/2000	4/11/1998
WRIA 2	1	1	0	0	1	0	3/13/1998	3/13/1998	3/13/1998
WRIA 3	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
WRIA 4	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
WRIA 5	5	4	0	0	0	5	3/5/2007	5/21/2007	3/5/2007
WRIA 6	5	4	0	0	0	5	1/29/2007	11/9/2008	6/11/2009
WRIA 7	8	7	0	0	0	8	4/25/2005	2/10/2008	6/17/2008
WRIA 8	19	16	0	0	2	17	1/12/1995	7/25/2005	5/1/2006
WRIA 9	6	5	0	0	0	6	11/27/2006	1/17/2008	2/10/2008
WRIA 10 - NWRO	0	0	0	0	0	0	NA	NA	NA
WRIA 15 - NWRO	23	20	0	0	5	18	7/8/1992	10/4/2001	2/22/2000
Total	116		0	0	35	81			

Rooftop Collected Rainwater Policy

- Water Resources Program Policy 1017
- “The on-site storage and/or beneficial use of rooftop or guzzler collected rainwater is not subject to the permit process of RCW 90.03.”
- “If and when the department determines that rooftop or guzzler rainwater harvesting systems are likely to negatively affect instream values or existing water rights, local restrictions may be set in place to govern subsequent new systems.”

Municipal Water Lawsuit

- Still waiting for the Supreme Court to schedule it.
- Water Resources Guidance 2030
 - 2003 Municipal Water Law Interim Guidance and Interpretive and Policy Statement

Questions

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