

Michael Sennett

I have attended WRIA 1 Planning Unit meetings and they were not productive, resulting in Ecology having to step in and assist. I urge Ecology to prioritize water conservation. Here we are on May 10, high 70s temperatures, a below normal and fast melting snowpack, and every where I go people are watering their precious landscapes, including me. My wife's flowers must survive. I'll buy more soaker hoses tomorrow. Conservation is not an option any more, it is a necessity, but it must be made consumer/user friendly. Please inform the public about what you are doing, with details about costs and water savings.

Please do not subsidize rural sprawl with ag water. Conservation gains made by ag partners should remain for ag usage. Please remove projects 2 and 26 from consideration.

I urge Ecology not to undertake expensive projects requiring many permits. Please drop projects 8.24. and 28 will be unnecessary if conservation measures are effective.

Please remove the new section on exemptions. WAC 173-501-074 opens up the way for Projects 2,8,26 and 28 that will not be needed if water conservation projects implemented. with WUE being the standard.

The current conditions I described above are part of the changing climate in the Northwest- we will not be immune to these disruptions of our once "normal" climate. Ecology needs to address climate change as part of the educational aspects of water conservation projects. We will continue to get warmer and drier.

Lastly- reduce water demand. No one owns the water, and no one should get to use as much as they want. Water is a vital component of the Commons we all must share.

Thank you for taking my comments- Mike Sennett, Bellingham