

Dena Jensen

Thank you for your work on the WRIA 1 Rule Amendment. I look forward to improvements you will make in the amendment offered by details that will increase water availability and quality for our ecosystems, and for the health of our rural lands and community members.

Prioritize water conservation for residential and commercial water users, instead of projects that sacrifice water for farms in favor of rural development and expensive projects that will alter our environment.

Please provide information on how much water existing rural residents and businesses could save with rebates for efficient water fixtures (toilets, dishwashers, washing machines). Water conservation can meet the 1 CFS requirement over the next 20 years.

Please tell us the cost per quantity of water saved for each project. In the supporting document, please include the cost per acre-foot of water offset each year (\$/AFY). Knowing the cost per quantity of water offset will be important for decision-makers to judge which projects do the greatest good for the lowest cost to taxpayers.

Any improvements in irrigation efficiencies and other agricultural water projects should provide water rights for farmers who lack sufficient legal water rights and improving streamflows. Please remove Projects 2 and 26 from consideration.

Please remove expensive, unpredictable projects requiring many permits. Projects 8, 24, and 28 won't be needed if water conservation is prioritized and implemented over the next few years. Please remove those 3 projects.

Please remove the new section on exemptions. WAC 173-501-074 opens up interruptible rights for Projects 2, 8, 26, and 28. This won't be needed if water conservation is implemented.

Address climate change impact on projects. Please add information on what effect climate change will have on all of the projects.

Reduce water demand.

Thank you for reducing withdrawal limits. If the currently proposed limit is adjusted, please only do so for an amount in consideration of a garden area that can be efficiently watered using water conservation practices anyone can reasonably adopt.

Sincerely,
Dena Jensen
Birch Bay, WA