

# Molly Crocker

1. WA is an immensely varied state, and the various WRIsAs need to be able to determine what's best for their WRIA. There cannot be a one-size-fits-all template through which NEB is determined. As I read through comments already posted it appears that restrictions that are obvious and necessary for some of the drier WRIsAs sound very out of place for WRIA 1, where much of the legal wrangling began. If ALL of Whatcom County were divided up into households of 2.56 persons, all of which used their maximum of 5,000 gallons per day, that water use would compare to 6% of the water flowing down the Nooksack on its lowest-flow day of the year. Not only that, but that water is drawn from the ground and not the surface, and most of that water use goes back into the ground at a level that should actually enhance stream flow. I'm asking for a local control element to be built into determining NEB.

2. Data, or lack of it. How is NEB supposed to be determined if we don't have data? I went online to try to find annual rainfall totals for any of the weather reporting stations in WRIA 1, and either it does not exist (except for the airport, and Wells Creek, which was found on a USDA website), or it is not available to the public. We seem to not even know how much rain is falling in the various basins of WRIA 1, nor how much water is flowing in various tributaries. The PUD and some municipalities are withdrawing water from the Nooksack river, and that data should be side-by-side with Nooksack flow data. Water associations in WRIA 1 have been required to install meters, but many don't read those meters and charge a flat rate no matter how much water is used. Why do they not care? Could it be that here in WRIA 1 it hasn't mattered? (Again, this begs for local determination of NEB.)

3. A bit, or even a lot of bits of NEB doesn't guarantee any streamflow restoration. There has been an immense amount of suppositions written, much speculation about surface-aquifer interaction, and a lot of expensive educated guessing. I've read thousands of pages of it. Let's remember why we're doing this and go after what actually has a chance of working.