

Max Perry

The update of the Planning Unit should be used as a basis by the Department of Ecology for rule making for WRIA 1. It most broadly represents the will and determinations of the majority of Whatcom County water stakeholders. New exempt wells should be set at 3000gpd for the next 20 years. The vast majority of water used by exempt wells goes back into the water table through septic systems and irrigation. Only 23 exempt wells have been permitted in Whatcom County in 2019 and 8 in 2018; thus the water used is negligible. WRIA 1 new permitted exempt wells should be set at 3000gpd and 1/2 acre of irrigated gardening should be allowed, as already stated in law by the Washington State Legislature.