



Report to the Legislature

Water Conservancy Boards

Water Resources Program

Publication No. 00-11-10

December 2000

 *printed on recycled paper*

Report to the Legislature

Water Conservancy Boards Water Resources Program

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Report to the Legislature: Water Conservancy Boards, Publication #00-11-10

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Introduction

Substitute House Bill 1272 was passed unanimously in the 1997 legislative session (chapter 90.80 RCW). Copies of the legislation and the law in revised code format are included as appendices to this report. The law encourages voluntary water right transfers by enabling county governments to initiate the establishment of water conservancy boards. These boards are empowered to consider and conditionally approve applications to transfer water. However, the final decision to approve, condition or deny the transfer remains with the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology). Through this process a partnership is established between Ecology and the local boards to facilitate transfers and changes of water rights.

This report has been prepared to comply with RCW 90.80.150, which requires Ecology to provide a report regarding water conservancy boards to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31st of each even numbered year. The report is to cover "the boards formed or sought to be formed under this law, the transfer applications reviewed, other activities conducted by the boards, and the funding of the boards". A previous report was written for publication in December 1998. (Ecology publication # WR 98-155) That reporting period covered the formation of the two pilot boards in Lewis and Benton Counties and the development of the regulations for operation of boards.

The content of this report will cover the adoption of the regulations guiding the operation of the boards, the start up of additional boards, and a summary of board operation from November 1, 1998 to October 31, 2000. Eighteen boards have now been approved by Ecology, thirteen of which have appointed board members, have received Ecology's training, and are in full operation.

Rules Adopted

Public hearings on the proposed rule were held in Olympia and Moses Lake in July of 1999. Substantial comments were received and documented in the Concise Explanatory Statement, which was published November 1999 (publication #99-155). The final water conservancy board rule, WAC 173-153, was adopted on November 15, 2000. A copy of the rule is included in the appendices.

Reporting Requirements

Under the new rule (WAC 173-153-170) boards are required to submit reports to Ecology on their activities at the end of October of each even-numbered year. The reports must include information about board activities during the previous twenty-four months. The rule requires the reports to contain the following information:

1. Information about applications to the board to include the following:
 - a. Number of applications filed with the board by water resources inventory area (WRIA).
 - b. Number of applications that received a public hearing to hear intervenors.
 - c. Number of conditional decisions approving or partially approving an application.
 - d. Number of conditional decisions denying an application.

- e. Number of applications for transfer of surface or ground water
 - f. Number of applications to transfer a claim or certificate.
 - g. Number of applications filed directly with the conservancy board, and number transferred from ecology to the board.
 - h. Number of hearings held within other counties when water rights were proposed to be changed between counties.
2. Operations of the board to include the following:
- a. Chairperson of the board.
 - b. Changes in membership of the board, including background and contact information for any new members.
 - c. Current fees or changes to previous fees.
 - d. Training received other than from Ecology.
 - e. Ownership of any properties by the conservancy board.
 - f. Water marketing activities and any related fees.
 - g. Number of staff that are employed by, and staff that provide volunteer service to, the board.
 - h. Any litigation in which the board is involved.

Because some approved boards had not yet begun operation, they do not have experience related to some of the requested information. Two boards, Benton and Yakima, did not submit all of the required information despite several requests.

Board Formation

Ecology has approved the formation of boards in Adams, Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat, Kittitas, Lewis, Lincoln, Okanogan, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom, Whitman, and Yakima counties.

All petitions to form a board that came to Ecology were approved. Two boards, those in Okanogan and Ferry Counties, were approved for only that portion of their respective counties outside the exterior boundaries of the Colville Indian Reservation and also including trust lands. This limited approval was necessary due to case law that addresses and to some extent limits state jurisdiction over water resources within the reservation.

Training

The following thirteen boards have completed the Ecology sponsored 32 hours of training: Adams, Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Klickitat, Lewis, Lincoln, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whitman and Yakima.

The following boards have been created, but as of October 31, 2000 have not received the initial training required prior to operation: Ferry, Kittitas, Okanogan, Spokane and Whatcom.

Board training includes hydrology, state water law, state water policy, judicial case law developments, field practices, evaluation of existing water rights, and applied practical

experience working with change or transfer of water right applications. References and guidance commonly used by Ecology staff is provided to each board.

A written test is given at the completion of training sessions. The intent of the test is to highlight and review principles that were communicated during the training while affording each board an opportunity to problem solve basic water right issues. Discussion amongst board members in attendance is encouraged. The test is reviewed by the group, scored, and the results are collected.

Each board member is provided with copies of relevant statutes, rules, information concerning case law, water use reference material, existing program policy, and water use related references, such as irrigation requirement guidance, and SEPA manuals. They also are provided with current draft policies concerning changes and the draft revised change application, and their comments are invited.

The administrative evaluation and decision-making involved in processing an application for change consumes most of the training period. Actual examples of change application decisions are provided to illustrate key points. The draft bylaws for the individual board, the board conservancy board statute, and the conservancy board rule, chapter 173-153 WAC, are also reviewed.

Follow-up training will be provided by Ecology, and credit can be given for training that members initiate. Ecology partnered with the Benton County Water Conservancy Board to provide the "Water Conservancy Board Implementation Seminar" in Pasco in September of 1999. This seminar was available to members and staff from existing boards and county representatives and individuals interested in forming water conservancy boards. Ecology also made public disclosure training available to board members in Olympia and Yakima in January of 2000.

New developments in laws, or court rulings of statewide application will be included in future Ecology training sessions. In addition, Ecology provides on-going advice and guidance to boards.

As a part of that training, a state-wide meeting for all board members has been scheduled by Ecology for late January of 2001 in Yakima.

Public Information and Workshops

There have been three press releases from Ecology about water conservancy boards. Copies are included in the appendices.

Board Activities

The reports from the boards indicate a total of 116 applications were submitted to water conservancy boards over the last 24 months. Of those applications, 15 have been approved and one was denied. Of the 16 applications upon which decisions have been made, 10 have been appealed.

Ecology missed the deadline for review of one conditional decision from the Adams County Conservancy Board; consequently the change decision automatically became final as provided by RCW 90.80.080(4). Ecology's regional office was attempting to work with the city to find better ways to achieve their objectives. They believed they had reached an agreement with the City of Warden to have the board withdraw the change decision, but it was not formally withdrawn. While there was an on-going dialog between Ecology and the city and the board, the 45-day review period lapsed and then it was discovered that the decision had not actually been withdrawn. Therefore it became the final decision. Ecology is developing a form and procedure for formal agreement when a board's decision is withdrawn.

Of the 116 applications submitted to water conservancy boards during this reporting period, we have information about the origin of 74 of the applications (the origins of forty-two are not know because of missing information from two boards). Twenty of the decisions were first filed with Ecology and then sent to the water conservancy board. Fifty-four of the applications were filed only with the water conservancy board. It appears, based on these numbers, that the boards are providing some assistance in processing applications in line at Ecology. However, it also appears that boards are processing a greater number of new applications that did not exist before the advent of the water conservancy board.

Each board has passed a set of bylaws; an example of a draft from the Thurston county board is in the appendices. The content of the different water conservancy board bylaws is very similar.

Funding

The boards differ in their approaches to funding board operation. Various boards have raised questions as to how to pay for certain activities, including administrative support, legal counsel, public notice, field investigations and mailings. There has been some discussion of whether the county governments that created these boards will absorb some of these costs.

Fees adopted by the water conservancy boards range from \$250 to \$1200. The average fee is \$600. The Thurston County water conservancy board charges the highest fee because the board is using a portion of the funds from the fees to cover liability insurance.

Concern has been expressed by some that undue influence will be exerted over water conservancy boards in the form of grants or funding assistance.

Rule Challenge

A lawsuit was brought by the Center for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP and Washington Environmental Council (WEC) against Ecology claiming that Ecology's rule assumed conservancy boards had more authority than the law allows. Ecology's rule assumed that conservancy boards could process the same kinds of water-right transfers that Ecology is authorized to process under state law.

Several individuals, Trendwest Resorts, and the City of Warden were allowed to intervene in the case.

On December 8, 2000 Thurston County Superior Court Judge Daniel Bershauer clarified a September 2000 court ruling regarding Ecology's rule and how much authority conservancy boards have. The judge found that Ecology's rule went beyond the scope of the 1997 water conservancy board law. He found that water conservancy boards may make decisions on applications requesting a modification to the point where water is withdrawn or diverted and the place where water is put to use. He ruled that conservancy boards do not have authority to review applications that involve any other changes, such as modifying the purpose of how the water will be used (e.g., changing the use from agriculture to water for drinking, bathing and other more domestic issues). The judge did uphold Ecology's rule, in part. CELP and WEC argued that conservancy boards can only review applications where the water right is being sold or leased. The judge disagreed. Conservancy boards may review applications by one person to modify their own right. However, the boards are still limited to requests to modify the place of use or point of diversion or withdrawal.

Board Efforts

Most boards elected over the last year, pending the outcome of the rule challenge, not to work on applications that might be affected by the lawsuit.

A great deal of time was spent by boards in getting established. Setting up a board requires finding members who can commit to the lengthy time required for service to the board and the time required for training. Board members serve voluntarily, and are not compensated, except for in some cases, where travel expenses related to attending Ecology's training have been covered. Boards must then find office space and determine if they need staff to assist with paper work. Considerable time is required to complete bylaws, establish fees that will cover expenses and hold public meetings.

There has been concern by many board members about personal liability. In Thurston County board members elected to charge a high fee to cover liability insurance. In Whatcom County the newly appointed board members resigned, in part because they did not feel comfortable with their potential liability.

Future Success

Ecology is committed to the partnership between our agency and conservancy boards. However, there are costs associated with the development and support of this program.

During the current biennium, the legislature provided \$ 290,000 in funding for Ecology support of conservancy boards. Our projections are that we will use the full amount. We do not anticipate a need to devote any additional resources to this effort. However, additional unanticipated costs have been incurred to defend the rules against appeal. This is beyond ordinary staff costs to support conservancy boards.

Much of Ecology's staff costs are start up efforts including review of petitions to create water conservancy boards and training of new boards. Since training will continue to be offered for future replacement board members as terms expire and costs associated with review of decisions by the regional offices will increase as more boards become active, current expenditures probably

do not reflect the greater long term costs associated with Ecology's management of the conservancy board program. In addition, board decisions have resulted in appeals of Ecology's review response. A substantial staff workload is being created by the need to respond to appeals originating from board actions.

Because the law requires Ecology to respond to a petition to establish a water conservancy board within 45 days and to respond to a proposed board decision on a water right change within 45 days, boards have and will continue to impact Ecology's water right processing priorities and workload. As more boards are established, this impact will increase.

As the number of boards increase, so will the cost to Ecology. Each independent board is going to operate differently and will place different demands on Ecology. Ecology will need to make management decisions concerning the level of support we will be able to offer the many water conservancy boards.

For additional information about water conservancy boards, contact Peggy Clifford at pcli461@ecy.wa.gov or (360) 407-7262.

Adams County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Adams County Commissioners Office
210 W. Broadway
Ritzville, WA 99169

Phone number: (509) 659-3236

Board members: Dale Galbreathe, Chairperson,
Dennis E. Swinger, Sr., and
Orman Johnson.

Board contact: Linda Reimer, Clerk of the board

Date approved by Ecology: October 12, 1999

Completed Ecology training: December 17, 1999.

Application Information

Applications accepted: Eleven (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)

For groundwater: Eleven

For surface water: None

For certificates: Eleven

For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 34-Palouse: Four

WRIA 41-Lower Crab: Two

WRIA 36-Esquatzel Coulee: Five

Filed first with Ecology: Two

Filed directly with the board: Nine

Conditional decisions made: None

Number of public hearings¹: None

Hearings in other counties²: None

Current fee for processing: \$500.00 per application

Other Information

Property owned by board: Bookshelf and office supplies

Water Marketing activities: None

Volunteer assistance: 3 part time conservation district employees

Training other than by Ecology: None

Litigation: None

Note: Two applications are currently on hold pending the decision from the lawsuit regarding conservancy board authority.

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Benton County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 3030 W. Clearwater, Suite 205-A
Kennewick, WA 99336
Phone number: (509) 783-1623
Board members: Darryll Olsen, Chairperson
John Jaksch
Matt Berg
Board contact: Darryll Olsen
Date approved by Ecology: July 10, 1998
Completed Ecology training: October 28, 1998

Application Information

Applications accepted: Eighteen (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Twelve
For surface water: Six
For certificates: Seventeen
For claims: One

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 31 - Rock/Glade: not reported
WRIA 36 - Esquatzel Coulee: not reported
WRIA 37 - Lower Yakima: not reported

Filed first with Ecology: not reported
Filed directly with the board: not reported
Conditional decisions made: Ten Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$250

Other Information

Property owned by board: not reported
Water Marketing activities: Published notification, reviewed four
Volunteer assistance: Public information officer, attorneys
Training other than by Ecology: Water Conservancy Board Seminar 9/27/99
Litigation: None

The Benton County board was the first water conservancy board in the state to be created. Along with the board from Lewis County it served during the pilot rule process in helping to develop the rule for water conservancy boards.

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Chelan County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Hammond, Collier, Wade and Livingston
Chelan, WA 98816
Phone number: (509) 682-2462
Board members: Don Phelps, Chairperson
Mark Peterson
Jan Carpenter
Board contact: Don Phelps
Date approved by Ecology: November 23, 1999
Completed Ecology training: January 28, 2000

Application Information

Applications accepted: Ten (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Eight
For surface water: Two
For certificates: Seven
For claims: Three

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 45 -Wentachee: Eight
WRIA 47 - Chelan: Two
WRIA 40 - Alkaki/Squilchuch: None
WRIA 46 - Entiat: None

Filed first with Ecology: None
Filed directly with the board: Ten
Conditional decisions made: One Approved, One Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$1000 deposit & 25% charge on deposit used

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: One attempt to facilitate a sale
Volunteer assistance: County provides secretarial services
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Douglas County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: P.O. Box 608
Waterville, WA 98858
Phone number: (509) 745-9160
Board members: Bob Brammer - Chairperson
Mike Lesky - Vice chairperson
Lee Hemmer - Member
Lynn Heminger - Alternate
Board contact: Carol Cowling, Clerk for the board
Date approved by Ecology: March 30, 2000
Completed Ecology training: May 26, 2000

Application Information

Applications accepted: Two (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: None
For surface water: Two
For certificates: Two
For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 49 - Okanogan: Two
WRIA 50 - Nespalem: None
WRIA 44 - Moses Coulee: None
WRIA 40 - Alkaki/Squilchuck: None
WRIA 42 - Grand Coulee: None

Filed first with Ecology: Two
Filed directly with the board: None
Conditional decisions made: None
Number of public hearings¹: One
Hearings in other counties²: One
Current fee for processing: \$ 600, additional fees may be charged

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: None
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Ferry County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 639 Kettle River Road
Curlew, WA 99118
Phone number: (509) 779-4434
Board members: Patrick D. Hamilton
Jim Nash
Jack McClellan
Board contact: Patrick D. Hamilton
Date approved by Ecology: May 19, 2000
Completed Ecology training: Board members have not been trained

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater:
For surface water:
For certificates:
For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:
Filed directly with the board:
Conditional decisions made:
Number of public hearings¹
Hearings in other counties²
Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board:
Water Marketing activities:
Volunteer assistance:
Training other than by Ecology:
Litigation:

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Franklin County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 1620 Road 44 N.
Pasco, WA 99301

Phone number: Mark Nielson (509) 545-8546 ext.3
Henry Johnson (509) 547-9751

Board members: Henry Johnson, Chairperson
Louis Meissner
John Griffin

Board contact: Henry Johnson, Mark Nielson

Date approved by Ecology: June 9, 1999

Completed Ecology training: January 28, 2000

Application Information

Applications accepted: Seven (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)

For groundwater: Five

For surface water: Two

For certificates: One

For claims: Six

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 33 - Lower Snake: One

WRIA 36 - Esquatzel Coulee: Six

WRIA 34 - Palouse: None

Filed first with Ecology: Three

Filed directly with the board: Four

Conditional decisions made: 1 Approved, 0 Denied

Number of public hearings¹: None

Hearings in other counties²: None

Current fee for processing: \$650 per application with up to two permits,
and \$650 per permit thereafter

Other Information

Property owned by board: None

Water Marketing activities: None

Volunteer assistance: Mark Nielson - Conservation District

Training other than by Ecology: Water Conservancy Board Seminar 9/27/99

Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Grant County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 3508 Broadway Ext. NE
Moses Lake, WA 98837
Phone number: (509) 765-4721
Board members: Arlie Updegrave, Chairperson
Robert Rolfness
Frank Shinn
Board contact: Robert Rolfness
Date approved by Ecology: September 14, 1999
Completed Ecology training: October 29, 1999

Application Information

Applications accepted: Twenty-two (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Twenty-two
For surface water: None
For certificates: Twenty-two
For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 44 - Moses Coulee: None
WRIA 41 - Lower Crab: Twenty-two
WRIA 42 - Grand Coulee: None
WRIA 43 - Upper Crab/Wilson: None

Filed first with Ecology: Five
Filed directly with the board: Seventeen
Conditional decisions made: Three Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: One—Adams County
Current fee for processing: \$500 (\$100 for submittal, \$400 for acceptance)

Other Information

Property owned by board: Office Equipment
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: None
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Kittitas County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Not established at this time
Phone number: (509) 962-7508
Board members: Not appointed
Board contact: Amy Mills, Clerk of the board
Date approved by Ecology: October 16, 2000
Completed Ecology training: Not completed

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater:
For surface water:
For certificates:
For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:
Filed directly with the board:
Conditional decisions made:
Number of public hearings¹
Hearings in other counties²
Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board:
Water Marketing activities:
Volunteer assistance:
Training other than by Ecology:
Litigation:

Note: The county ordinance creating the board states that the board "shall have no authority to accept applications after the sixth anniversary of this ordinance". The ordinance was adopted on August 15, 2000, so the board's authority to accept new applications ends on August 15, 2006.

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Klickitat County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Klickitat County Court House
Klickitat County Planning Dept.
228 West Main Street
MS-CH-20
Goldendale, WA 98620

Phone number: 509-894-4773

Board members: Richard Beightol, Chairperson
Brooks Heard
Robert Andrews

Board contact: Richard Beightol

Date approved by Ecology: July 1, 1999

Completed Ecology training: November 5, 1999

Application Information

Applications accepted: Six (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)

For groundwater: Five

For surface water: One

For certificates: Six

For claims: None

Applications by Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 29 - Wind/White Salmon: None

WRIA 30 - Klickitat: Two

WRIA 37 - Lower Yakima: None

WRIA 31 - Rock/Glade: Four

Filed first with Ecology: None

Filed directly with the board: Six

Conditional decisions made: 3 Approved, 0 Denied

Number of public hearings¹: One

Hearings in other counties²: None

Current fee for processing: \$550.00

Other Information

Property owned by board: None

Water Marketing activities: None

Volunteer assistance: None

Training other than by Ecology: Conservancy Board Workshop 9-27-99

Litigation: None

¹ To hear intervenors

² For water right change proposals between counties

Lewis County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: P.O. Box 1345
Chehalis, WA 98532
Phone number: (360) 748-7683
Board members: Lyle Hojem, Chairperson
Mike McDermott
Chris Cheney
Board contact: Lyle Hojem
Date approved by Ecology: July 10, 1998
Completed Ecology training: October 29, 1998

Application Information

Applications accepted: Two (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: None
For surface water: Two
For certificates: Two
For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 26 - Cowlitz: Two
WRIA 23 - Upper Chehalis: None
WRIA 13 - Deschutes: None

Filed first with Ecology: One
Filed directly with the board: One
Conditional decisions made: One Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$500

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: County staff
Training other than by Ecology: One board member - public disclosure
Litigation: None

Note: The Lewis County board was the second water conservancy board created in the state. Along with the board from Benton County it served during the pilot rule process in helping to develop the rule for water conservancy boards. Sadly, the death of a Lewis County board member, Ed Moerke, left board membership short last year. A new board member has been appointed, and is in the process of being trained.

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Lincoln County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 5001 SR23n
Sprague, WA 99032
Phone number: (509) 257-2682
Board members: Andy Rustemeyer, Chairperson
Penny Rosenberg
Keith Schafer
Board contact: Andy Rustemeyer
Date approved by Ecology: November 23, 1999
Completed Ecology training: December 17, 1999

Application Information

Applications accepted: Three (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Three
For surface water: None
For certificates: Three
For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 53 - Lower Lake Roosevelt: One
WRIA 43 - Upper Crab/Wilson: Two
WRIA 34 - Palouse: None
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane: None
WRIA 42 - Grand Coulee: None
WRIA 41 - Lower Crab: None

Filed first with Ecology: Three
Filed directly with the board: None
Conditional decisions made: 0 Approved, 0 Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$500.00 per application

Other Information

Property owned by board: Office Supplies
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: None
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Okanogan County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Not established at this time
Phone number: (509) 422-7100 - County Commissioners Office
Board members: Not reported
Board contact: Not reported
Date approved by Ecology: May 12, 2000
Completed Ecology training: Not completed

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater:
For surface water:
For certificates:
For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:
Filed directly with the board:
Conditional decisions made:
Number of public hearings¹
Hearings in other counties²
Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board:
Water Marketing activities:
Volunteer assistance:
Training other than by Ecology:
Litigation:

Note: The board was granted authority to process water right changes throughout the county except on lands or water sources within the exterior boundaries of the Colville Reservation and on the Colville Confederated Tribes' off-reservation trust land allotments. Ecology is unaware as to whether board members have been appointed, as board members have not requested a date to attend Ecology sponsored training. As a result, the board has not begun operating

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Spokane County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Not established at this time
Phone number: (509) 477-6304
Board members: Not appointed
Board contact: N. Bruce Rawls, County Utilities Director
Date approved by Ecology: May 5, 2000
Completed Ecology training: Not completed

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater:
For surface water:
For certificates:
For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:
Filed directly with the board:
Conditional decisions made:
Number of public hearings¹
Hearings in other counties²
Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board:
Water Marketing activities:
Volunteer assistance:
Training other than by Ecology:
Litigation:

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Thurston County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 606 Columbia St. NW, Suite 104
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone number: (360) 943-5079 ext. 206
Board members: Nick Adams, Chairperson
Bill Smith
Lanny Carpenter
Board contact: Nick Adams
Date approved by Ecology: November 17, 1999
Completed Ecology training: January 28, 2000

Application Information

Applications accepted: Five (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Four
For surface water: One
For certificates: Five
For claims: None

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 13 - Deschutes: Three
WRIA 23 - Upper Chehalis: Two
WRIA 11 - Nisqually: None

Filed first with Ecology: Three
Filed directly with the board: Two
Conditional decisions made: Three Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$1200 (300 additional for hearing)

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: None, some secretarial tasks contracted
Training other than by Ecology: Washington Water Law Conference
WSBA Water Rights Seminar
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Walla Walla County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: P.O. Box 1506
Walla Walla, WA 99362
Phone number: (509) 547-9312
Board members: Alan Kottwitz, Chairperson
Mike Dobbins
Brian Worden
Board contact: Alan Kottwitz
Date approved by Ecology: October 5, 1999
Completed Ecology training: December 17, 1999

Application Information

Applications accepted: Six (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Four
For surface water: Two
For certificates: Five
For claims: One

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 32 - Walla Walla: Five
WRIA 33 - Lower Snake: One

Filed first with Ecology: One
Filed directly with the board: Five
Conditional decisions made: None Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$500

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: Clerk of County Commissioners office
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Whatcom County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: Not established at this time
Phone number: (360) 676-6876 - Bruce, (360) 676-6784 - Dan
Board members: Resigned
Board contact: Bruce Roll or Dan Gibson
Date approved by Ecology: December 7, 1999
Completed Ecology training: Training not completed

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater:
For surface water:
For certificates:
For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:
Filed directly with the board:
Conditional decisions made:
Number of public hearings¹
Hearings in other counties²
Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board:
Water Marketing activities:
Volunteer assistance:
Training other than by Ecology:
Litigation:

The Whatcom County Water Conservancy Board was approved by Ecology on December 7, 1999. Board members were appointed. They did not request training from Ecology and did not begin operation. Due to concerns regarding liability the three board members resigned.

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Whitman County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 404 North Main
Colfax, WA 99111

Phone number: (509) 648-3362 -or- (509) 397-6200

Board members: Tracy Eriksen, Chairperson / President
Gayle Startin, Vice President
Sara Sue Cochran, Treasurer
Lynne Gearhart, Alternate / Secretary

Board contact: Tracey Eriksen

Date approved by Ecology: July 26, 2000

Completed Ecology training: October 13, 2000

Application Information

Applications accepted: None (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)

For groundwater:

For surface water:

For certificates:

For claims:

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA:
WRIA:
WRIA:

Filed first with Ecology:

Filed directly with the board:

Conditional decisions made:

Number of public hearings¹

Hearings in other counties²

Current fee for processing: Not set

Other Information

Property owned by board: None

Water Marketing activities: None

Volunteer assistance: None

Training other than by Ecology: None

Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

Yakima County Water Conservancy Board

Conservancy Board Information

Board address: 128 N. Second St.
Yakima, WA 98901
Phone number: (509) 574-1504
Board members: Gene D. McIntire, Chairperson
Steven C. Pickett
Micheal D. Leita
Board contact: Sylvia Cervantes, Clerk of the board
Date approved by Ecology: July 12, 1999
Completed Ecology training: October 29, 1999

Application Information

Applications accepted: 24 (11/1/98 to 10/31/00)
For groundwater: Not reported
For surface water: Not reported
For certificates: Not reported
For claims: Not reported

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs)

WRIA 37 - Lower Yakima: Eighteen
WRIA 38 - Naches: Four
WRIA 39 - Upper Yakima: Two
WRIA 31 - Rock/Glade: None
WRIA 30 - Klickitat: None
WRIA 40 - Lower Crab: None

Filed first with Ecology: Not reported
Filed directly with the board: Not reported
Conditional decisions made: Five Approved, None Denied
Number of public hearings¹: None
Hearings in other counties²: None
Current fee for processing: \$600

Other Information

Property owned by board: None
Water Marketing activities: None
Volunteer assistance: None, one clerical staff from county
Training other than by Ecology: None
Litigation: None

¹To hear intervenors

²For water right change proposals between counties

**Washington State Water Conservancy Boards
Board Activities for January 1, 1999 to October 31, 2000**

Board	Total Applications Filed	Board Approved	Board Denied	Total Board Decisions	Appealed	Filed first with		Ground Water	Surface Water	Claims	Certificates	Fees
						Ecology	WCB					
Adams	11	0	0	0		2	9	11	0	0	11	\$500 per application
Benton	18	10	0	10	6	no report	no report	12	6	1	17	\$250
Chelan	10	1	1	2		0	10	8	2	3	7	\$1000 deposit & 25% charge on amount of deposit used
Douglas	2	0	0	0		2	0	0	2	0	2	\$600, additional fees may be charged
Ferry	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Franklin	7	1	0	1	1	3	4	5	2	6	1	\$650/application w/up to two permits, \$650/ permit thereafter
Grant	22	3	0	3		5	17	22	0	0	22	\$500 (\$100 submittal, \$400 acceptance)
Kittitas	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Klickitat	6	3	0	3		0	6	5	1	0	6	\$550
Lewis	2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	0	2	\$500
Lincoln	3	0	0	0		3	0	3	0	0	3	\$500 per application
Okanogan	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Spokane	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Thurston	5	3	0	3		3	2	4	1	0	5	\$1200 (\$300 additional for hearing)
Walla Walla	6	0	0	0		1	5	4	2	0	0	\$500
Whatcom	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Whitman	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	not adopted
Yakima	24	4	0	4	2	no report	no report	no report	no report	no report	no report	\$600
Totals	116	26	1	27	10	20	54	74	18	10	76	Average fee is \$600