



Washington State Senate

Dear Water Resource Stakeholders:

Washington State Senators Honeyford and Keiser invite you to attend one of two state-level public workshops to provide input on an economic analysis of proposed major water infrastructure and fisheries habitat restoration investments in Washington state. The workshop agenda is attached.

Thursday, September 22

3:30 – 7:00 pm

Southeast Community Center

1211 S 7th St,

Yakima, WA 98901

Thursday, September 29

3:30 – 7:00 pm

Edmonds Community College

20000 68th Ave. W

Lynnwood, WA 98036

This analysis was initiated as a result of bi-partisan legislation to inform policy decisions about the scale and timing of new investments in flood reduction, storm water/water quality, and water supply. Our goal is to understand the economic consequences of investing – and not investing - in water infrastructure and fisheries habitat across the state. The results of this study will be used to inform state budget decisions.

This is your opportunity to participate. We will be presenting preliminary results of a water investment needs assessment for the next 20 years and will be seeking your input on two fundamental topics:

1. Have we captured all the major water infrastructure and fisheries habitat restoration projects that are known to be proposed or likely to be proposed in the next 20 years? And,
2. How do you interpret the economic opportunities of these investments and the economic consequences of failing to invest in specific projects?

As water demands grow and change, it is important that we use state resources in a thoughtful and cost effective manner. The results of this project will play a major role in shaping water infrastructure investment and fisheries habitat decisions into the future.

If you are interested in the genesis of this effort, please see Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2380 (ESHB 2380)¹

If you cannot attend but would like to provide input, please call the project consultant, Ramboll Environ before October 10th. Contact Rabia Ahmed at rahmed@ramboll.com, or Sam Leick at sleick@ramboll.com.

¹ <http://lawfilesexternal.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/2380-S.SL.pdf>

Please feel free to share this opportunity with anyone you know of who might be interested.

Thank you in advance for your interest and participation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Honeyford". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being particularly prominent.

Senator Jim Honeyford, 15th District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen Keiser". The signature is cursive and elegant, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Senator Karen Keiser, 33rd District

Public Workshop and Open House

Economic Analysis of Water Infrastructure Investment in Washington State

3:30 – 7:00 pm

WORKSHOP AGENDA

The tentative format for the workshops will involve three stations where participants can view exhibits in each of the subject matter areas. Focus groups will be held for those who wish to participate. Two identical sessions are scheduled at each workshop to accommodate different stakeholder schedules.

SESSION I

3:30 Introductions and Project Overview

3:40 Q&A

3:50 Open House: View Exhibits, Project Lists

4:15 – 5:00 Focus Groups

- Flood and Habitat Restoration
- Storm water/Wastewater and Habitat Restoration
- Water Supply and Habitat Restoration

SESSION 2

5:30 Introductions and Project Overview

5:40 Q&A

5:50 Open House: View Exhibits, Project Lists

6:15 – 7:00 Focus Groups

- Flood and Habitat Restoration
- Storm water/Wastewater and Habitat Restoration
- Water Supply and Habitat Restoration