

Methow Watershed Council

“We’re All in This Together”



The Council

- A 9-member interim advisory Council based on RCW 90-82 appointed by the 3-IG's (Okanogan County, Town of Winthrop, Town of Twisp)
- Present Membership
 - Rick Karro – Town of Winthrop (IG)
 - Andy Hover – Okanogan County (IG)
 - John Fleming – Town of Twisp (IG)
 - Greg Knott – North #1 (Chair)
 - Dick Ewing - Middle #3 (Vice-Chair)
 - Bill Tackman – #5 South
 - Mike Fort –At Large #2
 - Travis Thornton – At Large #4
 - Ashley Thrasher– At Large #6

What We Do

- **Mission:**
- **The Methow Watershed Council actively assists in managing water supplies for a sustainable balance between human and ecological needs.**

The Council endorses the development of voluntary strategies for optimizing water use and provides ongoing community outreach and education on valley-specific water issues.

What We Did

- Originally established under RCW 90-82 to provide local opportunities for water management
- Decided to address water quantity & quality. Did not address habitat and instream flows
- Completed a Watershed Plan and a Detailed Implementation Plan (2005 – 2008)

Priorities

- Preserve agricultural use
- Provide adequate water for towns
- Investigate and implement storage opportunities
- Revise WAC 173-548
- Initiate and seek funding (MWF) for relevant studies and reports to inform water supply policy decisions

Projects & Activities

- Consumptive Use Study
- Technical Input to County for hearing examiner process
- WCRD/TLAC Aquifer Recharge Project
- Partnering with MSRF & USGS on beaver pond flow enhancement research
- Sponsoring USGS research on Methow groundwater paths

Upcoming Events

Subject matter expert presentations (October - February)

- "Visible and Invisible Rivers: Hydraulic Continuity between Streamflow and Groundwater in the Methow", Chris Konrad, USGS, tentatively Oct. 12
- Climate effects on Water Supply, Amy Snover, UW Climate Impacts Group, November (talk title and date to be determined)
- "Protecting Your Liquid Assets with the Trust Water Rights Program", Kristina Ribellia and Greg McLaughlin, Washington Water Trust, January 9 (co-sponsored by Methow Conservancy)
- "Looking Under the Hood of Water Banking", Jason McCormick, McCormick Water Strategies, February (date to be determined)

Stay Tuned

- Water 2066 is coming
 - A strategic look at water supply in 50 years
 - Must involve all stakeholders
 - Will be kicked off this fall/winter with a series of subject matter expert presentations.
 - Outcome will be recommendations for programs and projects to ensure an adequate and sustainable water supply.

How can you participate?

- Become involved in the discussion
 - Meetings every 3rd Thursday at the Riverbank at 5:00 pm
- Contact information
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 - methowwatershed.com