

Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council Meeting
May 20, 2024
Meeting Minutes (draft)

ATTENDEES

Board Members: Sara Harris, Ed Chesnut, Jack Ferrise, James Baker, Kevin Scribner, Malcolm Millar, Jerimiah Bonifer (Zoom)

Staff: Troy Baker, Wendy Harris, Tara Patten, Luke Adams, Brandyn Chaney, Emily Tilden (Zoom), Eric Hoverson.

Guests: n/a

(0:01:47) The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Ed C., serving as pro-tem President for the evening. Agenda had a technical error getting to the board members, so that was briefly outlined at the top of the meeting. No quorum is present; April minutes are not able to be approved.

(0:3:29) Brief SAP Committee update.

(0:05:38) Walla Walla River Flow and Snowpack Update, by Luke Adams.

Quick update for the 4/17/2024 – 5/17/2024 window.

SITE	CURRENT (5/17/2024)	30-DAY MEDIAN
South Fork WW near confluence	320 cfs	218 cfs
North Fork WW near confluence	49 cfs	46.5 cfs
WW @ 15 th Ave Bridge (Grove)* ⁺	320 cfs	335 cfs
WW below Tum-A-Lum**	250 cfs	110 cfs
Couse Creek @ RM 1.1	9.2 cfs	10.2 cfs
Little WW Diversion *	87 cfs	-
Pine Creek below Schubert	5.7 cfs	3.2 cfs
WW below Nursery Bridge	<i>Not collecting data</i>	-
Mill Creek (USGS data)	91 cfs	87 cfs

*OWRD data ** undergoing channel changes

*WY2024 MONTHLY MEDIAN FLOW CURRENTLY **326 CFS** VS 30-YR MEDIAN **401 CFS**.

VOLUME OF 2024 VS HISTORIC IS AT **105%**. (118,350 ACRE FT WY2024 VS. 112,187 ACRE FT 30-YR MEDIAN)

NRCS/SNOTEL- overall at **83%** of the median water equivalent snowpack value as of 5/17/24

- High Ridge @ 3,000%
- Milk Shakes @ 88%
- Touchet @ 0%
- Spruce Springs *median=0; no %*
- Sourdough Gulch *median=0; no %*

NOAA/NWS update- Drought status of Umatilla and Walla Walla unchanged from last report (abnormally dry). Forecast for the coming season shows that our area will be predominantly above normal for temperature and below normal for precipitation. So far for the water year, KAWL at Walla Walla shows that we have received slightly below normal precipitation (approx. 1.36 inches less)

(0:27:06) Outreach Updates. Open house, Return to the River Salmon Festival, RiverFest 411, and additional information about watershed stewardship workshop

(0:49:31) Additional project updates

(1:10:48) Announcements

- Strategic Action Plan Committee meeting tbd.
- WWW 2050 BAC meeting May 22nd from 1-4pm.
- WWW 2050 Bi-State Flow Study Working Group May 29th 10am-noon

(1:18:07) Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.