



The Tap



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Camano Water Association

City of Fife

Firgrove Mutual Water Co.

Fox Island Mutual Water Association

Fruitland Mutual Water Co.

Graham Hill Mutual Water Co.

Lake Josephine Riviera

Lakewood Water District

City of Milton

Mt. View-Edgewood Water Co.

Parkland Light and Water

Pierce County Public Works and Utilities

City of Puyallup

Rainier View Water Co.

Spanaway Water Co.

Town of Steilacoom

Summit Water & Supply Co.

City of Summer

Tacoma Water

Public Utility District No. 1 of Thurston County

Valley Water District

Washington Water Service Co.

City of Yelm

President's Pipeline

I must say, I was quite surprised when Marc Marcantonio announced he was leaving Mt. View Edgewood and the Regional Water Cooperative of Pierce County (RWCP). He accepted the position of General Manager with Yorba Linda Water District in Placentia, California on September 3, 2014. Marc was been president of the RWCP for four years and brought a high level of integrity, enthusiasm, dedication, and professionalism that will be hard to replace. We are already missing Marc. As president of the former Regional Water Association, I have taken over the Marc's duties and will work hard to match his efforts. At the RWCP's annual meeting in December, we will have elections for all of the executive positions of the Board.

I would also like to introduce Kathy Crawford. Kathy is the new Executive Assistant for the RWCP. She has a background as an administrative/executive assistant, in sales and marketing at a tree nursery, and as a city and municipal court clerk. Recently, she has worked on several political campaigns and done some freelance marketing for real estate and other businesses. She is currently serving as District Governor in the Lions Clubs where she is overseeing 41 clubs in southwest

Washington through the end of June 2015. Since joining the Vader Lions Club in 2001, Kathy has held a number of leadership positions. You have already seen her work with the agendas and minutes of our general membership, committee, and coalition meetings. She is excited to learn more about water-related issues and we look forward to her involvement with each of our committees.

I want you to know that your newly merged organization is hard at work getting ready for the upcoming legislative session. The RWCP has teamed up with the Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts (WASWD), the Sno-king Coalition, and the Washington Ground Water Association to take this show on the road, so to speak. There are ten dates planned over the next two months to provide information to state, county, and local officials about

public water systems and the issues we face. These meetings will be held at various locations around the state.

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Larry D. Jones

President,

Regional Water Cooperative of Pierce County

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In Memory of Linda Matson



It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our RWCP lobbyist, Linda Matson, who suffered a brain aneurysm. She passed away peacefully at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle on Thursday, October 23, 2014, surrounded by family members.

Along with her husband, Mike, Linda owned Matson and Associates; a political consulting firm. Mike served as the lobbyist for RWCP beginning in 1996. Linda took over lobbyist duties several years ago when Mike's health declined.

Mike and Linda nursed us through the 1997 session to get a bill through in its first year – a very rare occurrence. Over the years Linda and Mike took us through the process on many bills, one of which forced DOE's hand into approving language developed by the Washington Water Utility Council addressing "active compliance" for municipal water rights. Last year, Linda led our Legislative Committee Chair Jeff Johnson around to get sponsors for one of our bills, and then had Jeff drop the bill in "the Hopper" at the code reviser's office. Linda went on to shepherd two of our bills all the way through the process, lacking only a final floor vote to passage.

Linda was born in Colorado. She worked 2 years in the "steno" pool of the Colorado State Senate, back in the days before copy machines and computers, when there was one hard copy of each bill.

After moving to Washington State, Linda spent a short time as a Legislative Assistant to Senator Jack

Metcalf. This was in 1974; the first year Senators had offices and staff of their own. She later worked for him when he successfully ran for the US House of Representatives.

From 1974 to 1979, Linda was the Manager of Governmental Affairs for Boise Cascade Corporation. From 1979 to 1986, she served as Director of Governmental Affairs for Associated Grocers, Washington, Oregon & Alaska.

From 1986 to 1991, Linda served as the Washington State Director of NFIB – a small business advocacy association for 20,000 small business owners statewide.

Linda understood what it took to drive a project or campaign to completion. She was often the person herding the troops and sounding the call to action. She knew the importance of personal contact and she and Mike had developed a vast network of legislators and political leaders, and the movers and shakers in many industries throughout the state.

Linda's passion, knowledge, and commitment to our group will be greatly missed. She was truly one of a kind.

A memorial service for Linda Matson will be held on Thursday, November 6 at 11:00 a.m. in the Legislative Building, Capitol Rotunda, Olympia.

Find the Legislative Building in the lower left area of the [Capitol Campus Map](#).

Legislative Affairs – Special Guest Article

PCHB Decision Opens Door to New Instream Flow Impairment and Mitigation Standards

In a closely-watched water right permit appeal, the Pollution Control Hearings Board (Board) has ruled that the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) has "implied authority" to allow out-of-kind mitigation for impacts to instream flows.¹ The Board's carefully crafted ruling regarding its own jurisdiction also acknowledges Ecology's authority to amend numeric instream flow rules and subsequently approve new appropriations without minimum flow conditions. The summary judgment ruling in OWL v. KGH rejected arguments by two environmental groups that would have extended last year's Supreme Court ruling in Swinomish Indian Tribal Community v. Ecology² to water rights permitting decisions. Underlying the Board's decision is its finding that minimum instream flows set by rule are "regulatory" and can be amended, whereas "base flows" are statutory and must be protected from impairment by new water right permits even if regulatory instream flows are made "inapplicable" to a class of water uses.

The Board's decision sheds light on the possibility that instream flow rules could be amended in a manner that moves away from the protection of numerical flows based on the probability of exceedance (which has led to ground water closures and nearly impossible mitigation standards). The author has long believed that existing instream flow rules may violate state statutes and have had considerable unintended consequences. As the state attempts to resolve the water availability issues created by the Swinomish decision over the

next several years, new approaches to instream flow protection should be considered.

The Board's "instream flow values" language suggests that a qualitative approach to impairment analysis would offer more flexibility regarding mitigation than a strictly quantitative impairment analysis based on numerical flows and in-kind, in-place, in-time (water for water) mitigation. Water for water mitigation is rarely available for all diffuse impacts from groundwater withdrawals on streamflow, especially in rural areas, and the overriding considerations of public interest (OCPI) authority to overcome the absence of water for water mitigation may be only rarely available in the future. Thus, there is an incentive to develop other approaches in order to accomplish the dual purpose of protecting instream flow values and water for human needs and economic development.

The Board's ruling on summary judgment in OWL v. KGH did not decide all the issues in the appeal, which remains pending. For a complete synopsis of the decision, download Tom Pors' complete article on his website at www.porslaw.com.
by Thomas M. Pors -- Law Office of Thomas M. Pors

¹ *Okanogan Wilderness League (OWL) and Center for Environmental Law and Policy (CELP) v. State of Washington Department of Ecology and Kennewick General Hospital (KGH)*, PCHB No. 13-146, Order on Motions for Summary Judgment (July 31, 2014).

² *Swinomish Indian Tribal Community v. Ecology*, 178 Wn.2d 571, 311 P.3d 6 (2013).

Thurston County PUD Customer Satisfaction Survey

In 2013, the Thurston PUD Board of Commissioners adopted a Strategic Plan. One of the Action Steps in the Strategic Plan was to conduct a Customer Satisfaction Survey. The survey began in September 2014 and ends on October 15, 2014. The survey is on our website and uses the Survey Monkey tool to gather the information and provides great statistical information as well. The application is very reasonable if you want to

conduct your own survey. It can also be done on paper if a customer requests a paper copy. Our survey is on the PUD's website at the link <http://www.thurstonpud.com/customer-satisfaction-survey.htm>. To encourage participation in the survey, our utility enters customers who provide an e-mail address or name and phone number in to a drawing where three lucky PUD customers will receive a one-time \$50.00 credit on their account.



Randy Wheelhouse

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Olympia, WA 98507

Washington Water Service Company—Supporting our Community [Race for a Soldier]

On Sunday, September 28, Washington Water Staff were in Gig Harbor (block from our office) volunteering at the Mile 7 (Midway) Water Station at the Race for a Soldier Half Marathon. WWSC has volunteered at this event since the beginning in 2011. This year we did something special—we used WWSC water. That's right, WWSC water! Mike & the Construction crew tapped our main water line on 144th and built a really cool water station that included 5 faucets. They also leveled out the location, so we were able to serve water safely.

The weather was perfect for race day, and everyone had a lot of fun. There were over 900 racers that came by our

water station, so we served over 417 gallons of water to racers. In addition to water, we distributed an Electrolyte Mix and Runners GOO. Runners seemed quite pleased that the only option was "Vanilla Bean." In fact, some of our younger volunteers tried it, and I'm pretty sure they were energetic all day.

If you would like to learn more about the Race for a Soldier or other events sponsored by the Permission to Start Dreaming Foundation, please visit their website at <http://www.raceforasoldier.org/>.

See page 7 for event photos.

2014 Picnic

Photos, Photos, Photos!

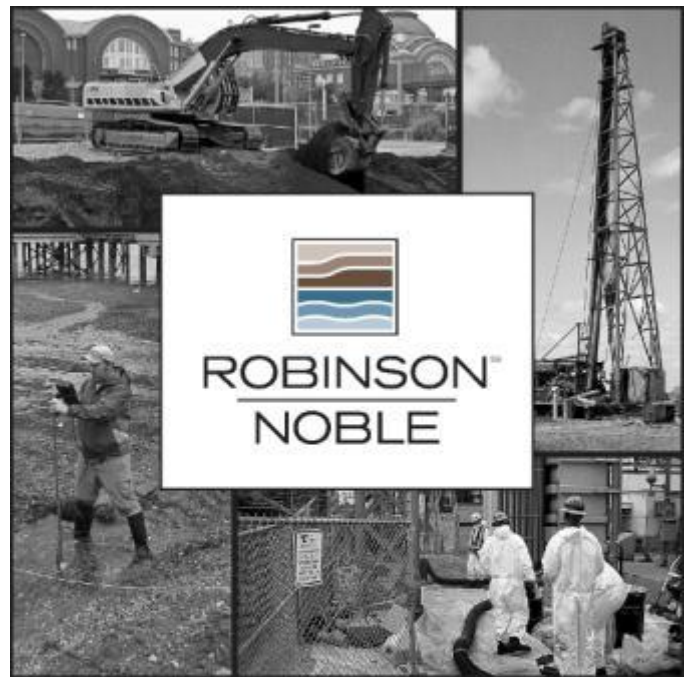
CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



Once again Doug Hale (right) and the Town of Steilacoom crew hosted and provided excellent help.



Nala the Newfoundland takes Joe Becker from Robinson Noble for a walk.



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Lunch was great!

2014 Picnic - More Photos, Photos, Photos!

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We welcomed Kathy Crawford as our new Executive Assistant.



Marc leads the meeting one last time.



Larry Jones presents Marc with a thank-you award for his long and dedicated service to the Cooperative.



We ended with a yummy cake in honor of Marc.



Good-bye Dinner for Marc



Just days before traveling south to California, we gathered at Carr's restaurant in Lakewood for a going-away party for Marc Marcantonio (center).

We made sure Marc had new fishing gear for his move.



Cupcakes with the Co-op logo!



More seriously, we presented Marc with a desk clock in appreciation for all his hard work and commitment to the Co-op.

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Race for a Soldier Photos

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