



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ashley Thrasher
Phone: 253-576-3126
Email: thrashley@gmail.com
Date: August 19, 2019

**METHOW WATERSHED COUNCIL INVITES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
WATER 2066 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS SEPTEMBER 18 & 19, 2019
WHAT DOES THE FUTURE OF WATER LOOK LIKE IN THE METHOW?**

The Methow Watershed Council (MWC) is inviting all interested individuals to attend one of two Community Workshops to learn from the community what is desired for the future of water in the Methow Valley. Water use and water rights continue to be a difficult subject to discuss, and often result in litigation if the opposing sides cannot find middle ground. The MWC is presenting Water 2066: A Vision for the Methow in an effort to collaboratively plan for the future. The name "Water 2066" is intended to inspire people to think about how we want the waterscape to look in the Methow Basin (WRIA 48) into the future.

The goal of these efforts is for community members to tell MWC about their long-term vision for water use and management in the Methow Valley. The results of this community visioning exercise will be provided to governments, regulatory agencies, sovereign tribes, and NGOs to inform water management plans and actions by those entities charged with that task.

At the workshops, there will be a short presentation followed by interactive workshop stations geared toward gathering from community members as much detail of their vision as possible. This effort will include water use and management questions developed by MWC.

Objectives of the project:

1. Identify specific areas where community members agree and disagree about the water supply vision for the Methow Valley going forward;
2. Identify pathways to reconcile disagreements within the community and stakeholders;
3. Identify significant challenges to implementing each shared value;
4. Determine the next steps needed to make the identified vision a reality.

The Community Workshops will be held two nights in a row to allow as many people to come as possible. The workshops will be held at the Methow Valley Community Center in Twisp, on Wednesday September 18, 2019 and Thursday September 19, 2019. The event will begin at 6:00 P.M. The content, format, and information presented will be the same for both nights. No RSVP is required. More information can be found on the Water 2066 Project Page, at <https://www.methowwatershed.com/water-2066>. Please contact Ashley Thrasher at thrashley@gmail.com with questions or to request further information.