

# PALOUSE BASIN AQUIFER committee

## PBAC FACT SHEET

*PBAC's mission is to ensure a long-term, quality water supply for the Palouse Basin region.*

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### Committee History and Role:

- The primary role of PBAC is to encourage the member entities to implement the Palouse Basin Ground Water Management Plan, enacted in 1992. Additional roles involve education and information exchange, monitoring of pumping and ground water levels, and funding of ground water system research.
- The original committee was formed in 1967 under the name of Pullman-Moscow Water Resource Committee and was made up of representatives from UI, WSU, Pullman and Moscow, to address concerns with declining ground water levels in the area.

### Committee Structure & Financing:

- Current membership consists of representatives from Pullman and Moscow, Whitman and Latah counties, WSU and UI. In addition, the City of Palouse has provided financial support, but is not a PBAC member.
- Up to two voting members are selected by each participating entity. It is preferred that each entity be represented by one member with a technical background and another member who is an elected or administrative official.
- Ex-officio committee members include representatives from the Washington Department of Ecology and the Idaho Department of Water Resources.
- PBAC officers consist of a chairperson and vice chairperson. Administrative support is provided by executive director and technical advisor positions.
- PBAC holds monthly meetings on the afternoon of the third Thursday of the month, rotating between Pullman and Moscow. Meetings are a hybrid format with in person and virtual attendees. Recordings are available on [YouTube](#).
- PBAC is financed through contributions from member as well as non-member entities. Voting levels (one or two votes per member entity) are based upon contribution amounts. For the current fiscal year (7/1/22 through 6/30/23) contributions are:

Entity	Ops/Admin	Research	Total
Pullman	\$27,000	\$20,000	\$47,000
Moscow	\$27,000	\$20,000	\$47,000
Whitman County	\$6,750		\$6,750
Latah County	\$6,750		\$6,750
Washington State University	\$27,000	\$20,000	\$47,000
University of Idaho	\$27,000		\$27,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$121,500</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>	<b>\$181,500</b>

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## Monitoring and Research:

- PBAC maintains a network of water level monitoring instruments throughout the Palouse Basin and funds a variety of research projects aimed at gaining increased understanding of the behavior of the basin aquifer systems.
- The PBAC website ([palousebasin.org](http://palousebasin.org)) has the most recent research and information readily available online.

## Further Information:

- Anyone interested in public notice of PBAC meetings may join an email list by sending their email address to [pbac@uidaho.edu](mailto:pbac@uidaho.edu).
- PBAC shares information regarding water conservation and events on social media: [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [YouTube](#)
- For specific questions, or to learn more about individual entity activities, PBAC representatives can be contacted at the email addresses below.

## PBAC Members:

Entity	Name	Email
<b>Member Entity Representatives:</b>		
City of Pullman	Cara Haley (Chair)	<a href="mailto:cara.haley@pullman-wa.gov">cara.haley@pullman-wa.gov</a>
	Shawn Kohtz	<a href="mailto:shawn.kohtz@pullman-wa.gov">shawn.kohtz@pullman-wa.gov</a>
	Eileen Macoll	<a href="mailto:eileen.macoll@pullman-wa.gov">eileen.macoll@pullman-wa.gov</a>
City of Moscow	Tyler Palmer (Vice-Chair)	<a href="mailto:tpalmer@ci.moscow.id.us">tpalmer@ci.moscow.id.us</a>
	Michael Parker	<a href="mailto:mparker@ci.moscow.id.us">mparker@ci.moscow.id.us</a>
	Gina Taruscio	<a href="mailto:gtaruscio@ci.moscow.id.us">gtaruscio@ci.moscow.id.us</a>
Whitman County	Mark Storey	<a href="mailto:mark.storey@co.whitman.wa.us">mark.storey@co.whitman.wa.us</a>
	Tom Handy	<a href="mailto:tomhandy@whitmancounty.net">tomhandy@whitmancounty.net</a>
Latah County	Tom Lamar	<a href="mailto:tlamar@latah.id.us">tlamar@latah.id.us</a>
	Paul Kimmel	<a href="mailto:paul.kimmell@avistacorp.com">paul.kimmell@avistacorp.com</a>
Washington State University	Jason Sampson	<a href="mailto:sampsonj@wsu.edu">sampsonj@wsu.edu</a>
	Jeff Lannigan	<a href="mailto:lannigan@wsu.edu">lannigan@wsu.edu</a>
University of Idaho	Rusty Vineyard	<a href="mailto:vineyard@uidaho.edu">vineyard@uidaho.edu</a>
	Tim Link	<a href="mailto:tlink@uidaho.edu">tlink@uidaho.edu</a>
<b>Ex-Oficio Representatives:</b>		
Washington State Department of Ecology	Patrick Cabbage	<a href="mailto:pcab461@ecy.wa.gov">pcab461@ecy.wa.gov</a>
Idaho Department of Water Resources	Michelle Richman	<a href="mailto:michelle.richman@idwr.idaho.gov">michelle.richman@idwr.idaho.gov</a>
<b>Staff:</b>		
Executive Director	Céline Acord	<a href="mailto:celine@uidaho.edu">celine@uidaho.edu</a>
Technical Advisor	Steve Robischon	<a href="mailto:stever@uidaho.edu">stever@uidaho.edu</a>