

**Spokane River DO TMDL Advisory Committee Meeting
December 18, 2012**

Minutes

In Attendance: Bud Leber, Kaiser; Galen Buterbaugh, Lake Spokane Association; Sarah Hubbard-Gray, HGC; Lynn Schmidt, City of Spokane; Jeff Donovan, City of Spokane; Don Martin, EPA; Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper; Dan Redline, IDEQ; Diana Washington, Ecology; Lee Mellish, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District; Tom Agnew, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District; Dale Arnold, City of Spokane; Ben Brattebo, Spokane County; Adriane Borgias, Ecology; Dave Moss, Spokane County, Speed Fitzhugh, Avista; Bruce Rawls, Spokane County; Mike Cannon, City of Spokane; Dave Knight, Ecology, Dave Moore, Ecology; Dennis Fuller, Liberty Lake Water and Sewer District; Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental; Walt Edlen, Spokane Conservation District; Kristine Holm, Attorney; Rick Noll, Spokane Conservation District; Mike Neher, City of Post Falls; Amanda Parish, Lands Council; Bart Milhailovich, Spokane Riverkeeper

On Phone: Brian Crossley, Spokane Tribe of Indians; Dave Croxton, EPA.

Spokane River Forum Staff: Andy Dunau, Cami Haveman

All meeting materials, including those referenced in these minutes can be found on-line at www.spokaneriver.net/dotmdl.

Welcome and Introductions

Andy Dunau welcomed participants to the meeting, each of whom introduced themselves.

Transitions

Don Martin is retiring from EPA at the end of December. EPA will continue to be engaged in the DO TMDL advisory committee. More than one person, however, will be providing support. For permit related issues, Brian Nickel will be the point of contact with support from his manager Michael Lidgard. For non-permit issues, including toxics task force work, Dave Croxton will be the point of contact. Dave will also coordinate support for trading conversations with Clare Schary and modeling with Ben Cope.

Sarah Hubbard Gray, who has coordinated Spokane River Stewardship Partner activities, is also retiring at the end of December. She is being replaced by Lisa Dally Wilson. Lisa has facilitated the work of various water quality, water quantity and watershed planning groups. She also has a civil engineering degree.

Dave Moore reported that the Ecology DO TMDL web site (http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/spokaneriver/dissolved_oxygen/index.html) has been updated, including You Tube video of the Model Simulation of Dissolved Oxygen Conditions in Lake Spokane. It was noted some organizations do not permit You Tube access.

Tool Box Work Group Updates

Diana explained that the permit unit would need more flexibility in scheduling work group dates. She will coordinate scheduling based on when specific input is required. Development progress will be summarized at quarterly DO TMDL Advisory committee meetings. As needed, she will request information be posted on the DO TMDL web site.

She will try to provide a three week lead time from when a meeting is scheduled to when it is held. Committee members requested, when possible, she “piggy back” meeting dates/times with other meetings.

Updates included the following:

- Next steps for adoption and implementation of static equivalency will occur at next work group meeting.
- Re Alternate Season Limits and OrthoP, no additional comments were provided by the December 7th deadline.
- Diana requested meeting with Attorney General’s Office. The agenda for that meeting will include discussion of the tool development flow process, indication of time needed to provide feedback regarding definitions, and initial discussion of definitions provided to date. Committee members asked that she summarize policy responses from AG office.
- She discussed sampling plan needs for Ortho P with Ecology’s Water Quality Program manager.
- Definition development for dynamic equivalency will be discussed at next work group meeting.

In-depth work on tool box items will occur at the December 19 workgroup meeting.

Permit Implementation Updates

Updates were provided by Spokane County, City of Spokane, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District, Kaiser and Inland Empire Paper. PowerPoint presentations are posted on the DO TMDL web site as part of December 18 meeting information.

Dave Moore thanked presenters, noting the tremendous amount of progress that has been made in the last year.

Non-point Source Updates

Dave Moore reported that work on Little Spokane River DO/pH TMDL will begin in 2013. Included in this will be a phosphorus waste load allocation for the Little Spokane WDFW fish hatchery. Dave has also started development of a tracking/monitoring data base of non-point source project. An initial list has been formed based on information provided by Spokane County, Spokane Conservation District, and Lands Council. This work will be reviewed with Tracking/Monitoring work group.

Walt Edelen provided a PowerPoint showing projects and challenges of non-point source projects the Conservation District is working on, primarily in Hangman Creek. This includes a Livestock and Land program, direct seed loans, incentives to farmers, water and sediment control basins, and on-site septic program.

Amanda Parrish with Lands Council presented on non-point source and related projects they are engaged with. This includes planting 2,000 trees (and plans for an additional 2500 plantings) in Deep Coulee Creek area; multiple plantings of willows along Hangman Creek over last 2 years; protection of trees and beavers at California Creek (a tributary to Hangman); planting 300 trees along Gonzaga shoreline; and planting of 6,000+ willow, aspen, cottonwood and other riparian species throughout Spokane area from 2010 to 2012. Lands Council utilizes as many volunteers as possible, which is also helpful with maintenance and improving survival rates. Lastly, Lands Council has developed a brochure to help people understand the dollars/efforts available for property owners, including septic systems, fertilizers, pet waste, etc.

Meeting Dates

Dave reported tracking/monitoring meeting is being delayed until February. They are waiting on Environmental Assessment Program to assign a person to help develop ten year assessment.

Next meeting of full advisory committee meeting will be in March.

Meeting Adjourned