

SRRTTF Technical Track Work Group (TTWG)

MEETING SUMMARY

November 5, 2014 | 10:00am-12:00pm

Department of Ecology

4601 North Monroe Street | Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Attendees:

BiJay Adams, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District

Adriane Borgias, Department of Ecology (*on phone*)

John Beacham, City of Post Falls

Galen Buterbaugh, Lake Spokane Association

Jeff Donovan, City of Spokane

Lisa Dally Wilson (*on phone*)

Kris Holm, City of Coeur d'Alene (*on phone*)

Paul Klatt, JUB Engineering (*on phone*)

Greg Lahti, WA Department of Transportation

Bud Leber, Kaiser Aluminum

Dave Moss, Spokane County

Chris Page, Ruckelshaus Center (*video conference*)

Sandy Phillips, Spokane Regional Health District

Kara Whitman, Ruckelshaus Center

Chris Page reviewed the agenda. The order of items on the agenda was altered to accommodate attendees.

Data Repository Criteria

Adriane Borgias went over the characteristics and capabilities of the Environmental Information Management System (EIM). The EIM serves as main database for the Department of Ecology (Ecology) for environmental monitoring data. Adriane explained that the EIM contains records on physical, chemical, and biological analyses and measurements. Metadata is also stored in the EIM (environmental studies, monitoring locations and data quality).

Questions for future discussion:

- What criteria is the Task Force looking for in a data repository?
- What are the goals for data management?
- What type of data will need to be stored and accessible?
- Will data from Task Force members be stored or only data collected by the Task Force?

Question: Dave Moss asked where the data collected for annual reports (as part of permits) were stored. Are they in the Ecology database? Answer: Adriane thinks that this information is stored in the PARIS system as a pdf. DMR is a separate system and Ecology is potentially looking at merging the two. DMR data resides in PARIS.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane Borgias to look up the relationship between DMR and EIM and report back to TTWG.

Other Data Management discussion and questions:

- Database accessibility

- The EIM can link to maps
- Keep the data all in one place
- Quality control data is readily available. PCB data is not useable unless you have the lab blank information with it.
- The database would need to hold vast amounts of data to use over the long term.
- How much data needs to be captured in the database? (every data point?)
- Who inputs the data and in what form is it in?
- Data deliverables should go easily into EIM, make deliverables match your database.
- There is a need for technical expertise for getting data ready for importing into the database system, whichever it is.
- Task Force will need to address censoring, documentation and preparation of data for input.
 - Could use censoring rules already in place by Ecology, and then could align with the QAPP and SAP.
 - Need to have transparency in the process and compliance with the permits.
- Input Confidence Interval Testing. This testing was ecology funded; therefore it should be input anyway.
- Data from AXYS, input into EIM to see how it works?
- Greg Cavallo of the Delaware River Basin Commission could provide some insights regarding data storage. (setup, data collection, processing and management)
- Need to be very consistent in collecting, storing and qualifying the data.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane Borgias to follow up with inputting Confidence Interval Testing into the EIM and Bud Leber to check on congener data input.

Update from LimnoTech on number of data

Bud Leber explained that six sets of data have been transmitted to Limnotech as of Friday October 31, 2014. All of the conventional measurements are completed and LimnoTech is on track for an update at the November 17th Task Force meeting. The high-volume samples taken by Gravity are in separate sets, because they are extracts and have not been received yet.

Gravity Sampling Report:

The group discussed the *Draft Report and Appendices* from Gravity. Bud Leber asked about reporting the point source flow data in the report, as the flow data is missing from the report. It may be helpful to have all the flow data in one place long with the other sampled data.

Dave Moss asked if it would be possible to build a matrix that includes dates, time frame, and discharge flow. Gravity may have this data from some of the point sources but not all of them. The group suggested that this be compiled from the Gravity data, or from the dischargers' data.

Rob Lindsay is tracking down the flow data for station SR4 Green Street (operated by Spokane Community College). There is no flow data for the R15 location due to equipment malfunction. The Task Force will need to sort out the flow data for this site.

ACTION ITEM: Bud Leber to call Cathy Whiting and see what data they have on the specific discharge flows. If they do have this data, it should be included in the sampling report and Flow should be listed in Table 4 of the report.

January Workshop

The group discussed the January workshop details.

Location: Center Place, 2426 N. Discovery Place | Spokane Valley, WA 99216

Date: January 13th and 14th, 2015 (Tuesday and Wednesday)

ACTION ITEM: Kara Whitman to reserve the large meeting room at CenterPlace for two full days on January 13th and 14th, 2015 and check on the catering box lunches. (COMPLETED)

ACTION ITEM: Bud Leber to submit the Special Request Form to CenterPlace to finalize the reservation and to work with ACE to complete a contract with CenterPlace.(COMPLETED)

ACTION ITEM: Paul Klatt to connect with Bob Steed of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to find expert/s on water quality and in-stream PCBs to invite to the workshop. (COMPLETED)

The group discussed the logistics of the workshop, including whom to invite as sponsored experts and participants. SRRTF members were assigned to contact each of the expert invitees.

Chris Page went over the agenda for the workshop. The Workshop will be a two full day event including Lisa Rodenburg as a lunch speaker on day one. Box lunches will be provided both days. Targeted questions will be sent along with briefing materials, to each invited expert to help them prepare for providing feedback to the Task Force.

ACTION ITEM: Bud Leber to develop an initial set of targeted questions for each session to be brought before the full Task Force for input. (COMPLETED)

ACTION ITEM: Lisa Dally Wilson to pull together questions from previous workshops.(COMPLETED)

Spokane River Forum Display:

Chris Page gave an overview of the presentation materials, and the group discussed a process for approving the posters for timely printing before the Spokane River Forum.

ACTION ITEM: Kara Whitman to incorporate materials edits received by TTWG by 3:00 pm Nov. 5th, 2015. The edited materials are to be posted on the SRRTF website one week prior to conference call for decision on Nov. 12th by the Task Force via a conference call. (COMPLETED)

ACTION ITEM: Conference call to be held on Wednesday Nov. 12th, at 11am using the Department of Ecology conference call system. (COMPLETED)

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- The next full Task Force meeting is November 17, 2014 | 1pm-4:30pm the Spokane County Water Resource Center
 - The next Technical Track Work Group meeting is December 3rd, 2014 | 10am-12pm at the Department of Ecology