**SRRTTF Memorandum of Agreement Work Group**

DRAFT Summary Notes

January 7, 2015 | 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Department of Ecology

4601 North Monroe Street | Spokane, WA 99205-1295

**Attendees:**

Adriane Borgias, Department of Ecology

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

Don Keil, City of Coeur d’Alene

Mike LaScuola, Spokane Regional Health District

Brian Nickel, Environmental Protection Agency

Chris Page (*video Conference*) Ruckelshaus Center

Dan Redline (*on phone*), Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Lynn Schmidt, City of Spokane

Elizabeth Schoedel, City of Spokane

Jerry White, RiverKeeper

Kara Whitman, Ruckelshaus Center

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**Introduction and Agenda:**

Chris Page went over the agenda. No changes were made to the agenda.

**Document Management**

Chris asked the group about MOA Version control. The group agreed that the method of labeling each new version is working well. There was some discussion about how to help those attending the meeting more able to join in on the live MOA edits. One suggestion was that the editor uses a document sharing program with phone attendees.

**ACTION ITEM:** Ruckelshaus to explore document sharing options for upcoming MOA Work Group meetings.

**Changes to MOA to Date**

Kara Whitman went over the changes to date in the most recent version of the MOA posted to the Task Force website Version 3.0. Chris suggested that the group try to get through the minor “no-brainer edits” to clean the document up.

**Idaho Permittees and Compliance with Discharge Permits from EPA**

Chris Page reported out on his call with Tom Eaton. Tom could not attend the meeting. Brian Nickels attended the meeting to address some questions that the work group has including questions about compliance with the Idaho permit language and its specification that Idaho permittees must participate in the 2012 Memorandum of Agreement. It was suggested that EPA clarify that signing an updated/edited version of the MOA would comply with the permit. However, there is much concern from the Idaho permittees that even with a letter of assurance from EPA that this would not comply with the permit. Idaho permittees want to be sure that when they sign either the 2012 MOA or an amended version, they will be in compliance with their permits.

Discussion items:

* There is inconsistency/confusion in the MOA between the process of adding additional parties and the amendment process. Does adding signatures require an amendment (that is all sign?) or should there be a separate process to add new members.
* The decision making process to add new members and the fact that permittees are required to be added. Perhaps the addition requirements are related to the type of membership.

**ACTION ITEM:** Kris Holm and Don Keil to meet with EPA to discuss signing the MOA.

**In-Situ Edits to MOA version 3.0**

The group worked through comments and minor edits to the MOA. There was discussion about adding another row to the roles and responsibilities table in section 6 part C to include Idaho Dischargers.

Discussion items:

* Section 6 part C: Split out NPDES membership by state since there might be different requirements
* “Measurable Progress” may not be an appropriate term to use in relation to Idaho dischargers in the roles and responsibilities section of the MOA. This term is not in the Idaho permits; however it is of interest to the environmental groups. Environmental groups want a way to ensure that reductions are happening. However the TMDL mechanism is not applicable in Idaho due to differences in regulations. EPA believes that the permits require effectively the same actions of the Idaho permittees as the Washington permittees.

**ACTION ITEM**: Kara Whitman to update the MOA version including adding in row the table in section 6 part C to include Idaho dischargers and their roles and responsibilities excluding the term “measurable progress”. (COMPLETE)

**ACTION ITEM:** Kara Whitman to post a new version of MOA including edits from the meeting as Version 4.0. (COMPLETE)

**ACTION ITEM:** Kara Whitman to send out Doodle Poll for scheduling MOA work group meetings for February and March of 2015. (COMPLETE)

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**The next meeting of the MOA Work Group is January 23, 2015 from 1pm to 3pm at the**

 **Department of Ecology**