

SRRTTF Technical Track Work Group

DRAFT Summary Notes

January 7, 2015 | 10:00am – 12:00pm

Department of Ecology | 4601 North Monroe Street | Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Attendees:

Tom Agnew, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District

Lisa Brown, Department of Ecology

Jim Bellatty, Ecology

John Beacham, City of Post Falls

Adriane Borgias, Ecology

Galen Buterbaugh, Lake Spokane Association

Dave Dilks, LimnoTech (*on phone*)

Ryan Ekre, Inland Empire Paper

Kris Holm, City of Coeur d'Alene*

Dave Knight, Department of Ecology

Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper

Bud Leber, Kaiser Aluminum

Greg Lahti, Department of Transportation

Mike LaScuola, Spokane Regional Health District

Dave McBride, Department of Health*

Melissa McCall, Department of Ecology*

Brandee Miller, Department of Ecology*

Dave Moss, Spokane County

Dale Norton, Department of Ecology*

Chris Page, Ruckelshaus Center (*video conference*)

Lynn Schmidt, City of Spokane

Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental (*video conference*)

Kara Whitman, Ruckelshaus Center

* On phone

Introduction and Agenda:

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

Replacing Arianne Fernandez' Urban Waters role and duties (*Lisa Brown of Ecology*)

Lisa Brown explained that Arianne Fernandez took a job in Toxics cleanup program on the West side. Her position has been open since the fall of 2014. Lisa explained that they are looking at what the position entailed and what changes need to be made. Lisa is looking for feedback from SRRTTF entities about needs with tackling the issues to see if there might be a good fit for this "hazardous waste" position.

Timeline: They would like to hire as soon as possible and fill the position by April, but it is not definitive.

- Previous job tasks to continue:
 - Inspector position, focus on doing hazardous waste inspections
 - Working with source control specialists. Technical assistance.
 - Ecology representative on EnviroStars program.
- Lisa asked for suggestions for new additions to job description: the position will support current Urban Waters program work, though the position description may evolve.
 - From Spokane Regional Health District perspective, the position should:
 - Address stormwater from businesses, wastewater stream, and source reduction when out doing inspections (potentially sampling while on an inspection).
 - Sampling support: gather the necessary components for doing sampling events.
 - Have a similar skill set as Arianne Fernandez. Continue with projects Arianne was working on before she left. Skills/experience should include: Geographic Information Systems, synoptic sampling, working with labs, Environmental Information Management (database), data analysis, sampling support.

- Be able to navigate the Department of Ecology (DOE) and implement field sampling. Someone internal at DOE with hazardous waste expertise might be a good fit.
- Be regularly involved with the Task Force, pulling that knowledge over to the local source control piece, applying that information and then providing feedback to the Task Force.
- Have the ability to recognize and assist with areas that need follow-up. (value added)

The group noted that they may have a better idea of upcoming needs for this position after the Task Force's January 13-14 technical workshop.

ACTION ITEM: TTWG members to Contact Lisa Brown with any additional thoughts for the position.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane Borgias to follow up with Lisa Brown after the January 13 -14 workshop. (COMPLETE)

LimnoTech topics: *Presentation on data analysis and mass balance (Dave Dilks)*

Dave Dilks gave a preview on the data analysis and PCB Mass Balance work to what will be presented at the Workshop. He invited the group to suggest improvements to the presentation to clarify information.

Q: How was the assumption made that returning river flow enters at the same PCB concentration as when it left? A: the assumption is that the soil has a higher inorganic content than most soils, therefore no loss of PCB (due to binding with organic materials) occurs. NOTE: this is a conservative assumption, but is a starting point.

The group made several suggestions to the presentation, e.g. adding in footnotes where appropriate, clarifying graphs and diagrams, and including qualifiers as appropriate.

ACTION ITEM: Send any additional thoughts to Dave Dilks by Friday January 9, 2015 to incorporate into the presentation. (COMPLETE)

EAP project proposals: Review and finalize

Adriane Borgias explained that after the last Task Force meeting, the Task Force's suggested Environmental Assessment Program (EAP) project ideas were aggregated and developed into proposals. Adriane gave an overview of the aggregated projects to the group.

Proposed EAP Projects:

- Wet and Dry Deposition of PCB in the Spokane River Watershed
- PCBs in Products: The Task Force is getting information and we need to get it into the system (rules, regulations).
- Little Spokane River Fish Hatchery Case Study: Mass assessment, ancillary information about what is in fish food as well as specific geographic information about the facility.
- Stocked Fish Impacts: Mass assessment, source loading possibilities.
- Exposure Pathways: may want to include results from the sampling and where fish concentrations are high and have more sediment (hard for samplers to find sediment).
- PCB in Hatchery Fish: Revisit the 2006 study.
- Evaluation of High Volume Water Sampling Methods: Dale Norton's group to help. Scope written by AXYS on how to work with the CLAM. Action Item: Adriane to send information to Dale. (COMPLETE)
- Concurrent Water Sampling Events: not fully developed, expand to a broader sense to include information from the workshop.

Q: Jim Bellatty asked if some of these fish projects could be combined. A: Adriane explained that if they are specific (i.e. hatchery fish site specific, water around hatchery, and bioaccumulation all around one particular hatchery) then they may be combined. They did combine Little Spokane River Fish Hatchery Case Study project and Stocked Fish Impacts project.

Kris Holm expressed concern that the Department of Ecology has not followed up on recommendations from its 2006 study of PCBs and Hatchery fish, asserting that this should be prioritized at the state level since at this point it appears there is no follow up with this issue. Kris also noted that the permitting process for hatcheries is not addressing this issue.

The group also discussed the potential for a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) representative to come and talk to the Task Force at a future meeting, possibly in March 2015.

January Workshop

The group discussed workshop logistics including timing, materials, webinar, speakers, food, use of straw polling technology and others. Chris Page will do the introductions and agenda review and Lisa Dally Wilson will facilitate presentations and discussion during the workshop.

ACTION ITEM: Adriane to ask Grant Pfeifer to fill in for Tom Eaton to provide an introduction to the workshop that discusses the “40,000-foot view” of the Task Force and PCBs in the River. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: Adriane Borgias requested to invite a WDFW representative to attend the lunch session on the second day of the January workshop, where it is planned to talk about a workshop on PCBs and fish tissue. (COMPLETE).

ACTION ITEM: Adriane to connect with Adrian Hanley about workshop presentation timing. Note: Adrian was unable to attend the Workshop. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: Kara Whitman to put together a list of all workshop presenters, including the session they are speaking in, length of time, and who is contacting them. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: Ruckelshaus Center to send list of Ecology personnel registered for the conference to Adriane Borgias. Note: Lynn Schmidt sent this information to Adriane Borgias. (COMPLETE)

January 13 and 14, 2015: Toxics Workshop (All Day) at CenterPlace Regional Event Center: 2426 N. Discovery Place Spokane Valley, WA 99216

The next full Task Force meeting is **9:00am-12:30pm on February 25, 2014** at Liberty Lake Water & Sewer District: 22510 E Mission Ave, Liberty Lake, WA 99019

Next scheduled Tech Work Group meeting is February 4, 2014 from 10am-12pm at Dept. of Ecology

Conference call-in number is (800) 704-9804. Participant Code is 34863442#

*The conference call-in number will remain open until 15 minutes after the meeting begins. It will remain open as long as there are callers on the line. If you wish to join the meeting late, please notify Adriane Borgias (ABOR461@ecy.wa.gov) ahead of time.