

Water Scientists Environment Engineers

Follow-up to Mass Balance Assessment based on Workshop Feedback

Dave Dilks SRRTTF Technical Work Group Meeting February 4, 2015

Follow-Up Activities Identified

- Include J-flagged PCB data
- Consider stormwater and CSO loading
- Add Greene St. segment
- Conduct sensitivity to groundwater quality assumption
- Evaluate flows at Nine Mile



Include J-Flagged PCB Data

- Workshop consensus: J-flagged data should be included in the mass balance assessment
- Update: J-flagged data have been used all along, but not *NJ*-flagged data
 - J flag: Concentration less than quantitation limit
 - NJ flag: Presumptively present at approximate quantity
- Inclusion of NJ flags will have little bearing on results



Consider Stormwater and CSO Loading

- Original mass balance assessment did not consider stormwater and CSO loading that occurred during the synoptic survey
- City of Spokane provided estimates of loads
 - Measured CSO flows
 - MS4 flows extrapolated from Cochrane basin flows
 - PCB concentrations estimated from historical data



Stormwater and CSO Loading

Load (mg)					
	8/12	8/13	8/20	8/22	
CSO					
Greene St. to Spokane Gage	42.4		18.4	187.6	
Spokane Gage to Nine Mile	20.1		1.8	13.4	
Hangman Creek				2.4	
MS4					
Trent Ave. to Greene St.		1.1	1.2	1.9	
Greene St. to Spokane Gage		7.0	7.4	11.5	
Spokane Gage to Nine Mile		26.3	27.9	43.4	
Hangman Creek		1.74	1.84	2.87	



Stormwater and CSO Loading

- Over 14 day synoptic period, CSO and stormwater contribute less than 10% of observed river loads
 - Incremental load calculation affected by at most 19%
- Doesn't explain elevated PCB concentration observed at Spokane gage

- Partial explanation, at most



Stormwater and CSO Effect on Elevated Concentrations at Spokane Gage?



- 8/16 data point not associated with CSO or stormwater
- 8/22 data point can't be explained by daily average load

Addition of Greene St. Segment

- Groundwater model results provided by Spokane County allowed the Trent to Spokane Gage reach to be divided into two reaches
 - Do results signify another unknown load?

River Reach	Unknown Load (mg/day)		
	W/o Greene St.	W/ Greene St.	
Coeur d'Alene to Post Falls	-	-	
Post Falls to Barker Road	1.3	1.3	
Barker Road to Trent Avenue	166	166	
Trent Avenue to Greene St.		-110	
Greene St. to Spokane Gage	-	104	
Spokane Gage to Nine Mile	-	-	



Sensitivity to Groundwater Quality Assumption

 Mass balance assessment assumed that groundwater lost from an upstream reach reentered in the next downstream reach at the same concentration at which it left





Sensitivity to Groundwater Quality Assumption

- Sensitivity analysis conducted assuming that lost groundwater is permanently lost, and replaced by clean groundwater
 - Range of results from the two methods should bound the true answer





Best Estimate of Unknown Loads





Evaluate Flows at Nine Mile

- Questions were raised at the workshop regarding the accuracy of the flows assumed at Nine Mile
 - Reported flows lower than expected
 - Higher flows could explain calculated negative incremental load in last reach
- Avista has been contacted to confirm (or update) assumed flows



Conclusions

- J-flagged data had been included all along
- Consideration of stormwater and CSO loads doesn't affect conclusions
- Addition of Greene St. reach poses a question

 Additional "unknown" source, or artifact?
- Results aren't overly sensitive to assumptions regarding groundwater flow

