

SRRTTF Technical Track Work Group

DRAFT Meeting Notes

February 4, 2015 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

4601 North Monroe Street | Spokane WA, 99205-1295

Attendees

BiJay Adams, Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District
John Beacham, City of Post Falls
Adriane Borgias, Dep't of Ecology (Ecology)
Ben Brattebo, Spokane County
Lisa Brown, Ecology
Galen Buterbaugh, Lake Spokane Association
Lisa Dally-Wilson, Dally Environmental
Dave Dilks (phone), LimnoTech
Jeff Donovan, City of Spokane
Mike Hermanson, Spokane County
Kris Holm, City of Coeur d'Alene
Paul Klatt (phone), JUB Engineers

Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper
Bud Leber, Kaiser Aluminum
Martha Maggi, Ecology
Brandee Era-Miller (phone), Ecology
Dave Moss, Spokane County
Dale Norton, Ecology
Chris Page (video), Ruckelshaus Center
Sand Phillips, Spokane Regional Health District
Lori Rodriguez, Ecology
Ken Windram, Hayden Area Regional Water and Sewer Board
Kara Whitman, Ruckelshaus Center

Introductions and Agenda Review

After a round of introductions, the group reviewed the agenda. No changes were made.

Review takeaways and action items from workshop

Lisa Dally Wilson gave an overview of the activities needed to complete the synoptic sampling assessment and report and potential actions for the next phase of work. The group discussed the following actions, identified prior to the meeting:

- **Flows at SR-1 (9 mile Falls), SR-9 (Green Acres), and Green Street:** To improve mass balance assessment, LimnoTech needs to check flows at SR1 using Avista flow data for Nine Mile Falls and get estimates of SR-9 flows. Mike Hermanson has sent Dave Dilks the Green Street Flows. Q: Does the Task Force want to move forward and synthesize flows or use USGS model flows?
- **Engage Hydrogeologist to review groundwater recharge and discharge implications for synoptic sampling:** Adriane Borgias explained that Ecology has expertise in this area LimnoTech can draw upon for completing the Mass Balance assessment and future work, as needed.
- **Determine blank correction protocol and strive for consistency among Task Force members who collect data:** Consistency is needed, however the blank correction method depends on the nature of the study in question, how the data will be used, and the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). Ecology is working towards consistency with permittee data, including 3x blank correction. However, blank correction for permittees is not consistent across State lines; Idaho dischargers do not blank correct as part of their permit. This brings into question the need to think through data management of all types of data: how it is collected, stored and accessed.
- **Assess loss of PCB mass via evaporation:** Dave Dilks has redone the mass balance calculations, including loss from evaporation. Calculations showed a little bit of loss, however it was not significant. Volatilization of PCBs and loss of water mass from evaporation were both incorporated.
- **J-flagged data:** Dave Dilks explained that J-flagged data was included in total PCB in the mass balance assessment.
- **Investigate the lower than assumed concentrations of PCB in stormwater from City of Spokane.**

The group discussed assumptions for calculating the PCB load from City of Spokane stormwater. Q: what method was used to extrapolate flow? Dale Norton has been discussing this with Lynn Schmidt. There appears to be a number of inconsistencies on how stormwater calculations are being done. The concentrations are similar; however, it depends on the basins and drainage area size used in the calculations. The estimate could be revised down. There is a need for a consistent way of looking at stormwater loads.

- **Sampling and Analysis: seasonal, wet weather, flows at Green Street and the Lake CDA outlet, sediment sampling, and Barker to Trent source identification:** The group discussed when seasonal sampling should occur. Runoff may be too small for wet weather sampling at this time, based on historical data. Flows are high in some locations, but not all. Dave Dilks explained that the Task Force may be running out of time to do a wet weather sampling event this year and that they would not likely see concentrations above the blank value. The group proposed that this work be postponed until the proper conditions for sampling occur. This is a deviation from the QAPP. The Task Force will need to modify the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) to incorporate the future work.
- **Relationship between dissolved and particulate phase:** The group agreed this should be moved to the next phase of work. Adriane Borgias asserted that if the Task Force wants to find a surrogate that could be measured cheaper than PCBs, it will depend on whether a surrogate measure would be appropriate to answer a particular question.
- **Data Mining:** Bud Leber expressed the need for a data summary page for each sample location in the synoptic survey. The group discussed the potential for Positive Matrix Factorization (PMF) using the existing data. The Task Force has 60 to 70 data points. PMF could provide a location to location profile of the river that may help to identify sources. It is not clear if is this enough data to do a PMF analysis. The Task Force needs to follow up with Lisa Rodenburg on potential for PMF and its cost.

ACTION ITEM: Dave Dilks to revise list of activities needed to complete the mass balance assessment and the next phase scope of work for the February 2015 Task Force meeting. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: Dale Norton to follow up with Dave Dilks about the stormwater load from City of Spokane. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: Dave Dilks and Mike Hermanson to discuss flow extrapolation from City of Spokane stormwater data and report back to Bud Leber. (COMPLETE)

ACTION ITEM: TTWG to follow up with Lisa Rodenburg on data needed to do Positive Matrix Factorization and fingerprinting and cost to complete.

ACTION ITEM: Bud Leber to follow up with Dave Dilks on location data summary pages for synoptic survey final report.

Existing and Proposed EAP Projects

Brandee Era-Miller and Martha Maggi of (Ecology) discussed existing Environmental Assessment Projects (EAP) including:

- Lake Spokane PCBs in Carp.
- Long Term Monitoring Station at the Spokane Tribe border (below Lake Spokane Dam). This study will look at PCB congeners, PBDES, metals, and high-volume sampling methods for PCB congeners including contamination from the sampler components. They will monitor three times a year. The station will be established in May for spring high flow sampling. Dale Norton will work with Adriane Borgias to understand what the Task Force needs. Ecology will get the station going and integrate other work activities.
- Atmospheric Deposition literature review. Regional, State-wide study (not specific to the Spokane River). This is set for May-June of 2015.

- Projects proposed for 2015-2016 EAP. Dale explained the EAP process. Projects will be finalized by April-May for the fiscal year that starts in July. Proposed projects include:
 - Aerial deposition of PCBs in Spokane Area.
 - PCBs in products.
 - Little Spokane Hatchery Study
- March Maggi: Groundwater Review Project (progress report)
 - Looking at potential contaminated sites for the mass balance work from Ecology's confirmed and suspected contaminated sites
 - Well supply wells and legacy contribution
 - UIC Wells

ACTION ITEM: Task Force members to look through the summary report provided by Martha and provide questions and feedback.

Presentation: Technical Expert Next Phase Scope of Work

Dave Dilks gave a presentation on the scope of the next phase of the technical work. This work is proposed to include Data mining and analytical confidence testing prior to working on a plan for wet weather sampling, which will most likely occur in November. Questions remain about what the wet weather sampling will look for and how the sampling will be completed effectively (when there are hundreds of places where stormwater enters the River).

ACTION ITEM: Martha Maggi and Dale Norton to follow up with Dave Dilks and prepare a “high-level” memo on the contaminated sites for an upcoming Task Force meeting.

ACTION ITEM: The Technical Track Work Group to discuss Data management workshop at the next Technical Work Group Meeting.

The next full Task Force meeting is February 25, 2015 from 9:00am-12:30pm at the Liberty Lake Water & Sewer District | 22510 E Mission Ave, Liberty Lake, WA 99019

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