# Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force

 Quarterly Report (7/01/12 – 9/30/12)

**Project Staff:** Kelsey Gray, Facilitator; Aubri Denevan, Project Coordinator; Michael Kern, Strategic Advisor; Cheryl Rajcich, Budget Manager

**Project Purpose:** The Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (SRRTTF) is a collaborative group of governmental agencies, private industries, and environmental organizations attempting an innovative approach to the reduction of PCBs within the Spokane River.

**Q1 Meeting Schedule:**



**Project highlights:**

* **Meetings:** Project facilitator, Kelsey Gray has created meeting agendas and facilitated eight meetings, including two Task Force meetings, three Technical Track Work Group and three Administrative Work Group meetings. Meeting notices, agendas and materials, and summaries were drafted and distributed for each meeting by Aubri Denevan.
* **Between Meeting Facilitation:** As needed, Kelsey has meet with and discussed Task Force issues with members of the Task Force to ensure that meetings run smoothly and address important issues.
* **Website Management:** Aubri Denevan managed and updated the web page on behalf of the Task Force for the eight meetings facilitated by the Ruckelshaus Center. This included posting meeting announcements, materials and supporting documents, and meeting summaries.
* **General Assessment:** Kelsey completed a general assessment of the project by interviewing 25 of the Task Force’s voting members, advisory members, and other community stakeholders, include the two tribes located on the Spokane River. She presented her findings at the August 22nd Task Force meeting.
* **August 22:** SRRTTF approves the Articles of Incorporation and draft By-Laws for an administrative Business Entity.
* The **Task Force worked with the Environmental Council of States (ECOS) to pass a resolution** to the EPA encouraging it to move forward with rulemaking to revise the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), and encouraged EPA to further limit the concentration of inadvertently generated PCBs in products.

**Center Staff will continue to work with Task Force members and Work Groups in support of their project activities:**

* The Task Force and two work groups will continue to meet on a monthly basis.
* The Task Force is in the process of finalizing and filing its Articles of Incorporation with the State of Washington. It is also finalizing its bylaws.
* The Task Force will be posting an RFQ for a Technical Consultant to provide unbiased scientific and technical assistance, work plan development and implementation, and assistance with technical and educational communications to the Task Force and general public. The Task Force’s goal is to have the consultant hired by February 2013.
* The Task Force is currently drafting a work plan and timeline with milestones, with the intention that the soon-to-be-hired Technical Consultant will fill in the details.
* The Task Force is in the process of developing a fact sheet, letterhead, and tag line for public distribution explaining the goals and objectives of this project.
* Ecology is working with the Task Force to create a framework for Ecology’s long-term Toxics Monitoring Program. Sampling for FY13 will begin this fall.

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