# Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force

 Quarterly Report (10/01/12 – 12/31/12)

**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.

**Q2 Meeting Schedule:**



**Project highlights:**

* **Meetings:** Project facilitator, Kelsey Gray has created meeting agendas and facilitated eight meetings, including three Task Force meetings, one quorum conference call, two Technical Track Work Group, one Administrative Work Group, and one Funding 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.
* **Communications:** The Task Force created a logo, tagline, and letterhead for future marketing and communication uses. They also created and adopted a fact sheet to be used for general information and fund raising purposes.
* **October 24:** The SRRTTF adopted the first draft of the [Work Plan](http://srrttf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/SRRTTF-Work-Plan-First-Draft-Adopted-10-24-12-CLEAN.pdf).
* **October 31:** The SRRTTF issued an [RFP](http://srrttf.org/?p=1085) for a Technical Consultant. Kelsey coordinated the interview and initial hiring process through December. The contracting has been turned over to ACE.
* **November 28**: The SRRTTF prepares draft [Funding Concepts](http://srrttf.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/Funding-concepts-Rev-112812-.pdf) intended to help the Task Force coordinate and support consistent and predictable funding needed to accomplish the actions that will result in toxics reductions for the Spokane River. A representative from Senator Cantwell’s office attends the SRRTTF meeting and offers support to the Funding Work Group.
* **November 30:** The contract between WSU/Ruckelshaus Center and the WA Department of Ecology was finalized and signed.
* **December 19:** The Task Force chose to hire Limno Tech as their Technical Consultant.
* The **Task Force sent letters to NACWA TSCA and WEF TSCA** requesting them to endorse 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.
* The **Task Force sent a letter to Governor Gregoire** expressing their support for the Department of Ecology budget for the Spokane River toxics work and the SRRTTF.

**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.
* 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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