Database Management Work Group call summary
March 14, 2019

Attendees:

Mike Hermanson – Spokane County
Dave Dilks – LimnoTech
Karl Rains, Brandee Era-Miller, Jim Ross – Ecology
Joel Breems – Avista
Mike Anderson – City of Coeur d'Alene
Ken Windram – Hayden Area Regional Sewer Board
Ben Floyd – White Bluffs Consulting
Jeff Donovan – City of Spokane

The purpose of the conference call was to discuss the following action item given to the workgroup at the full SRRTTF meeting on 2/27/19:

Database Management work group: Come up with specific criteria for accepting data in the database and share this criteria with the TF. It could also be put in front of the user's guide. Spokane County staff will work with the work group on this.

Discussion Summary:

Ben provided context to the action item. During the discussion of the database at the 2/27/19 SRRTTF meeting it was discussed that some data may not be appropriate to be included in the database, such as the C.L.A.M. data collected by Ecology at the Spokane Tribal Boundary. This led to the question of what criteria is used to determine which data sets will be put into the database. On the call today Mike H. reminded the group that the C.L.A.M. data from the tribal boundary had some issues of contamination from the housing of the C.L.A.M. device, and generally speaking data would not usually be excluded from the database. It was noted that a more important consideration is the prioritization of datasets to be entered.

The group discussed developing a prioritized list of data sets for preparation and loading into the database. Identification of datasets is a part of the data synthesis work to be done this spring and the workshop could provide a good opportunity to identify a prioritized list. The list would serve as the baseline prioritization, but could be changed as circumstances dictate, e.g. a new need is identified that requires a different data set than is prioritized next. The group decided this was a good approach.

The group also discussed the need to document the quality of the data entered into the database. Mike H. provided a summary of the fields used in the EIM database to document quality. The group agreed adding a data field to document data quality is a good idea. Mike H. said that once budget is allocated for database maintenance he will work with CDM Smith to add it to the database using the EIM data fields as a guide.

Mike H. reported that the 2018 synoptic data and the GE groundwater has been loaded into the database and the updated database is available for download. County staff are currently working on uploading the 2012 fish tissue data so that database functionality related to fish tissue can be tested.