

**Spokane River Regional Toxics Task Force (SRRTTF)**  
**Draft 2021 Legislative Proposal for Monsanto Settlement Agreement**

**Background**

Washington State reached a settlement with Monsanto in June 2020 for more than \$95 million. Approximately \$60 million of this funding has been deposited in the State General Fund.

Recently members of the SRRTTF have been meeting with State Legislators. They have cautioned that these are tighter budgeting times with COVID and also that they continue to have requirements for meeting State Constitution-mandates for funding education. However, from these meetings we have been encouraged to develop a proposal they can consider for action in the 2021 Legislative Session.

This draft proposal has been reviewed and supported by Rob Lindsay, Doug Krapas, Tom Agnew, Mike Peterson and Melissa Gombosky.

**Draft Proposal Outline**

**Timeframe:** 10 years

**Purpose:** Dedicated funding to finding and reducing PCBs in the Spokane Basin

**How Much:** \$20 million for 10-year period for Task Force projects and activities.

**For What:** Control measures that make measurable progress in reducing PCBs, along with monitoring, investigations, iPCB reduction strategies, and education and outreach (locally and nationally). *(NOTE: Ultimately, we will need to get more specific with what this entails – projects and actions with costs, including additional investigations, such as looking into older residential areas for example? And then actions to implement findings. Please share your ideas.)*

**Codification:** One way to provide long-term funding is to support a bill that would codify the Task Force for at least 10 years. This bill could include a sunset clause with opportunity to extend beyond the initial 10-year period. Bill would tie to the requested funding timeframe.

**Next Steps**

If the Task Force supports moving forward with the proposal, then a next step would be to craft a bill that would incorporate the proposal elements. This draft bill would be shared with the Task Force for approval of the final language at the January meeting. If action is needed earlier than this then an additional special Task Force meeting would be scheduled. The legislative session begins on January 11.

In parallel, a more detailed 10-year work plan to support the request would also be formulated for consideration by the Task Force in early 2021.