SRRTTF - Tech Track Work Group
April 18, 2023 Meeting Summary

Meeting Materials– Posted under TTWG Meeting materials on TF website
see PDFs of presentations: IntroSynoptic, Groundwater, GEgwBiofilmPVA

ACTION ITEMS IN RED below

Attendees

Brandee Era-Miller, WA Dept of Ecology
Dave Dilks, LimnoTech
Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental
Jeff Donovan, City of Spokane
Gunnar Johnson, USEPA
Sandy Treccani, WA Dept of Ecology
Mike Anderson, City of Coeur d'Alene
Vikki Barthels
Lara Floyd, White Bluffs
Annie Simpson, WA Dept of Ecology
Kris Holm
Doug Austin, Chesapeake Bay Program
Holly Davies, WDOH
Tyson Schlect, City of Spokane
Caitlin Lulay, LimnoTech
Doug Krapas, Inland Empire Paper
Noemi Barabas, LimnoTech
Joyce Dunkan, LimnoTech
Gary Jones
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County

Summary Notes

Next Meeting: 2 Meetings in May. May 16th, possibly 3 hours, Doodle poll for second meeting

Summary of Active Projects and Status – see ppt

The following is a summary of the status of each LimnoTech scope. Many of the projects are on hold awaiting receipt of laboratory data.

- Groundwater flow direction study
  - Nearing completion.
- Expanded synoptic survey (plus catch basins and artesian well)
  - Monitoring completed, received ~75% of lab results,
  - Mass balance conducted using available data.
- Sediment/biofilm
  - Monitoring completed, waiting on lab results.
- Long term water column trend assessment
  - Low & moderate flow monitoring completed, no lab results.
  - QAPP for high flow monitoring approved by Ecology.
- Fish tissue trend assessment
  - Sampling Completed by WDFW, waiting on lab results
- GE fingerprinting
  - Waiting on 2022 lab results
  - Preliminary fingerprinting conducted using 2018 data

Receipt of Laboratory Data

The workgroup discussed the laboratory delays and resulting issues. There will be very little review time for draft reports once data are received. LimnoTech cannot conduct an EIM review for Ecology's EIM data base until validation of lab results are received from SGS-Axys. No validation packages have been received to date. This may or may not be able to happen prior to June 30, 2023. LimnoTech has given SGS-AXYS an ultimatum that everything must be received by April 30th.

The TTWG agreed that no invoices would be paid to SGS-AXYS until all data and validation packages are received from the lab. SGS-AXYS currently has ~192K in contracted work. Annie Simpson stated that Ecology would lead any reviews that need to occur after June 30. What happens if some delivarables aren't able to make the June 30 deadline. Where will the funding come from? Discussion around this question. Ecology contract will not reimburse post June 30th delivarables. Could Ecology authorize payments after June 30th? Annie Simpson will research and report back. Rob Lindsay will talk with Dave Dilks about specific data reports and how overdue they are, then call SGS-AXYS. Annie Simpson will talk with Ecology contracting to determine whether Ecology can authorize payments on deliverables after June 30th, and when will next round of Biennial Funding be available.

2022 Expanded Synoptic Survey (see ppt)

- Artesian Well Results
  - Likely land drainage, near basalt interface, verifying 2021 results that PCB concentration in drainage in an order of magnitude higher than ambient river concentrations
- Mass Balance on Total PCBs
  - 2022 mass balance, congener specific, new reaches, finer level of detail. Effective for identifying larger loads (eg., Kaiser), not effective for smaller loads
  - Homolog- Specific Analysis can help to assess outliers, and tell us if outliers are real or not
  - Losing lower chlorinated homologs as water passes through Upriver Dam. Possibly volatilization?
  - Gaining higher weight homologs below UpRiver Dam. Somewhere between UpRiver Dam and Green Street. Note from Brandee to check homolog pattern of seep from Urban Waters Project.

Fingerprinting of GE Well PCB data

- Preliminary Fingerprinting Results using ONLY 2018 data. Waiting for 2022 data. Water Column and biofilm fingerprinting near GE site via Polytropic Vector Analysis (PVA).
- Congener Mass Balance. GE fingerprint is A1260. GE impact is discerbable downstream from GE in both biofilm and water column. Will see if this is true for 2020 when lab data are received.

- Distribute ppt to TTWG and discuss further at next regular TTWG meeting.
- Questions: Significant finding, MTC Cleanup is finished. This is causing/contributing to exceedance of WQS. What next? Can use PVA with other lines of evidence to re-open site. What is total load from GE groundwater relative to load in the river?

Groundwater Flow Direction Assessment

Joyce Dunkan from LimnoTech reviewed the results of the the Groundwater flow direction assessment. They are still trying to resolve the data logger information from Hamilton Street and have reached out to Avista, but not heard back. Lisa Dally Wilson will reach out to Avista to assess the results from Hamilton Street data logger (river stage) and dam operations during that time.

Note to add 'artesian well' to the map for the report.