

**SRRTTF - Tech Track Work Group  
May 5, 2023 Meeting Summary**

**Meeting Materials**– Posted under TTWG Meeting materials on TF website – see ppt presentation

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  
Ken Windram, HARSB  
Sandy Treccani, WA Dept of Ecology  
Jeremy Schmidt, WA Dept of Ecology  
Chris Moan, Avista  
Mike Anderson, City of Coeur d’Alene  
Marcie Clement, Avista  
Annie Simpson, WA Dept of Ecology  
Cheryl Niemi, WA Dept of Ecology  
Robert Mott  
Gary Jones

Tom Agnew, LLSWD  
Chuck Lee, WDFW  
Caitlin Lulay, LimnoTech  
Shannon Nardi, WA Dept of Ecology  
Jakub Bednarek, WA Dept of Ecology  
Emerson Christie, WDOH  
James Tupper  
Kati Carberry, USEPA  
Ben Brattebo, Spokane County  
Alyssa Gersdorf, City of Post Falls  
Dimitrios Athanasiou, Exponent  
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County

**Summary Notes**

**NEXT TTWG MEETING – Tuesday May 16<sup>th</sup> : 9:30 am – 12:30 pm PDT**

LimnoTech provided a summary of active projects and status (see table on next page). Receipt of laboratory data is indicated in the table below. To date, SGS-AXYS has not provided any validation data for samples collected in 2022.

Caitlin Lulay of LimnoTech presented the preliminary results of the fish tissue trend assessment data from fish tissue collected in October of 2022. The ppt presentation is included in meeting materials. Concentrations of PCBs in 1 year old rainbow trout were largely the same as in 2020 with the exception that there was one higher concentration composite found in 2022 in Reach 5 (Water to Meenach) and one higher concentration composite found in 2020 in Reach 4 (Mission to Upriver Dam). No statistical difference between 2020 and 2022 was found in any reach. Comparison was made to Ecology rainbow trout samples (fillets not whole fish) from 2005 and

2012 and it was found that the concentrations appear to be lower in 2022. Overall findings include:

- Fish tissue PCB concentrations in 2022 were very similar to those observed in 2020. -- Concentrations remain lower than those observed in 2005 and 2012
- Spatial distribution shows two distinct tiers
  - Lower concentrations at Spokane Valley and Upriver
  - Higher concentrations in Mission Reach and downstream
- Fish in Mission Reach no longer significantly more contaminated than other downstream reaches
  - Legacy source gradually diminishing over time?

Jakub Bednarek and Shannon Nardi from Ecology will be conducting the 2023 PCB fish tissue study in the Spokane River. They will not be sampling rainbow trout, but Mountain White fish, Suckers and Pike Minnow. There was discussion regarding the comparability of the 2005 and 2012 rainbow trout data and the 2020 and 2022 data given differences in fish age and fillet vs. whole fish and the origin being hatchery or native rainbow. A suggestion was made to compare homologs in Reach 4 and 5.

#### PROJECT STATUS

Project	Status
Groundwater flow direction study	Trying to reconcile the difference in water level at Hamilton St. between County data and Avista records.
Expanded synoptic survey (plus catch basins and artesian well)	Awaiting single data point to complete mass balance. Catch basin and artesian well analysis is complete.
Sediment/biofilm	Results processed, beginning geostatistical analysis.
Long term water column trend assessment	No SPMD results yet from lab.
Fish tissue trend assessment	Data assessed. Will be presented for discussion today.
GE fingerprinting	Preliminary fingerprinting conducted using 2018 data. Currently being updated with 2022 data.

