Spokane River

Collaborative Problem Solving at the Community Level
How Did We Get Here?
On-going PCB reductions of known sources: catch basin cleaning, street sweeping, treatment facility upgrades, community education, etc.
An Alternative Approach

1. Watershed plan is used to implement a completed TMDL
   - Identify water quality problem
   - Develop TMDL
   - Develop and implement watershed plan
   - Conduct monitoring
   - Meet water quality standards

2. Watershed plan is developed in the absence of a completed TMDL. If a TMDL is completed, the plan is modified to make it consistent with the TMDL.
   - Identify water quality problem
   - Develop TMDL
   - Develop and implement watershed plan
   - Conduct monitoring
   - Meet water quality standards

3. Watershed plan is developed in the absence of a completed TMDL. If monitoring indicates WQS attainment, there is no need for a TMDL.
   - Identify water quality problem
   - Develop TMDL
   - Develop and implement watershed plan
   - Conduct monitoring
   - Meet water quality standards
How Do We Know it is Working?

1. Resources/Inputs
2. Activities
3. Outputs
4. Outcomes
5. Impact

Your Planned Work

Your Intended Results
The WQS Goal

WAC 173-201A-240
Introduced toxic substances shall not adversely impact water uses . . . or public health.

Numeric criteria from the NTR:
• Washington = 170 ppq
• Spokane Tribe = 1.34 ppq

Fish Tissue Equivalent Concentration

Fish Consumption Advisories
EPA Benchmarks

2016: Complete the Comprehensive Plan

2020: Instream PCB concentration ≤ 200 pg/L

2024: Instream PCB concentration ≤ 170 pg/L

2027:

• Applicable water quality standards for PCBs are met

• Spokane River and adjacent segments are no longer included on Washington’s 303(d) list of impaired waters.
The Moving Pieces

- Treatment
- Share Information
- Eliminate new sources
- Consumer choice
- Education
- Model movement
- Identify Sources
- Understand the Watershed
- Remove Legacy spills
- Best Management Practices
- Cross Media Actions
- Regulation
- Toxics Reduction Plans
- Permits
- Manage Discharges
- Green Chemistry
- Research

The diagram illustrates various components and processes for managing environmental issues, such as pollution and water quality. Each cog represents a different aspect, such as treatment, information sharing, and reduction plans, which are interconnected to demonstrate a comprehensive approach to environmental management.
Solutions at the Watershed Level

"that area of land, a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of a community."

John Wesley Powell