Accountability

**Measurable Progress** reflects the success of the SRRTTF towards reducing PCBs in the Spokane River and towards achieving applicable WQ criteria for PCBs.
Definition Review

**Measurable Progress** evaluates the status of three key metrics

**Inputs**: organizing activities

**Outputs**: activities and work products

**Outcomes**: progress toward achievement of the applicable WQ criteria for PCBs in the Spokane River

- Achievement of the applicable WQ standards
- Achievement of health standards
- Measured reductions of toxics to or in the Spokane River
Content of the Review

• Use **existing data** from SRRTTF, permittees, and other members of the SRRTTF

• Examples
  – SRRTTF minutes, attendance sheets, points of decision, etc.
  – SRRTTF work plans, status reports, outreach activities, etc.
  – Toxics Management Plan activities/actions, analytical data, etc.
  – Other studies/data completed under an approved QAPP
Assessment

Three fundamental criteria

1) Is the SRRTTF *still working together* in a collaborative manner?

2) Is the SRRTTF *still moving forward* on activities that will lead to:
   - Identification of sources of PCBs
   - Reduction of PCBs in the river (water column and/or fish tissue)
   - Development and implementation of BMPs

3) Is there *environmental evidence* that progress is being made towards achieving applicable WQ criteria for PCBs in the Spokane River?
Demonstration of Measurable Progress

The following conditions, **when accompanied by defensible data**, will be considered a demonstration of measurable progress:

- Compliance with applicable WQ standards for PCBs
- Evidence that the SRRTTF is functioning in a collaborative manner and continuing to engage in activities that will lead to the reduction of PCBs in the river
- Development and **implementation** of a comprehensive Spokane River toxics reduction plan
- Actions that eliminate, remove, or isolate PCBs from the river or watershed
- Environmental trends showing a decrease of PCBs in the river, sediments, or biota
Preliminary Results

Fundamental criteria

1) Is the SRRTTF still working together in a collaborative manner?

Short Answer: Yes...

• Hundreds of meetings decisions and actions.
• Steady and significant increase in funding

But...

• Membership/Participation ↑↓
• Unable to Revise the MOA
Fundamental criteria

2) Progress on activities?

Short Answer: Most certainly

- Completed Comprehensive Plan!!
- Implemented BMPs within discharger operations/service areas
- Conducted numerous studies to address data gaps and identify sources
- Held workshops and funded outreach to educate community
- Completed upgrades achieving > 98% PCB removal efficiency
Fundamental criteria

3) Is there environmental evidence that progress is being made towards achieving applicable WQ criteria for PCBs in the Spokane River?

Short Answer: Yes

• Central Tendency of total PCB concentrations < 170 ppq
• WWTP modifications decrease release of PCBs to the river
  – Installation of NLT
  – CSO storage facilities completed by the City of Spokane
• EPA Time-Critical Removal Action at former Kaiser Smelter Site
Preliminary Conclusions

The SRRTTF made measurable progress towards meeting applicable WQS!!

• Inputs
  – Held regular meetings and largely worked collaboratively
  – Secured funding for the work ($2M this biennium)

• Outputs
  – Conducted Studies and produced reports
  – Increased regional understanding of toxics in the Spokane River through workshops (4) & funding education and outreach initiatives

• Outcomes
  – Developed state of the art procedures & refined analytical protocols for low level analysis
  – Installed best available treatment technology
Next Steps

July 2022 – Ecology will distribute a final draft Evaluation of Measurable Progress for SRRTTF review

August 2022 – Discuss/Q&A at SRRTTF monthly meeting

September 2022 – Ecology will issue the Final report