

Greetings Spokane River TMDL Collaboration Participants:

As Co-Chairs of the Spokane River TMDL Collaboration, we would like to thank you for your continued interest and participation in the Collaboration process. It has been several months since the Full Group last convened and we'd like to give you an update on Collaboration activities as we head towards a final Full Group meeting on Wednesday, July 12.

Many of you have been doing good work since January to further the Collaboration's goals of developing a path forward towards an agreement on a draft Managed Implementation Plan for the Spokane River TMDL. The Department of Ecology has conducted several rounds of consultations with various dischargers and stakeholders in the Collaboration, resulting in refinements to the Fundamental Concepts document. After its latest round of consultations on June 13-15, Ecology has now made a determination as to the path forward for the draft MIP, to be presented at our July 12 Full Group meeting.

It is our intent that this Fundamental Concepts document attached to this email and posted to the Collaboration website will serve as an Agreement in Principle between the dischargers and Ecology. At the July 12 meeting, Full Group representatives will be able to speak to their ability to support the details of this document. After July 12, Ecology and the dischargers will make a determination of how they will move forward with gaining approval from the various entities who will sign the Agreement in Principle, which will then direct the next steps for establishing a series of legally-enforceable actions, such as the issuance of NPDES permits, or other agreements with Ecology, as appropriate. At the July 12 Meeting, we will also be discussing how other entities can show the support that they have for the path forward laid-out in the document.

Again, we thank you for your continued participation in the Spokane River TMDL Collaboration and look forward to seeing you at our anticipated final meeting of this group on July 12th.

Best Regards,

Commissioner Todd Mielke  
Spokane County

Mr. Dave Peeler  
Water Quality Program Manager, WA Department of Ecology