

STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Wednesday, July 20, 2011 9:00 AM – 12:05 PM
Tacoma Central Treatment Plant Visitor Center
2201 Portland Avenue, Tacoma

Draft Summary

OF THE MEETING'S KEY DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS

ATTENDEES:

Work Group Members and Alternates, and the Organizations or Groups and Caucuses they Represent:

Neil Aaland (AWC and WSAC), Local Governments; **Mark Biever** (Thurston Co.), Local Governments; **Shayne Cothorn** (WDNR), State Agencies; **Jay Davis** (USFWS), Federal Agencies; **Dana de Leon** (Tacoma), Local Governments; **Dick Gersib** (WSDOT), State Agencies; **Heather Kibbey** (Everett), Local Governments; **Adam Lorio** (Samish Indian Nation), Tribes; **Dino Marshalonis** (USEPA), Federal Agencies; **Mel Oleson** (Boeing), Business Groups; **Kit Paulsen** (Bellevue), Local Governments; **Tony Paulson** (USGS), Federal Agencies; **Jim Simmonds** (King Co.), Local Governments and the Work Group's Chair; **Heather Trim** (People For Puget Sound), Environmental Groups; **Bruce Wulkan** (Puget Sound Partnership), State Agencies.

Others in attendance: **Maggie Dutch**, Ecology EAP; **Kevin Buckley**, Seattle; **Mindy Fohn**, Kitsap Co; **Chris Konrad**, USGS; **Jennifer Lanksbury**, WDFW; **Brandi Lubliner**, Ecology EAP; **Joy Michaud**, Herrera; **Mike Milne**, Brown and Caldwell; **Jim West**, WDFW; **Barb Wood**, Thurston Co.

Work Group Staff: **Karen Dinicola** (Ecology), Project Manager.

A call-in phone line was also provided for interested parties to hear the discussion.

AGENDA ITEM NOT DISCUSSED

We revised our agenda and began our meeting with the technical presentations. Unfortunately, we ran out of time before discussing the comments the SWG received from 3 entities on the Draft Pooled Resources Oversight Committee Charter. This topic will be discussed at the next meeting on September 21.

NEW FINDINGS INFORM STATUS & TRENDS MONITORING RECOMMENDATIONS

PowerPoint slides for all three presentations the work group heard today are posted with the meeting agenda at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/mtgsummaries.html>

Small Streams: Chris Konrad of USGS presented initial findings of the stream gauging network analysis for the Puget Sound Basin. His work will inform future selection of streamflow monitoring sites as part of the status and trends effort to provide the most cost-effective combination of spatial coverage and spatial and temporal resolution: the coverage can be increased with modeling, and the resolution with monitoring. The findings will be published in December. Chris asked the group to provide input on the most meaningful types of gauges to present in the report. Work group members suggested active gages and, as a subset, those with at least 10 years of record.

The Small Streams Status and Trends Oversight Subgroup will next meet after the QAPP has been revised.

Marine Nearshore: Maggie Dutch of Ecology's Environmental Assessment Program presented initial findings of an analysis of PSAMP sediment chemistry data in nearshore areas inside and outside the UGA. Over 400 sites were sampled. There are significant differences in contaminant concentrations inside and outside UGAs. Maggie also analyzed samples according to PSAMP's geographic categories: Urban/Harbor vs. Passage/Rural/Basin. There are also significant differences in contaminant concentrations these two groupings. Few data have been collected in the 0-2m MLLW portion of the nearshore; Maggie suggests the stormwater sampling (1) focus on this area of the nearshore and (2) also include the other components of the sediment triad index: benthos and toxicity. Maggie shared a brief summary of King County's data (included as an appendix to this meeting summary).

Maggie also referred work group members to a published EMAP study of intertidal sediment data that can be found at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0703051.html>.

Jim West and Jennifer Lanksbury of the Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife presented initial findings of their mussel sampling feasibility investigation. Sufficient mussel populations appear to be available for sampling in urban areas. A power analysis shows that EPA's recommendation of 50 sites to characterize strata may only be applicable to certain parameters or for categories of sampling locations with less variability. Jim recommends that the SWG consider selecting sites on a gradient of urbanized conditions within the urban area and analyzing a first sampling round to inform future sampling design.

Shayne Cothorn and Jim Simmonds will join the Marine Nearshore Status and Trends Oversight subgroup. Recommendations need to be delivered to Ecology by the end of August to be included in the next draft permit.

RANKED LIST OF EFFECTIVENESS STUDY TOPICS NEARS COMPLETION

The SWG Effectiveness Study Selection Subgroup presented a draft ranked list of effectiveness study topics and proposed that their next step be to improve the wording of the questions/hypotheses for consistency and clarity. The work group members generally accepted the list of topics and asked that the subgroup edit the list of questions and hypotheses to reword each as a question along the lines of "How well does the practice work?" or "How can we improve the practice?" Work group members also requested that the subgroup include additional questions under each of the "catch all" categories that were rolled up.

Mike Milne reported that the literature review has found about 350 directly relevant studies, but appears to be missing conference proceedings and early publications.

The subgroup will cross-walk the ranked list of study topics with the findings of the literature review. Heather Kibbey volunteered to lead this subgroup.

EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION: NO SWG REPORTER UNTIL SEPTEMBER

Work group members decided not to send an SWG Reporter this month. At our September 21 meeting we will discuss key messages to include. The Communication Subgroup will meet to plan outreach to elected officials during the public comment period on the formal draft permit beginning in October.

PUGET SOUND PARTNERSHIP ACTION AGENDA DEVELOPMENT WILL CONTINUE ALL OF THIS YEAR

Bruce Wulkan asked SWG members to stay engaged in development of the Action Agenda. The next workshops will be in early September. The current draft includes placeholders for our monitoring recommendations.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The work group's upcoming meetings and expected discussion topics are:

- No work group meeting is scheduled during the month of August.
- Wednesday, September 21, 2011 from 9am-noon in the Orcas Room at the Rhodes Center in Tacoma: (1) discuss the effectiveness literature review document and approve a ranked list of effectiveness study topics to forward to Ecology; (2) discuss comments received on the draft Oversight Committee charter; (3) hear about water quality index monitoring; (4) hear new recommendations from our status and trends oversight subgroups; and (5) determine messages and timing for next SWG Reporter.
- Wednesday October 19, 2011 from 9am-noon in the Orcas Room at the Rhodes Center in Tacoma: (1) approve a revised draft Oversight Committee charter for another round of public comment; (2) discuss the work of the agricultural runoff subgroup; (3) discuss Ecology's budget and what is known about the level of support and funding available for the SWG; (4) provide direction to the work plan subgroup to produce the next annual update of our work plan.

APPENDIX

Kim Stark emailed additional information on intertidal monitoring to the SWG Nearshore Status and Trends Oversight Subgroup’s July 13, 2011 meeting participants. This is a partial, quick summary of King County data.

1. Intertidal sediment summary for selected parameters (all parameters are in dry weight). Note the average for mercury and 4-methylphenol were calculated with detected values only.

	Copper	Zinc	Mercury	Total HPAHs	4-Methylphenol	Fines
	mg/Kg	mg/Kg	mg/Kg	µg/Kg	µg/Kg	%
Minimum	3.02	14.8	<MDL	0	<MDL	0
Maximum	17.1	43.0	0.0359	2,000	615	14
Average	7.81	25.5	0.0156	107	232	2.8
Median	7.08	24.6	<MDL	<MDL	<MDL	2.5
Std Dev	2.58	5.1	0.0096	292	62.1	1.9
No. of samples	94	94	94	85	99	140
Freq. of detection	100%	100%	24%	46%	3%	94%

2. Figure showing metal concentrations in relation to % fines

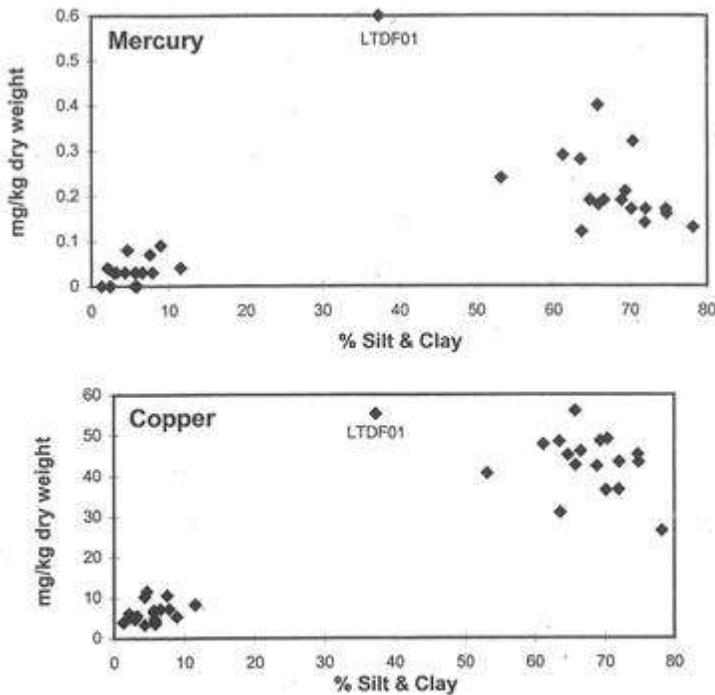


Figure 5-24. Mercury and Copper Concentrations