

A PUGET SOUND COORDINATED MONITORING PROGRAM
TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 2 April 2008 9:30 AM – Noon
University of Washington Tacoma
The Tacoma Room (GWP Room 320)

Final Summary

OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE TAC AND THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED: Paul Bucich, City of Federal Way; Chris Burke, City of Tacoma; Bob Cusimano, Washington State Department of Ecology; Dana de Leon, Tacoma; Karen Dinicola, Ecology; Leska Fore, Statistical Design; Dick Gersib, Washington State Department of Transportation; Gary Gill, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL); Kris Holm, Business Groups, including Boeing; Heather Kibbey, Pierce County; Julie Lowe, Ecology; Doug Navetski, King County; Daniel Nidzgorski, Jefferson County; Kit Paulsen, City of Bellevue; Andy Rheume, City of Seattle; Jim Simmonds, King County; Richard Tveten, Department of Transportation; Bruce Wulkan, Puget Sound Partnership; and the facilitator, Jim Reid.

COMMITTEES REACH AGREEMENT TO RECOMMEND FIVE PILOT PROJECTS TO ECOLOGY

The goal of this joint meeting of representatives of the Technical Advisory and Governance Committees was to reach agreement on “pilot projects” to recommend to the Department of Ecology (ECY).

They agreed to recommend five projects to the Department, including:

- Development of Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) for Stormwater;
- Intercalibration Study;
- Steam Benthos Gap Analysis, Coordination, and Data Management;
- Scientific Study Design to Test Effectiveness of Stormwater Management; and
- In-Line Ditch Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices Program.

The other two projects the group considered were not recommended because their inclusion would have resulted in the recommended package exceeding by too great an amount the \$400,000 that Ecology has allocated for this initial round of pilot projects. The group concluded that the two projects, Understanding Stormwater Suspended Particulate Matter Sampling Techniques and a Stormwater Toxicity Study, are worthwhile, and will recommend that we who are involved in this coordinated monitoring and assessment program work together to procure funding for them.

CRITERIA UPON WHICH THE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE BASED

Before discussing and agreeing on the recommended pilot projects, the group reached consensus on using the following criteria to evaluate the merits of each proposed project:

- Helps achieve goals and objectives of other programs and initiatives, such as, for example, the Puget Sound Partnership’s Action Agenda monitoring plan.
- Helps make the process by which local governments must address water quality mandates and meet NPDES stormwater permit requirements more effective, cost-efficient, and collaborative.
- Tests working relationships and demonstrates how effective regional coordination of monitoring can be structured and can function by involving a large number or broad representation of the parties, including rural jurisdictions, who are involved in the Puget Sound Coordinated Monitoring Consortium.
- Strengthens the credibility of the science, making it more useful to policy-makers managers.
- Has broader implications and greater value than the “face value” of what is proposed.
- Success is likely.
- Fits within the \$400,000 that Ecology is prepared to use to fund the pilots, and could attract financial support of federal and local jurisdictions.

THE METHOD BY WHICH THE GROUP REACHED CONSENSUS

Following agreement on the criteria, the group briefly reviewed the seven proposed pilot projects, and then agreed to try to reach consensus by allowing each person to assign up to ten “stars” (points) to the projects. According to the ground rules they agreed on, the participants could use all ten points for one project or distribute them among as many projects as they pleased.

The result of the initial tally for indicating preferences was:

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| ▪ Scientific Study Design to Test Effectiveness of Stormwater Management: | 42 |
| ▪ Development of Standardized Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) for Stormwater: | 30 |
| ▪ Steam Benthos Gap Analysis, Coordination, and Data Management: | 28 |
| ▪ In-Line Ditch Stormwater Treatment Best Management Practices Program: | 21 |
| ▪ Intercalibration Study: | 19 |
| ▪ Understanding Stormwater Suspended Particulate Matter Sampling Techniques: | 16 |
| ▪ Stormwater Toxicity Study | 15 |

Upon seeing the results of the initial tally, the group quickly reached consensus to recommend to Ecology and the Governance Committee the five that received the most support, and that because they have merit, the last two should be implemented if funding can be procured.

NEXT STEPS TO FOLLOW-UP OUR AGREEMENTS

These are the next steps the group agreed on to advance their recommendations:

1. Karen Dinicola will ask Ecology's financial assistance staff to provide a template or "boiler plate language" for a scope of work for each of the five recommended projects and send it to the principal authors of each proposal.
2. The principal author of each proposal will be responsible for completing the scope of work according to the outline/template. The principal author may, of course, involve her/his team that helped develop the original pilot project proposal, and, for that matter, anyone else she/he thinks may be interested in assisting.

Whether or not there is a template or "boiler plate language" available, the teams need to add to the current project proposals the following: a) a detailed budget; b) a schedule of work to be completed by 30 June 2009, including milestones for periodically reporting progress to the TAC; and c) project deliverables, including interim ones to be achieved late in 2008 so that they can be included in a report to the legislature.

3. As part of developing the scope of work, the teams will solidify the costs of the projects to attempt to reduce the overall amount of the package from \$413,000 to \$400,000.
4. Jim Reid will draft a letter for the group to send to Melodie Selby of Ecology and the Governance Committee recommending the five proposed projects.
5. Karen and the other members of the Governance Committee who attended this meeting will present the recommendations to the Governance Committee at its next meeting on 9 April.

NEXT MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Technical Advisory Committee's next meeting is May 7th. Scott Redman of the Puget Sound Partnership will attend so that he and the Committee members can discuss the development of the Partnership's Action Agenda and monitoring plan.

The meeting will be from 9 a.m. – noon at the Tacoma Nature Center.

The third hour of the meeting will be devoted to discussing the scope of work for the Stormwater/NPDES pilot project.