



STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Wednesday, January 13, 2016, from 9:10 am to 12:05 pm
USGS, 934 Broadway, Tacoma WA, 98402

Draft Summary

OF THE MEETING'S KEY DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS

a list of acronyms is provided at the end of the document

ATTENDEES:

Work Group members and alternates present, and the organizations and caucuses they represent:

Cami Apfelbeck (Bainbridge Island), Local Governments, and the Work Group's Chair; **Jess Archer** (ECY EAP), State Agencies; **Abby Barnes** (WDNR), State Agencies, and the Work Group's Vice Chair; **Mike Grady** (NOAA), Federal Agencies; **Dana de Leon** (Tacoma), Local Governments; **Leska Fore** (PSP), State Agencies; **Chris Konrad** (USGS), Federal Agencies; **Mark Palmer** (Puyallup), Local Governments; **Ben Parrish** (Covington), Local Governments; **Kit Paulsen** (Bellevue), Local Governments; **Jim Simmonds** (King Co), Local Governments; **Carla Vincent** (Pierce Co), Local Governments.

Others in attendance: **Derek Barry** (Sumner), **Doug Beryl** (Sumner), **Jenee Colton** (King Co), **Paul Fend** (Parametrix), **Angela Gallardo** (Newcastle), **Jeremy Graham** (Olympia), **Brian Hartvingson** (Mercer Island), **Todd Hunsdorfer** (King Co), **Mark Lund** (Mercer Island), **Sarah Norberg** (Tacoma), **Greg Vigoren** (Lakewood).

Work Group staff: **Karen Dinicola** (ECY WQP), SWG Lead Staff; **Brandi Lubliner** (ECY WQP), RSMP Coordinator.

CHANGES TO WORK GROUP REPRESENTATION

Mike Grady joined the table as a new federal agency representative. Angela Gallardo, though not officially a local government representative, has volunteered to keep other small local government staff stay apprised of our work.

WORK HEARS INITIAL FINDINGS OF IDDE DATA COMPILATION AND ANALYSIS PROJECT

Greg Vigoren reported on this effort. A consultant compiled the IDDE reporting data submitted with permittees' annual reports and produced a summary report. This meta data provides an interim step to creating a database and analyzing the information to identify patterns and common types of incidents. The SWG SIDIR Subgroup met in December to discuss the report and recommended that the project continue with Ecology's help populating the database.

The final report will be posted as "D7.4" at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/source.html>. Permittees' reports were in multiple formats including using the online form, writing narrative descriptions, and submitting screen shots of database output. More than one quarter of the incidents were reported by Tacoma and about one eighth by Bellevue, so there will need to be some bias correction in the data analysis. Permittees are interpreting the language differently.

Work group members discussed the genesis of this effort and where we are in the process. In 2010 the SWG identified "Source Identification and Diagnostic Monitoring" as a key component of SWAMPPS and unanimously recommended that it be included in the permit-funded RSMP. At that time, permittees with more developed IDDE programs wanted to have a way to help smaller, connected MS4s successfully implement their IDDE programs. Other stakeholders wanted to know what the most common problems were, to see if/how the region can help permittees address those issues. In 2012 the effort was defined as having two separate but related components: an analysis of the results and findings of permittees' source control and IDDE programs, and means to improve effectiveness of the methods and approaches used in these programs. The work to date has been on the first component with an aim to inform the second.

IDDE effectiveness studies are not included in this round of the RSMP because SIDIR was intended to identify those and leverage other grants to do the studies, develop methods, and share information.

WORK GROUP UPDATED ON RSMP COORDINATION, IMPLEMENTATION, AND OVERSIGHT

The PRO-Committee last met October 15 and will next meet January 26. Brandi Lubliner reported on RSMP projects and contracting. RSMP deliverables are posted at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/municipal/rsmp/rsmp.html>

Small streams status and trends: The laboratory analyzed all of the stream sediment samples for PBDEs (flame retardants) which were identified by the SWG as an optional parameter. There is sufficient contingency budget to cover these costs. King Co submitted a contract scope of work for the analysis of the overall stream data set, and USGS, Ecology EAP, and PSP are working on theirs.

Marine nearshore mussel monitoring status and trends: WDFW and volunteers will collect 73 mussel cages at the 40 RSMP and 33 other sites (including Pierce County's 8 opt-out monitoring sites) around Puget Sound next month.

Marine nearshore sediment status and trends: The PRO-C will discuss the proposed USGS-led budget and scope of work coordinating with WDNR, King County, and Manchester Environmental Laboratory. Sampling will occur this summer at many of the same sites as the mussel work, but not all of the sites meet the criteria for both monitoring efforts.

Marine nearshore bacteria: The WDOH Beach lead staff contacted 50-60 individuals to get data for the analysis.

Effectiveness studies: The PRO-C is reviewing scopes of work for the fungi and rain garden studies. The catch basin study SOW is nearly ready for PRO-C review. The PCB study will be conducted using data collected leveraging the fungi field work effort. The solicitation for the next round of studies will go out after all of these contracts are in signature process, hopefully before the March 16 SWG meeting. This might be the lead story in the next SWG Reporter.

RSMP oversight and budget reporting: The quarterly report for October through December will be done later this month. The RSMP annual report for 2015 should be ready in March.

RSMP administrator review: The PRO-C is compiling a report card based on the roles and responsibilities articulated in the SWG-approved charter. The PRO-C is also charged with reviewing their own performance, and especially tasked with assessing the performance of the permittee-majority composition in making decisions. The PRO-C will also discuss what percentage increase is appropriate to cover Ecology's administrative costs in the next permit cycle.

WORK GROUP CAUCUSES DISCUSS IDEAS FOR FUTURE NPDES MUNICIPAL STORMWATER PERMIT MONITORING

At our last three meetings we have discussed how this collective stakeholder group will deliver recommendations for possible improvements to the permit structure for implementing the RSMP. The RSMP is implemented via Special Condition S8 Monitoring and Assessment of the municipal stormwater NPDES permits: S8.B is status and trends, S8.C is effectiveness studies, and S8.D is SIDIR. The SWG's caucuses were asked to continue to develop ideas for recommendations for the entire SWG stakeholder group to endorse and deliver to Ecology.

In preparation for today's discussion, the SWG's local, state, and federal caucuses each articulated their ideas for recommendations for other work group members' reference. Our lead staff used these summaries and past meeting notes to compile a draft set of overall stakeholder recommendations that highlights areas where further work group discussion is needed. The notes taken on this draft document during today's discussion and projected on-screen during the meeting will be posted at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/mtgsummaries.html> with this meeting summary.

Each of the local, state, and federal caucuses will meet again between SWG meetings from today until June 1. The SWG will continue to discuss this topic at the next meeting March 16 and will vote on the final set of recommendations at the meeting on June 1. Karen was assigned the task of using today's notes to develop a next draft set of recommendations (including context) for caucuses to discuss at their meetings to be held between today and March 16.

Work group members also asked Karen to post individual jurisdiction letters sent to Ecology on the webpage.

WORK PLAN NOT DISCUSSED

The SWG has a biennial work plan that we update annually. A final draft 2016-2017 work plan incorporating input from work group members and our subgroups was scheduled to be finalized and approved at today's meeting. Work group members are asked to let Karen know about any concerns or suggested edits in advance of the March 16, 2016 meeting so that we can approve the work plan at the beginning of the meeting as the first business item.

STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGIONAL STORMWATER MONITORING NOT DISCUSSED

The SWG federal and state caucuses gathered information on agency expenditures toward the RSMP and other relevant monitoring efforts to share at today's meeting. The local government caucus also has other relevant monitoring beyond the RSMP to include in future discussions of the SWAMPSS strategy.

TOPICS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT SWG REPORTER

The last “SWG Reporter” went out in December. These brief updates on the RSMP and other SWG efforts are posted at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/psmonitoring/reporter.html>. Although this was not discussed at today’s meeting, the next issue will go out before our next meeting. Topics to be included are:

- Soliciting proposals for new RSMP Effectiveness Studies,
- Four new effectiveness studies started,
- Mussels retrieved, processed, and at laboratories for chemical analysis,
- Marine nearshore sediment sampling happening this summer,
- IDDE database development underway,
- Developing recommendations for next permit S8 requirements, and
- First RSMP annual report due out in late January.

FUTURE MEETING DATES AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

At all of our meetings, we will:

- Hear feedback from the RSMP Coordinator and PRO-Committee on RSMP implementation,
- Hear from our subgroups about the status of implementing our current work plan,
- Hear from the PSEMP Steering Committee and other PSEMP workgroups, and
- Determine messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter issue.

At our next meeting on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the USGS Office in Tacoma, we will also:

- Approve updates to our work plan, and
- Continue to discuss recommendations for permit condition S8 Monitoring and Assessment, and
- Provide feedback on a draft implementation plan for agricultural runoff monitoring.

The meeting schedule for the remainder of 2016 is: June 1, September 14, and November 9.

ACRONYMS USED IN THIS MEETING SUMMARY:

ECY EAP – Washington Dept. of Ecology’s Environmental Assessment Program

ECY WQP – Washington Dept. of Ecology’s Water Quality Program

IDDE – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

NOAA – National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

PCBs – Polychlorinated biphenyls

PRO-C or PRO-Committee – Pooled Resources Oversight Committee

PSEMP – Puget Sound Ecosystem Monitoring Program

PSP – Puget Sound Partnership

QAPP – Quality Assurance Project Plan

RSMP – Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program

SIDIR – Source Identification Information Repository

SWAMPPS – Stormwater Assessment and Monitoring Program for Puget Sound

SWG – Stormwater Work Group

USGS – U.S. Geological Survey

WDFW – Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

WDNR – Washington Dept. of Natural Resources

WSDOT – Washington Dept. of Transportation