

STORMWATER WORK GROUP

Wednesday, September 18, 2013 9:10 AM – 12:10 PM
USGS, 934 Broadway, Tacoma WA, 98402

Revised Draft Summary

OF THE MEETING'S KEY DISCUSSIONS, DECISIONS AND AGREEMENTS

See the last page for a list of acronyms

ATTENDEES:

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

Cami Apfelbeck (Bainbridge Island), Local Governments; **Abby Barnes** (WDNR), State Agencies; **Fred Bergdolt** (WSDOT), State Agencies; **Mark Biever** (Thurston Co), Local Governments; **Bob Cusimano** (Ecology), State Agencies; **Jay Davis** (USFWS), Federal Agencies; **Dick Gersib** (WSDOT), State Agencies; **Heather Kibbey** (Everett), Local Governments; **Katelyn Kinn** (Puget Soundkeeper Alliance), Environmental Groups; **Kit Paulsen** (Bellevue), Local Governments; **Tom Putnam** (Puget Soundkeeper Alliance), Environmental Groups and the Work Group's Vice Chair; **Jim Simmonds** (King Co), Local Governments and the Work Group's Chair; **Heather Trim** (Futurewise), Environmental Groups; **Bruce Wulkan** (Puget Sound Partnership), State Agencies.

Others in attendance: **Jennifer Adams** (Shoreline); **Melva Hill** (Bainbridge Island); **Art Jenkins** (Spokane Valley); **Foroozan Labib** (Ecology); **Brandi Lubliner** (Ecology); **Curtis Nickerson** (CardnoTEC); **Brian Penttila** (PPRC); **Larry Schaffner** (WSDOT); **Bill Taylor** (Taylor Aquatic Science and Policy).

Work Group Staff: **Karen Dinicola** (Ecology)

WORK GROUP APPROVES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ROADS AND HIGHWAYS MONITORING AND FOR WSDOT PERMIT MONITORING REQUIREMENTS

At our last meeting we discussed a preliminary set of recommendations for stormwater monitoring related to runoff from roads and highways; we gave the Roads and Highways Subgroup (RHS) feedback on the proposal and the subgroup worked to develop a more complete package of recommendations. Notes from today's work group discussion of the RHS briefing document are included as an attachment to this meeting summary. With some modifications, the work group accepted recommendations #1-9 and #14. The work group did not accept recommendations #10 or #15. The work group did not discuss recommendations #12 and #13. The work group did not accept the subgroup's proposed WSDOT municipal stormwater permit language in recommendation #11, but the work group did make some recommendations for the draft WSDOT permit to be released for public comment in early November.

By consensus agreement (all present in favor), work group members approved the following recommendations for an overarching strategy for monitoring stormwater runoff from roads and highways:

1. It is important to conduct the following types of studies related to transportation systems. An updated literature review should inform study designs.
 - a. Effectiveness studies:
 - i. Evaluate stormwater treatment performance of modified vegetated filter strips.
 - ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of roadside ditch water quality enhancements for pollutant removal from rural roads.
 - iii. Evaluate the water quality treatment benefits of porous asphalt on road shoulders, rest stops, park and rides, and ferry terminals, and the optimization of its performance through operations and maintenance.

- iv. Evaluate the use of compost-amended biofiltration swales to reduce pollutant concentrations at road maintenance yards.
 - v. Evaluate stormwater best management practice (BMP) performance in ultra-urban settings.
- b. Source identification, diagnostic, and source control studies:
- i. Identify and characterize stormwater pollutant hotspots in roads and highways.
 - ii. Test for the levels of polychlorinated biphenyl compounds (PCBs) in motor oils and fuels.
2. It is important to consider the attached list of parameters in designing studies related to runoff from roads and highways. This list will be added to our framework and strategy for the Stormwater Assessment and Monitoring Program for Puget Sound (SWAMPPS).
 3. A statewide workshop focused on monitoring and research related to runoff from roads and highways should be convened annually. To the greatest extent possible, the workshops should be coordinated with other stormwater monitoring topics of interest.

By consensus agreement (all present in favor with 1 abstention), work group members approved the following recommendation for monitoring requirements in the next WSDOT permit:

4. As part of the requirements of the next permit WSDOT should continue and complete current permit-required studies, and apply findings to their stormwater management program. The Stormwater Work Group would like to participate in the process of identifying future permit-required studies.

By majority agreement (1 dissenting vote and 1 abstention), work group members approved the following recommendation for monitoring requirements in the next WSDOT permit:

5. WSDOT should participate in Status and Trends monitoring in Puget Sound as part of the Regional Stormwater Monitoring Program (RSMP).

The Ecology representative abstained from voting on the last two recommendations for WSDOT permit monitoring requirements. The WSDOT representative cast the lone dissenting vote for the last recommendation. WSDOT representatives expressed concern that participation in RSMP status and trends monitoring would stretch their resources too thin and not provide their agency with actionable information or findings that are meaningful for carrying out or improving their stormwater management program.

Chair Jim Simmonds will draft a letter to Ecology and the Puget Sound Partnership conveying these recommendations and reflecting our agreements. Prior to sending the letter to Ecology, Jim will send a draft to work group members for a brief review and comment.

AGENDA ITEMS NOT DISCUSSED

The entire meeting time was devoted to discussion and voting on the roads and highways monitoring recommendations. We did not discuss convening the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee, updates to our work plan, the draft PSEMP document about stormwater indicators, or communication. Those topics, plus an additional requested agenda item, were tabled for our November meeting. We will need to expand our meeting hours for that discussion and appreciate work group members' and other interested parties' flexibility and understanding.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED DISCUSSION TOPICS

Wednesday, November 13, 2013 from 9am to 2pm at the USGS Office in Tacoma, possible working lunch:

- Discuss agricultural runoff effectiveness study recommendations
- Discuss membership and plans to convene the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee

- Review approved list of effectiveness studies and discuss plans for a workshop to develop pre-proposals
- Discuss monitoring requirements in draft WSDOT municipal stormwater permit
- Hear initial findings of Puget Sound mussel survey and recommend whether the RSMP should sample caged or wild mussels
- Hear about bacteria indicators research project
- Prepare for January discussion of RSMP budget
- Hear status of implementing our 2013-2014 work plan and discuss updates for a 2014-2015 work plan
- Determine messages and timing for next SWG Reporter
- Hear from PSEMP Steering Committee and other workgroups

No further meetings are scheduled in 2013. Proposed meeting dates for 2014:

- Wednesday, January 15 from 9am to noon at the USGS Office in Tacoma
 - Hear from Ecology about permittees' collective decisions to participate in the RSMP or conduct their own monitoring and discuss:
 - the final RSMP budget
 - any needs to adjust sampling plans in accordance with the final budget
 - contracting plans for each RSMP component
 - Finalize and approve our work plan for 2014-2015
- Wednesday, March 19
- Wednesday, June 11
- Wednesday, September 17
- Wednesday, November 12

All meetings dates are subject to extended hours as needed. Decisions to extend meeting hours will be made at least one month in advance of the meeting date.