



Draft Agenda

Wednesday, January 14, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

USGS, 934 Broadway, Tacoma 98402

directions are on the last page of this agenda

THE MEETING'S GOALS:

1. Discuss recommendations and scope of work for writing the streams data analysis QAPP addendum
2. Hear from the Toxics Workgroup about monitoring CECs in Puget Sound
3. Discuss recommendations for next steps for SIDIR
4. Hear from the Pooled Resources Oversight Committee about RSMP implementation
5. Hear from our staff and subgroups about the status of implementing our work plan
6. Decide on messages and timing for the next issue of the SWG Reporter
7. Approve updates to our biennial work plan
8. Nominate candidates for Chair and Vice Chair for two year terms beginning in March 2015
9. Hear about other issues/topics related to our work

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9:00 Welcome, introductions, and review the meeting's agenda and goals

9:05 Discuss recommendations and Scope of Work for RSMP Streams QAPP Addendum

- *At our last meeting, we discussed recommendations from the Freshwater Work Group to guide analysis of the RSMP stream data that will be collected beginning this month. We tasked a new subcommittee to use the recommendations as the basis to write a necessary addendum to the QAPP for the data collection. The QAPP addendum will guide the data analysis, interpretation and reporting by detailing approaches and methods for answering the priority questions.*
- *The RSMP Streams QAPP Addendum committee met December 9 and yesterday. They developed a framework for the scope of work of a contract to get the addendum written. Today we will discuss the approach they propose and confirm that the addendum is focused on detailing approaches to answer our most important questions.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? What direction can work group members provide to the PRO-Committee in order to get the contracting underway?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

10:00 Learn about prioritization of monitoring Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs) in Puget Sound

- *For the past couple of years the PSEMP Toxics Workgroup has been working on a process and recommendations for prioritizing CEC monitoring in Puget Sound. The objective is to develop a process to identify a priority set of CECs and biological endpoints for future Puget Sound monitoring programs, with a focus on marine and freshwater systems. Their approach includes: integration of CEC science and technology advancements into key monitoring decisions; maintaining programmatic transparency; and engaging stakeholders and end users throughout the prioritization process.*
- *Andy James, staff to the Toxics Workgroup, will provide an update to our work group and summarize the findings in their current white paper.*
- *Do work group members have any questions or comments? How can we better define and understand our work groups' respective roles and overlap?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

10:30 Break



10:45 Recommendations for moving forward with SIDIR

- *The Source Identification Information Repository (SIDIR) Subgroup met on December 3. They discussed what the Work Plan subgroup had proposed for work plan updates, and suggested some changes and details to make the “sprint” workshop in late spring 2015 a success. Their key recommendations for moving SIDIR forward are:*
 - *Encourage permittees via the SWG Reporter to submit data electronically.*
 - *Recognize that the on-line form is redundant. The form should not be updated until after the workshop.*
 - *The RSMP should have someone already on board to analyze the permittees’ data when it comes in at the end of March. The data should be compiled and analyzed by an objective third party consultant overseen by a local government. This analysis should be used to help design the workshop.*
 - *Do a Survey Monkey in April 2015 asking permittees: what are your biggest 1-3 IDDE problems? Notify permittees in February-March that survey is coming so they are thinking about where they focus their IDDE efforts as they prepare their annual reports to Ecology. Survey results will inform the workshop.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? Do work group members wish to provide further direction to the SIDIR subgroup? Can we include these recommendations in our work plan update?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:00 RSMP implementation briefing by the PRO-Committee Vice Chair and RSMP Coordinator

- *The PRO-Committee last met October 29. Since then ten agreements have been finalized or are in signature routing by RSMP implementers and Ecology. Four are for effectiveness studies and the rest are for stream monitoring and lab work.*
- *Scopes of work for the next two effectiveness studies are being finalized. The PRO-Committee will review these prior to Ecology routing those agreements for signature. One question that has come up is whether some local jurisdictions should be paid for providing data/records that are required by the permits to be maintained.*
- *Based on today’s discussion, an agreement for writing the RSMP Streams QAPP Addendum will be processed as soon as possible.*
- *Do work group members have any questions? Do work group members wish to provide further direction to the PRO-Committee and RSMP Coordinator?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:15 Work plan implementation – updates from our advisory subgroups and other committees

- *Our subgroups continue to make progress toward achieving the goals established in our 2014-2015 work plan. What information or updates do subgroups have to share today?*
 - *Agricultural Runoff: this subgroup is expected to meet again soon with new staff.*
 - *Communication: the most recent issue of the SWG Reporter went out on October 20. Possible topics for the next issue, anticipated for release in the next week, include:*
 - *Stream monitoring begins this month; contracts finalized under guidance of PRO-Committee*
 - *SWG encourages permittees to submit SIDIR data in electronic format*
 - *Two more RSMP effectiveness studies will be underway soon*
 - *Next RSMP quarterly report due out at the end of January*
 - *Invitation to join our subgroups*
 - *Effectiveness: discussed in a previous agenda item.*
 - *Marine Nearshore Status and Trends: Ecology and WDFW are developing the scope of work for the mussel monitoring contract. The QAPP should be finalized this spring for site confirmation to take place in June. The PRO-Committee will confirm the final number of sites (40) based on budget considerations and prior recommendations from this work group.*
 - *Pooled Resources Oversight Committee: discussed in a previous agenda item.*
 - *Roads and Highways: this subgroup is inactive.*
 - *Small Streams Status and Trends: discussed in a previous agenda item.*
 - *Source Identification Information Repository (SIDIR): discussed in a previous agenda item.*
 - *Work Plan: discussed in the next agenda item.*
- *Do work group members wish to provide additional direction for our subgroups?*



- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:25 Approve updates to our Biennial Work Plan for 2015-2016

- *The work group discussed updates to our work plan at our last meeting. Input from the work group members, Work Plan Subgroup, and other subgroups was included in a final draft updated two-year work plan for 2015-2016. The document was sent as an attachment to this agenda.*
- *Do work group members approve these updates to our work plan for 2015-2016?*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:40 Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair

- *Our Chair and Vice Chair serve two-year terms. Jim Simmonds has been our one and only chair since the work group started. Tom Putnam has been our vice chair since about mid-way through our work to date. Today we will accept nominations for new work group members to fill their shoes. The selection and confirmation of our new Chair and Vice Chair will take place at our next meeting.*

11:50 PSEMP coordination and other updates related to our work

- *Since our last meeting the PSEMP Steering Committee met Tuesday, December 9, and yesterday.*
- *What decisions have been made by the Steering Committee, or will be made at future meetings, on which the work group might want to provide input?*
- *What are the other topical workgroups discussing and what are our related plans, needs and interests?*
- *The Lower Columbia Habitat Status and Trends Monitoring program's final design workshop will be held in Longview on Thursday, January 29. The draft final report was released January 12 for review and comment through February 6. Work group members are invited to participate and submit comments. Following this project is another Centennial-funded project to finish the QAPP and make recommendations for monitoring requirements for the permittees located in the Lower Columbia River Basin.*
- *Are there any comments from non-work group members?*

11:55 Recap of today's meeting and hear other updates or announcements

- *Summarize decisions, action items, and next steps from today's meeting*
- *Are there other activities, decisions, or upcoming events of which work group members should be aware?*

12:00 Adjourn

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 from 9am to 12pm at the USGS Office in Tacoma, with possible extended hours as needed.

Expected agenda topics include:

- *Selection of chair and vice chair for March 2015-February 2017*
- *Hear plans to move forward with the agricultural runoff monitoring strategy*
- *Hear updates on implementation of RSMP effectiveness studies and small streams monitoring*
- *Hear from the Salmon Recovery Monitoring Workgroup about Chinook indicator selection*
- *Hear from our subgroups about progress on implementing our 2014-2015 work plan*
- *Decide on messages and timing for the next SWG Reporter*
- *Hear other updates related to our work*

The remaining meeting dates for 2015 are: March 11; June 3; September 16; November 18.



DIRECTIONS TO THE USGS OFFICE IN DOWNTOWN TACOMA

A map is available at <http://wa.water.usgs.gov/directions.html>

Public transportation: Take express buses from Olympia or Seattle to the last stop at 10th and Commerce in downtown Tacoma. Walk up the ramp in the middle of the block on Commerce (to the left of the Pierce Transit bus shop and along the fountains) to Broadway Plaza and across the street to at 934 Broadway. [If your express bus drops you at the Tacoma Dome Station, take the Link train to the last stop, walk back on Commerce to 9th and up the hill to Broadway. Turn left and walk to 934 Broadway.] The entrance to the USGS office is via elevator at the end of the lobby on the right. Go to the 3rd floor and sign in with the receptionist.

Driving directions: Northbound or Southbound on I-5, take exit 133 City Center to I-705 and exit A Street. Turn left on S 11th Street and go uphill to Market Street. Turn right on Market Street. The entrance to the Rhodes Center's parking garage is on your left under the skybridge. Park on the upper floors for \$1/hour; clearly marked State vehicles park for free. Cross the skybridge to the Market Building of the Rhodes Center. Walk through the Market Building and across another skybridge to the Broadway Building. There is a bank of elevators near the atrium on the left. Take the elevator to the first floor, exit the building to Broadway, and walk a few doors to the left to 934 Broadway. The entrance to the USGS office is via elevator at the end of the lobby on the right. Go to the 3rd floor and sign in with the receptionist.