

**Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet  
TMDL Advisory Group Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 22, 2009 -- 9:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.  
Lacey Community Center, 6729 Pacific Ave. SE

**Attendees**

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**Black Hills Audubon Society**

- Sue Danver

**Ecology (ECY), Dept. of**

- Michael Bergman
- Betsy Dickes
- Chuck Hoffman
- Kim McKee
- Brad Murphy
- Mindy Roberts
- Lydia Wagner

**Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Dept. of**

- Hal Michael

**General Administration (GA), Dept. of**

- Nathaniel Jones

**Interested Citizen**

- Ali Bibow

**LOTT Alliance**

- Karla Fowler
- Laurie Pierce

**Olympia, City of**

- Laura S. Keehan

**Puget Sound Partnership**

- Duane Fagergren

**South Puget Environmental**

**Education Clearing House (SPEECH)**

- Jeff Mocniak

**Thurston Conservation District**

- Kathleen Whalen

**Thurston County Environmental  
Health**

- Sue Davis

**Tumwater, City of**

- Dan Smith

**Washington State University (WSU),  
Extension**

- Bob Simmons

**Advisory Group Representation**

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We decided to reserve two positions on the group for citizens-at-large. We recognize the citizen participants will most likely change throughout the process. Ecology will prepare a draft list of the advisory group membership for review and comment. The list can change as new people join the group or if representation changes. The group is encouraged to think about potential new members in the areas that are vacant.

**Technical Briefing**

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Mindy Roberts, Engineer, Ecology, Environmental Assessment Program, provided a briefing on the Deschutes River, Capitol Lake, and Budd Inlet Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Study. The

purpose was to show potential geographic groupings and outline key issues and considerations. (See handout of her PowerPoint presentation for more information.) Her presentation helped provide background information before we started the strategy discussion.

## Strategy Decision

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After much discussion, we decided to divide the watershed into these geographic areas:

- Budd Inlet tributaries and watersheds
- Capitol Lake and Budd Inlet
- Percival Creek/Black Lake Ditch and watershed
- Lower Deschutes River and tributaries
- Upper Deschutes River and tributaries
- Middle Deschutes River and tributaries

We have not decided in what priority we will approach this effort. It makes sense to start at the upper end of the watershed and work our way down. We still need to identify the boundaries for each area, in particular the three sections of the Deschutes River.

Questions and issues we still need to consider during this process include:

- Actions needed to meet water quality standards.
- Work limitations, regulations, and permits.
- Pollutant loadings for particular areas and parameters.
- Urban Growth Area (UGA) boundaries (lower Deschutes).
- Forest & Fish Agreement.
- Land use and management (forestry, agriculture, rural residential).
- Source identification – Work with Thurston County Environmental Health since they are already conducting, or have conducted, visual monitoring and monthly sampling in some areas.
- What future threats or challenges do we anticipate for this area? Do we include these in the implementation strategy?
- How do we change behaviors to achieve our goals?

We discussed the possibility of having other speakers come and talk about specific topics. Ideas include:

- Weyerhaeuser to tell how their work follows the Forest & Fish Agreement.
- Mark Hicks, WA Department of Ecology regarding the Forest & Fish Agreement.
- John Konovsky, Squaxin Island Tribe regarding fine sediments.
- Bob Bilby, WA Department of Fish and Wildlife regarding research on upper watershed sediments
- Thurston Conservation District about the various work they have already done in this area. (For example – sheep farm.)

**Reminder:** Our goal is to develop an implementation strategy that will result in the Deschutes watershed meeting water quality standards. The purpose of the Water Quality Improvement Report is to work with the current conditions of the watershed and identify ways to bring it into compliance. The report will establish targets and actions to result in reductions of the pollutants.

Someone suggested we have a tour of the watershed so the group would have a better appreciation for the diversity of land use and population. Ecology will work to coordinate such a tour.

### **Open Comment**

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This was the opportunity for anyone attending the meeting to offer comments, suggestions, or ask questions regarding this water cleanup plan effort. There were no open comments during this meeting.

### **Next meeting**

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It is on Thursday, June 4, from 9:00 a.m. – 12 noon, at the Tumwater Fire Department, 311 Israel Rd. SW.