

Sinclair and Dyes Inlets Fecal Coliform TMDL Meeting Notes

9/25/08

Attendees (partial list): Ecology – Lawrence, Bash; Kitsap County – Tucker; Kitsap Home Builders – Castle; Kitsap Health – Whitford, Fohn; City of Bremerton – Matel; City of Port Orchard – Archer; PSNS and SPAWAR – Beckwith, Johnston; City of Bainbridge Island – Cummings, Hill; Puget Sound Partnership Liaison (Kitsap Cty Community Development – Sara Lingafelter); Suquamish Tribe – T. Ostrom; Naval Facilities Engineering Command NW - Susanna Jefferis

Schedule

- Mike Shepherd (KITSA) urged that TMDL Wasteload and Load Allocations be developed as quickly as possible. He wanted to get information to local legislators before the next session, so they may help to secure funds for the area.
- S.Lawrence noted that she was planning to hold a public meeting for this process in June 2009.

Comments

- Question was asked about whether TMDL models for Sinclair/Dyes take into account future population growth (could be significant). Some concern that the prescriptions will be developed based on information from a specific year (2003).
- Stuart Whitford of Kitsap Health asked whether there will be an opportunity to reconcile new information (e.g., Gorst and Clear Creeks have improved via Health District programs since the original data was collected). He is concerned that prescriptions may not take into account these improvements.
- S.Lawrence noted that she would work with Kitsap Health District before finalizing “creek designations” and waste load allocations assigned to NPDES permit holders.
- A participant asked how Puget Sound Naval Shipyard will be addressed as a federal facility.
- If an entity is required to reduce pollutants by a certain percentage, is it a percentage of the model value or an actual measured value?
- S.Lawrence suggested that the County may consider applying Phase II to more rural areas of the County, in order to have a uniform way of dealing with stormwater requirements.
- Tom Ostrom (Suquamish) asked how Phase II areas change as municipalities grow. Dave Tucker (Kitsap County) noted that boundaries are based on census density data (fed/state definition of an urbanized area). Any area touching a city becomes covered. Tucker noted that Silverdale is mostly not included in the Phase II permit.
- S.Lawrence suggested that meeting attendees look at the QAPP produced by Bellingham/Whatcom County for the Lake Whatcom TMDL. Ecology is tasked with providing oversight and measurement of the QAPP.
- Dave Tucker asked how EPA might be involved in the Clear Creek drainage (naval base in this area). Also noted that Beaver Creek is affected by Navy/NOAA facilities in Manchester.

- Kitsap Health District noted that it was providing training to other jurisdictions on illicit discharge detection.
- Larry Matel (Bremerton) described Bremerton's downtown urban retrofit project, to increase infiltration. Includes biogardens, pervious parking lane, capture of street runoff.
- Art Castle (Kitsap Homebuilders Assoc) noted that there are many actions homeowners can take with retrofits – the science is “dramatic” – increasing infiltration will reduce bad stormwater, fecal coliform, wide range of pollutants.
- Mike Shepherd (KITsA)– any QAPP for the TMDL should include a range of contaminants beyond fecal coliform. We want jurisdictions to have the same standards. A new program is underway at Olympic College – training veterans to be stormwater inspectors.
- Tom Ostrom (Suquamish) – what's the difference between “Load” and “Wasteload”? How do we determine the degree of problem in each watershed (and quantify this?)
- S.Lawrence – we will have reductions needed for each creek, which will be shown in tabular form. Will include current geometric mean, % reduction needed, target number.
- Larry Matel (Bremerton) – how does this relate to the stormwater permit? S.Lawrence – TMDL gives a range, not a permit limit. TMDL called for examination of separate subbasins.
- Mike Shepherd (KITsA) – noted that a new group is forming to address Dyes Inlet.