

Spokane River TMDL Collaboration

Steering Workgroup Conference Call

February 28, 2007; 7:30am – 9:00am

Dale Arnold
Bob Beaumier
Jim Bellaty
Lloyd Brewer
Dick Denny
Rick Eichstaedt
Wayne Frost
Todd Mielke

Dave Peeler
Grant Pfeifer
Bruce Rawls

Bill Ross
Mike Sharar
John Spencer
Kate Weinberger

The Steering Workgroup met by conference call to discuss the following agenda:

1. Update from the Co-Chairs on the completion of the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Foundational Concepts
2. Description of the Oversight Committee purpose and proposed structure
3. Pace and progress to be made over the next year in completing the TMDL and implementing the Agreement
4. Purpose and anticipated outcomes of the last meeting of the Collaborative, scheduled for March 7, 2007
5. Other items germane to completing the Collaborative successfully
6. Confirmation of the agenda for the March 7 meeting of the Collaborative

1. Update from the Co-Chairs on the completion of the Memorandum of Agreement regarding the Foundational Concepts

The Steering Workgroup discussed the current status of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). The MOA is now in its final form and has been signed by Jay Manning. The Steering Workgroup decided to ask the elected officials and other signatories whose signatures are needed to participate in a signing ceremony at 11:45am at the March 7 meeting, and that those who can't should sign the MOA before the meeting. Grant Pfeifer will keep track of who needs to sign the MOA, including who can sign it at the meeting.

2. Description of the Oversight Committee purpose and proposed structure

Todd Mielke updated the Steering Workgroup on the purpose and proposed structure of the Oversight Committee. Late last summer, there was a subgroup that discussed the Oversight Committee. They identified the following three purposes: 1) to track implementation of the foundational concepts and assess progress; 2) to be directly involved in coordination of specific elements of the program, including the non-point source control program, the joint delta management issues and the river monitoring program; and 3) to report back to the public on a biennial basis. The Oversight Committee will initially be funded by contributions from the participating jurisdictions. An Executive Committee will be created to manage the affairs of the implementation committee, including developing an ongoing funding mechanism for the Oversight Committee. Grant Pfeifer and Todd Mielke will update Dave Peeler's latest version of the Oversight Committee structure proposal for distribution at the March 7 meeting.

3. Pace and progress to be made over the next year in completing the TMDL and implementing the Agreement

Dave Peeler and Grant Pfeifer updated the Steering Workgroup on the basic schedule of activities for 2007. The main areas include the completion of the TMDL within the next few months, the draft permits based on the TMDL, the issue of the technology selection protocols as outlined in the MIP document, the non-point source activities associated with the MIP, and public outreach and education. Jim Bellaty and Grant Pfeifer will work on a schedule for distribution at the March 7 meeting. Grant Pfeifer will also coordinate getting together information on monitoring. Todd Mielke will put together information on inter-local agreements.

4. Purpose and anticipated outcomes of the last meeting of the Collaborative, scheduled for March 7, 2007

The Steering Workgroup made the following decisions regarding the March 7 meeting:

- Ross & Associates will add the Spokane River Forum, a discussion of whether initial ideas of how to allocate the Ecology grant are on the right track, and monitoring issues to the March 7 agenda under item 5, "Schedule of Activities in 2007."
- Dale Arnold will check with the Fire Training Center to see if we can start the meeting at 9:00am instead of 9:30am.
- The discussion portion of the meeting will run until 11:45am. Afterwards, there will be a signing ceremony and a celebratory lunch.
- Steering Workgroup members will assemble a number of handouts for the meeting, including the MOA, the foundational concepts, the schedule of the activities in 2007, an outline of the work to be done on monitoring, and short descriptions of the Ecology grant, the Spokane River Forum, and the non-point source program. Steering Workgroup members will send finished materials to Ross & Associates.
- Ross & Associates will send an email to the Full Group with the meeting materials included as attachments, and will also post the materials on the website.

5. *Other items germane to completing the Collaborative successfully*

The Steering Workgroup agreed to the following tasks related to the March 7 meeting:

- Todd Mielke and Dave Peeler will be the “MCs” of the signing ceremony.
- Todd Mielke, Grant Pfeifer and Dave Peeler will work with the jurisdictions to get as many elected officials as possible to the signing ceremony.
- Janis Gilbert from Ecology (or Sandy Howard, if Janis is not available) will work with Marlena from the City of Spokane and Martha from the County of Spokane on a press release.

6. *Confirmation of the agenda for the March 7 meeting of the Collaborative*

Ross & Associates will revise the agenda for the March 7 meeting and send it out to the full Collaboration by the end of the week (March 2).