

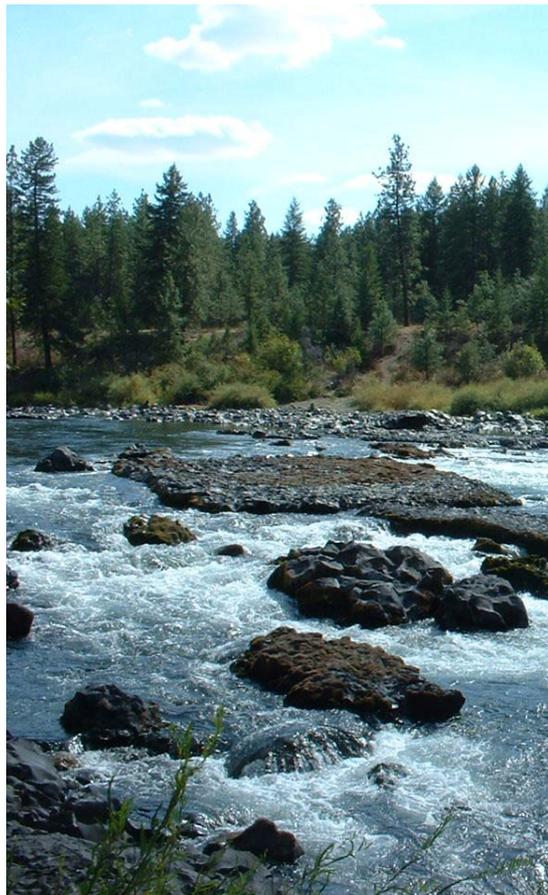


Spokane River TMDL Implementation Plan Foundational Concepts

TMDL Public Meeting

September 12, 2007

Foundational Concepts Background



- State water quality standards set a desired level of dissolved oxygen (DO)
- Draft TMDL proposes a limit on phosphorus (P) based on its relationship to DO *November 2004*
- Permit holders prepare a “UAA” that defines attainable uses and criteria for protecting uses *December 2004*
- Permit holders and Ecology agree to negotiate settlement over UAA and TMDL *February 2005*
- Agreement reached on Foundational Concepts for implementing several actions to reduce P, see how we do, and make adjustments if needed *March 2007*

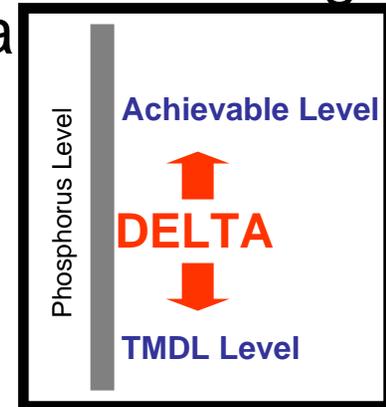
Who was in the Collaboration?

- Co-Chairs:
 - Todd Mielke, Spokane County Commissioner
 - Dave Peeler, Ecology Water Quality Director
- Members:
 - City of Spokane
 - Spokane Valley, Liberty Lake Sewer and Water
 - *Local industry:* Inland Empire Paper, Kaiser
 - *Environmental Groups:* Lands Council, Sierra Club
 - Spokane Tribe of Indians
- Participants:
 - Idaho Permit holders, Stevens County, US EPA

Getting Rid of “P”

Required Actions

- Use an open process (perhaps including pilot testing) to find a technology that aims to achieve a summer season average of 50 µg/l P from treatment plants (point sources)
- Develop a “start now” **Delta** elimination plan including other Available Actions to eliminate Delta
 - Conservation`
 - Water re-use
 - Source control
 - Non-point plan
- Ecology reviews and acts expeditiously
- Prepare an Engineering Report with refined Delta plan
- Ecology reviews and acts expeditiously



Getting Rid of “P”

Available Actions

- Re-using “Class A” reclaimed water (the new treatment standard) instead of sending it to the River
- P “source control” opportunities like limiting urban fertilizer and dishwashing detergent use
- Regional non-point source reduction program
(Aim is to **both** meet TMDL allocation for non-point source P **and** provide Delta-elimination P)
- Septic tank elimination program
- Proving a P discharge is not “bio-available”

10th Year Assessment

- Using best available data, the river's DO status is assessed
- Assess which actions have been productive and which have not
- Consider completed research on sediment oxygen demand and episodic events (summer storms), river oxygenation, etc.
- Determine if standards can be met with further action or if standards need to be modified
- Using collaborative approach, set actions for the time remaining until 2027