

LOWER PAYETTE RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP

(WAG)

USDA Service Center

1805 Highway 16, Emmett, Idaho 83617

June 17, 2010

MINUTES

Tom Hoppell called the meeting to order at 1:38PM

In Attendance:

Jo Ann Smith, Payette SWCD

Tom Hoppell, City of Emmett

Karl Siller, EID, WAG Member

Julia Achabal, DEQ

Sheryl Stelling, Gem SWCD

Rick Schultz, City of Fruitland, WAG Member

Karie Pappani, IASCD

Kirk Campbell, ISDA

Tom Pence, BAG

Joy Sisler, Gem SWCD

Mike Raymond, NRCS Payette & Weiser Field Offices

Review of Minutes: Karl Siller made a motion to accept the minutes of October 22, 2009 as presented. Rick Schultz seconded and the motion passed.

Financial Report: The WCH RC&D balance was \$725.42 no changes and Gem SWCD accounts changed all funds are exhausted. Tom Hoppell made a motion to accept the treasurer report as presented, Rick Schultz seconded that motion and the motion passed.

Big Willow TMDL Implementation Plan / Overview:

Karie Pappani gave a PowerPoint Presentation showing;

- Background - Lower Payette River and Big Willow Creek watershed.
- Goals and objectives - Plan to restore and protect beneficial uses of impair streams.
- Water Quality – Work with landowners, SCD, DEQ, and NRCS to meet TMDL targets.

Problems:

- Coldwater aquatic life -<22 degrees C

- Salmonid spawning <13 degrees C
Not supporting fish

Watershed assessment summary:

- Stream Visual Assessment Protocol (SVAP)
- Stream Erosion Condition Inventory (SECI)
- Solar Pathfinder (SP)
- 1st and 2nd order – temperature TMDL – Stream bank instability
- 3rd – temperature TMDL – Stream bank erosion and gully erosion
- 4th – temperature TMDL – Low flow conditions and dewatering
- 6th – temperature TMDL – regulated as an irrigation canal; low flow conditions and dewatering; stream channel modification.

Recommendations:

- ✓ Continue with proper livestock management
- ✓ Limit livestock access
- ✓ Improve water management
- ✓ Work towards maintaining in stream flow
- ✓ Stabilize eroding stream banks
- ✓ Riparian restoration
- ✓ Noxious weed control on rangeland

Comments:

- ❖ Run-off can be 8 inches to 8 feet of water in a 6 hour period
- ❖ Historically there has been large livestock drives
- ❖ Goals may not be obtainable in the higher reaches
- ❖ There is a need for off-site livestock watering
- ❖ Would be helpful to fence riparian zone early then graze later in the fall
- ❖ Not sure what the source of the phosphorous – need to test
- ❖ To reach results, install BMP's to retain water in major events
- ❖ 5-Year review in the Lower Payette watershed shows BMP's have approved the impairments

Rick Schultz made a motion to accept the Big Willow Creek TMDL Implementation Plan as written, with minor information corrections, Mike Raymond seconded that motion and the motion carried.

The Implementation Plan will go out to public comment for 30 days.

There being no further comments. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 PM

Minutes were transcribed by Sheryl Stelling.

The next WAG meeting will be after 30 day comment period is complete.