

Priest River Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) Meeting

April 16, 2012
Priest River Library



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Agenda

1. Introductions
2. WAG operating procedures
3. Water temperature standards
4. Priest River watershed water temperature data
 1. Integrated Report temperature listings
 1. What has a TMDL and is proposed for TMDL development
5. Future WAG meetings



Introductions

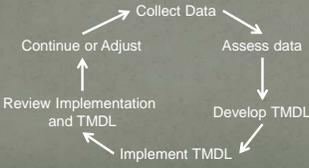
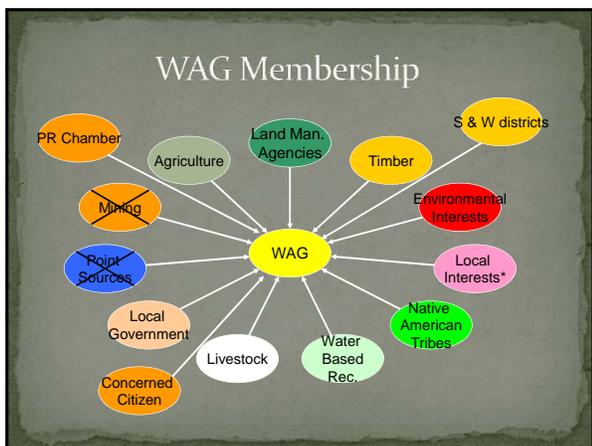
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WAG Roles and Responsibilities

- Supply water quality data
- Review beneficial uses and water quality standards
- Review documents
- Develop TMDL implementation plan

WAG Membership

Affiliation	Member
Land Management Agency	IDL/USFS
Timber	Ryan Fobes (IFG)
Environmental Interest	Mark Spengel (SCA)
Local Interest	Liz Johnson-Gebhardt (PRFCF)
Native American Tribe	Ken Merrill (Kalispell Tribe)
Water Based Recreation	Don Childress (Trout Unlimited)
Livestock	Working to fill
Local Government	Mike Nielsen (Bonner County)
Agriculture	Working to fill
Sewer and Water Districts	Contacted
Priest River Chamber	Contacted
Concerned Citizen	?

WAG Operating Procedures

- Informal meeting format and open to public
- Operate on consensus
- When consensus can't be reached a vote will be taken
 - 50% quorum of voting members needed
 - Votes can be cast by proxy
 - One vote per affiliation
- Recommended changes
 - No proxy vote

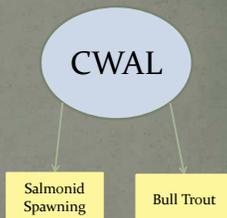
Water Temperature Standards

- Developed for the protection of macroinvertebrates and fish, cold water aquatic life/salmonid spawning BUs



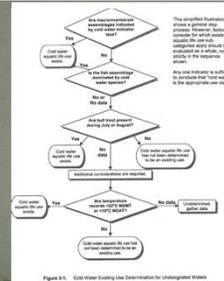
Use Determination

- First must determine appropriate beneficial use designation
- Designated waters
 - Lower Priest River - CWAL
 - Priest Lake - SS
 - The Thorofare - SS
 - Upper Priest Lake - SS
 - Upper Priest River - SS
- Existing use
 - November 28, 1975



Undesignated use determination

CWAL



Salmonid Spawning

- Summertime presence of juvenile salmonid < 100 mm in 1st through 4th order streams

Bull Trout Watershed

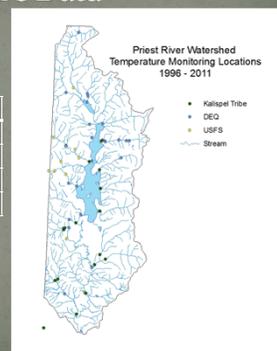
- Idaho bull trout plan
- EPA watershed

Water Temperature Standards

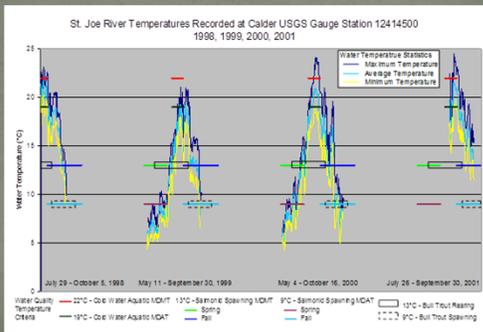
- Cold water aquatic life (bugs)
 - 22°C (71.6°F) MDMT
 - 19°C (66.2°F) MDAT
- Salmonid Spawning (fish) – Spring and Fall Windows
 - 13°C (55.4°F) MDMT
 - 9°C (48.5°F) MDAT
- Idaho Bull Trout
 - 13°C (55.4°F) MWMT – Rearing June 1st – August 31st
 - 22°C (71.6°F) MDAT – Spawning Sep 1st – Oct 31st
- EPA Promulgated Bull Trout
 - 10°C (55.4°F) MWMT – June 1st – September 30th

Water Temperature Data

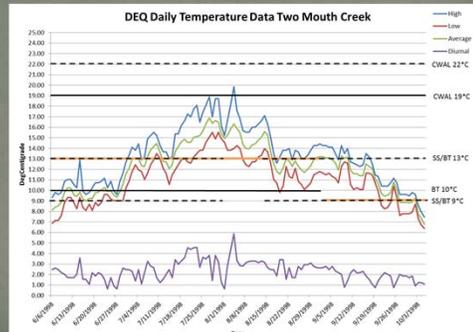
Agency	Number of Sites
Kalispell Tribe	15
USFS	13
DEQ	27
Total	55



Water Temperature Data

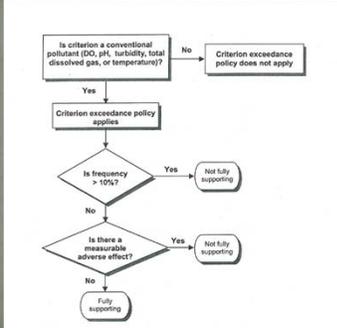


Water Temperature Data



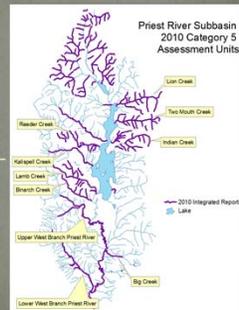
Water Temperature Data

- Exceptions, small exceedances not considered a violation of WQS (10% rule)



Temperature TMDLs

- Exceedance of any standard results in a temperature listing
- 2010 Integrated Report
 - Category 5 (Needs a TMDL) – 19 AUs
 - Category 4a (Has an EPA approved TMDL) – 5 AUs



DEQ §319 Grant

- Pre-application opens April 9, 2012
- Pre-applications excepted through May 6, 2012
- Final applications are due August 1, 2012
- Maximum of \$250,000
- 40% local match
- Past projects include: bank stabilization, stream crossing improvements, road rocking, WQ education and outreach

Future WAG Meetings

- Monday May 21st
- Continue meeting every 3rd Monday of the month
- Meeting topics
 - Temperature TMDL model

Priest River WAG Webpage

- Post documents, meeting material, and other resources

[http://www.deq.idaho.gov/
priest-river-wag](http://www.deq.idaho.gov/priest-river-wag)