

# Wood River Watershed Advisory Group

## Meeting Minutes

Big Wood Canal Company  
409 North Apple Street, Shoshone, Idaho  
Tuesday, May 29, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

### Attendees

Bill Davis - CAFO  
Lynn Harmon – Big Wood Canal Company  
Daryle James – Recreation  
Bryan Ravenscroft - Hydropower  
Mark Shumar – DEQ-State office  
Bob Simpson – City of Carey  
John Straubhar - Hydropower  
Sue Switzer – DEQ-Twin Falls Regional Office  
Craig Thomas – DEQ-Twin Falls Regional Office

### Welcome

Bob Simpson, WAG Chairman, directed the meeting, which began at approximately 7:10 p.m.

### WAG Business

- A motion was made to approve the minutes for the Wood River WAG meeting held on August 23, 2011. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

### Big Wood River Temperature TMDL

Mark Shumar from the Technical Services Division of DEQ presented the steps that are used to produce a temperature TMDL based on shade and discussed the Big Wood Tributaries Temperature TMDL. Temperatures are affected by the channel and the vegetation surrounding it that is blocking the sun. Potential natural vegetation (PNV) is the expected streamside shade producing natural plant community. There are 3 streams involved in this TMDL: Quigley Creek, Rock Creek and Black Canyon Creek. The first step is to establish existing shade, which is done through aerial photos. Second, we need channel width by using a regional hydrologic curve. Then we need a target shade. This comes from a shade calculator that was developed by the Washington Department of Ecology. The shade curves and how they are developed are on the DEQ website. All the information goes into a loading table, which is converted to a solar load using weather station data. Black Canyon Creek is meeting its target shade. Quigley Creek and Rock Creek have approximately 20-30 percent excess load. The larger the lack of shade: the greater priority for implementation. Mark responded to questions and comments from the WAG attendees.

Bryan Ravenscroft commented on a study that he completed years earlier and gave to Sonny Buhidar concerning phenolic acid. There is increased shade but temperatures are still increasing. Perhaps there is a problem you are not even looking at. It was suggested that Bryan submit comments and reference this study to be included in the public comments. Daryle James made a motion that the WAG adopt Bryan's findings and have it placed in the appendix of this TMDL. The motion was seconded by Lynn Harmon and was approved by the WAG.

**Camas Creek Monitoring Plan**

Sue handed out a list of sampling sites that she is considering for the Camas Creek 5-year Review. She is taking the document that was developed by Jennifer Claire and approved in 2005 and trying to replicate what she did to see what has improved. There are no new listings. She discussed the plan for monitoring and presenting the Camas Creek 5-year Review.

**DEQ Updates**

We are still working through the Assessment Database (ADB) comments. This is the database that is the foundation for the Integrated Report. We anticipate the next iteration to be coming out in 2012.

DEQ had a water quality coordination meeting with BLM. This was a huge accomplishment in opening communications between agencies.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

  
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WAG Chairman

10-22-13  
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Date approved