

**Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes**

Burley City Council Room
1401 Overland Ave, Burley, Idaho
Thursday January 28, 2010
Time: 7:00 pm

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DEQ-TFRO

ATTENDEES:

1. Stan Lloyd – Cassia Creek
2. Mike Beus- USBR
3. Susan Looper – NRCS
4. Chad Chorney – DEQ-TFRO
5. Steve Davis- BLM
6. Sue Switzer – DEQ-TFRO
7. Clyde Lay – BOR
8. Bill Thompson – MID
9. Pat McCommon – 6S Ranch
10. Carolyn Firth- ISCC
11. Earl Christensen- WAG Chairman
12. Katie Shewmaker-DEQ-TFRO

I. Welcome and Introductions *Earl Christensen-Chairman*

The meeting was called to order and everyone was welcomed in attendance. Each of the attendees introduced themselves and whom they represented at the meeting.

II. Wag Business *Earl Christensen-Chairman*

- Minutes for the previous meeting on September 24, 2009, were reviewed. No changes were suggested. Minutes were approved as written
- With budget cuts we are looking at meeting again late spring/early fall: however, because of 319 projects, we will leave the time for the next meeting open and we will let you know.

III. Goose Creek 5-Year Review *Katie Shewmaker- DEQ-TFRO*

Katie presented a general overview of the Goose Creek Subbasin Five-Year Review (handout). Questions and comments were received. On Page 11, the table should be labeled 3.2. Comments were brought up concerning significant population changes and fire and fire restorations. There was concern as to when the WAG was formed; Katie will verify and correct the date. Everyone was asked to take a copy with them, take the time to read it carefully, and get any

suggestions or improvements back to Katie, especially recommended further action.

Along with the 5-Year review the Draft Goose Creek Subbasin Implementation Plan was given out. This is the beginnings of the implantation plan. Katie needs to hear back from you with different agency plans or private plan listed in the back of the document.

IV. March Creek TMDL of the Lake Walcott Management Plan

Katie Shewmaker- DEQ-TFRO

The Marsh Creek TMDL of Lake Walcott Management Plan was distributed. It does not change the Lake Walcott TMDL. It is just an addendum that incorporates the March Creek and the temperature information. Questions and comments can be directed to Sonny Buhidar or Katie Shewmaker at the DEQ office

V. Snake River Water Quality Data – Preliminary Report

Sue Switzer-DEQ-TFRO

(PowerPoint presentation) This is a preliminary water analysis of the Mid Snake River from Milner Dam to King Hill. This came about from a request from EPA to look at data from 2000 to 2009. This preliminary report was presented as it was presented to EPA. Questions and comments were requested.

Clyde brought up at a previous meeting that we need to adjust the way we are presenting the water quality monitoring data on our graphs so that our parameters are consistent and comparable. We did not make those changes because we wanted to present it just like it was presented to EPA. We are working on those changes.

Mike commented that it looks like you are systematically missing higher flows or you are looking at the wrong flow gauge. It was suggested that coordination be made with Bureau of Reclamation. Another suggestion was to contact Clarence Robinson with Kimberly Research Station and/or the State Lab for missing information.

VI. DEQ – Twin Falls Regional Office Update *Katie Shewmaker – DEQ-TFRO*

- The Raft River 5-year review is going to start this year. We are waiting for funding information as how much monitoring can be done.
- The 2010 Integrated Report is due to come out this spring.
- The Temperature TDML on Goose Creek is in the works and a new TMDL for this area will be Mercury for Goose Creek Reservoir.

VII. Cassia Creek/Raft River Drainage -

Stan Lloyd

On Saturday a proposal for an irrigation district for Cassia Creek will be brought before the people. This will be a taxing district; and as such, there must be approval of a majority of the people, there must be by-laws and charter, and there must be an engineer's map. We will have a board, water master, and ditch riders who will have to be paid. We have been working on this for more than two years, and all of this comes at a price.

In the Raft River Groundwater District, Idaho has been trying to get rid of 43C, and now there is an annual billing of \$50 for each well and \$90 for each CFS. If we are going to monitor it and control it in a critical groundwater area, this is what it is going to take.

What we are telling the people is that the water better be used in a beneficial way and you must be able to defend it.

VII. Adjourn

Earl Christensen-WAG Chairman



Chairman



Date of Approval