

The Middle Snake River Technical Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
601 Poleline Road, Twin Falls, Idaho
Wednesday, August 11, 2010
Time: 2:00 PM

Attendees:

Mike Trabert – City of Twin Falls
Brian Hoelscher – Idaho Power
Terry Edwards – NRCS
Andy Morton – Clear Springs Foods
Gary Fornshell – University of Idaho Extension
Sue Switzer – DEQ-TFRO
Jordan Tollefson – ISCC

I. Introductions

Mike Trabert, WAG chairman, called the meeting to order and everyone was welcomed. Each person introduced themselves.

The purpose of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was reviewed. The TAC researches and gathers technical data on issues that are being dealt with within the watershed. It is then presented to the primary WAG where it is reviewed and voted on for recommendations to be given to DEQ as part of the TMDL or other documents. The topics before the TAC at this time are “reasonable period of time” and developing guidelines for TSS trading within the Mid Snake.

II. “Reasonable period of time”

Background: Within the 2000 TMDL there is language that talks about before the TMDL would be reopened there would be a reasonable time period for implementation of best management practices and requirements for NPDES permits. We have gone back and looked at the river through 5-year reviews but never addressed the reasonable period of time. Randy Macmillan has requested that the TAC look at the science behind what a reasonable period of time is.

There was a great deal of discussion on reasonable time period, the various drivers that affect it, and the need to work from a scientific standpoint on what the drivers are. There was discussion that perhaps a value should not be set to a reasonable time frame. At this time, everyone will go back and brainstorm within their own groups what they believe are drivers for a reasonable time frame. At the next meeting the lists will be narrowed down to a manageable list that we can put

the science behind to present to the WAG. Randy Macmillan will be overseeing the Technical Advisory Committee for this topic.

II. TAC meeting schedule

TAC meetings will be held once a month coordinated with the WAG meetings. The TAC meeting will take place followed by a 1 or 2 hour break and then the WAG meeting on the same day. The day and time will be set following a discussion at the WAG meeting tonight.

We will try to find a place to post information to be retrieved by everyone for review prior to meetings. This might be a website or email.

III. Draft 2010 Integrated Report

Sue Switzer reported that nothing is out on the Draft 2010 Integrated Report at this time. We are looking at mid month for that to come out for public comment.

IV. Other

There was some discussion on TSS and pollutant trading. Sue will find out if there is a final 2010 Pollutant Trading Guidance document.

The meeting concluded at 3:20 pm.



WAG Chairman

9/15/10
Date