

Blackfoot River Watershed Advisory Group Meeting
November 13, 2008
Notes

Attendees: Rob Squires (Agrium), Justin Skinner (Agrium), Tracy Collings (URS, Washington Division), Sue Skinner (EPA), Lynn VanEvery (DEQ), Marv Hoyt (GYC), David Banks (Self), Chris Banks (IASCD), Justin Krajewski (ISCC), Flint Raben (IASCD), Brian Reed (IASCD), Cameron Williams (NRCS), Krystie Wengreen (ID Dept of Lands), Michael Vice (Monsanto), Candon Tanaka (Shoshone-Bannock Tribes), Dean Smith (NRCS), Louis Wasniewski (USFS-Caribou/Targhee), Lloyd Rasmussen (Caribou Co Commissioner)

Watershed Advisory Group a collection of stakeholders affected by management of the watershed.

Melissa Thompson (DEQ)

- Gave an overview of WAG what it does and the responsibilities.
 - Nominate one individual from each of the specific representative groups.
 - Explained the TMDL 5-year Review Process & House Bill 145.
 - Explained the Subbasin Overview
 - Explained the 5-year Review Document – Book Report – Summarizing original document to give general idea of what we will be talking about.
 - TMDL Review and Status
 - Water Quality and Beneficial Use Status
 - Review of Implementation Plan & Activities
 - Summary & Recommendations
 - Explained the information we have and asked questions on what others would like to see happen or be included. Asked for any information since 2002.
 - Listed items that we need.
 - Gave our approach to the 5-year review.
 - Explained where we are now.
 - Web Page for the WAG & explained signing up for the WAG updates.
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- Questions arose about not addressing selenium TMDLs as part of the 5-year review. Recommendations were made that in certain areas about selenium should be address. List the actions that are happening.

GROUP DISCUSSION

Candon Tanaka

- Shoshone Bannock Tribes offered some information on lower Blackfoot

Mike Vice

- Draft EIS for Blackfoot Bridge
- Biological monitoring

Krystie Wengreen

- Fencing & Monitoring project
- Some 2004 Data
- Possible PFC's

Cameron Williams

- Implementation activities

Justin Krajewski (IASCD)

- Recommending NRCS PRS web page to get total for the watershed basin. Stream bank protection.
- There is a Public Records Request for the state. There is some information that can be provided if there is no federal money tied to it.
- Are you looking at the flow on the proposed streams that may be below DEQ standard for intermittent?
- Justin offered money assistance for costs of meetings such as administrative support, meeting rooms, facilitators etc. You would have to have a WAG chair.

Flint Raben

- His data is pre-2002 & was used in the original TMDL.

David Banks (Self-Chesterfield)

- Interested in when we do sampling. Change in CRP land.

Marv Hoyt

- Has fish tissue data, everything he has pertains to selenium

Lloyd Rasmussen

- Observing

Sue Skinner

- Clarified her roll as EPA listen to dialog and report back to Lee Woodruff in Boise.

Tracy Collings

- Make sure that they follow guidelines and assuring that they are not pumping additional sediments to the watershed.
- Familiar with this he worked for 6 years at the health district.
- Has some historical basis he is still trying to get up to speed.

Rob Squires

- Dry Valley Creek data spring and fall surface water sampling data. The have monitors in upper and lower sites. There is a summary in the reports from the consultants.
- Dry Valley Creek biological monitoring from 2007.

Louis Wasniewski

- In the last year he has been looking at PFC data and will get that over. He has MIM monitoring one component is to look at stability he will review that information. The forest service initiated water shed analysis; the intent is to finish that up in the next few months. It should include a lot of data. It should identify implementation and projects to improve watershed.

- Will also get some information on changes in Diamond Creek area and he will get that information over to us.

Dean Smith (NRCS)

- Will work on PRS stuff
- Have also done some rapid water assessments with data.
- Lynn talked about changes in land use. Most of it has stayed the same.

Lynn VanEvery

- In the next few months we will tell the stakeholders about the Beneficial Use support. Ultimately, TMDL's are written to support beneficial uses.

PLAN FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- Melissa would like feedback on time and location of future meetings.
- It was agreed that Pocatello would be a good location for the meetings. Melissa suggested a monthly meeting or possibly every other month.
- Take time to think about whether or not you would like to nominate a representative at the next meeting. We need your input and are mandated to have your vote. Everybody needs to have their input formally heard. There will be a more formal discussion at the next meeting.
- January 8, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. at the DEQ in Pocatello. Count on every second Thursday of the month after that time.