

Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

US Bureau of Reclamation
470 22nd Street
Heyburn, Idaho
April 16, 2015

Attendees

Mike Beus – Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
Sonny Buhidar – DEQ-Twin Falls Regional Office
Rich Bupp- DEQ-Twin Falls Regional Office
Dan Davidson – Minidoka Irrigation District
Steve Davis – Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Carolyn Firth – Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission (ISWCC)
Tom Geary – Rancher, Chairman
Jean Gorringer – City of Burley
John Lind – Burley Irrigation District
Meribeth Lomkin – Idaho Department of Lands
Alan Monek – Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
Glen Rowley – City of Burley
Katie Shewmaker - DEQ-Twin Falls Regional Office

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:05 p.m. by chairman, Tom Geary. Everyone in attendance was welcomed and each of the attendees introduced themselves and whom they represented at the meeting.

Wag Business

- The minutes from the previous Lake Walcott Watershed Advisory Group meeting on August 21, 2014, were reviewed and approved as written.
- The next meeting for the Lake Walcott WAG will be held August 27, 2015 at the BOR office in Heyburn.

Cyanobacteria

Sonny presented a PowerPoint presentation on cyanobacteria found in the Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir in 2014. The presentation included where the bacteria was found, monitoring locations, digital evidence, a review of the field and lab data and stakeholder involvement.

Updates

Katie Shewmaker presented on the following DEQ updates:

- The 2014 Integrated Report cycle has begun and Nicole Deinarowicz in the DEQ State office is spearheading that effort and accepting data. The 2012 Integrated Report is the current document, and it is on the DEQ website along with an integrated map.
- The Lake Walcott PNV and E. coli TMDL–March Creek has been approved by EPA, and it is available on the DEQ website.
- The State of Idaho is in the process of filing application for primacy over the NPDES program from the EPA, which will be called IPDES. They are currently in the rulemaking phase. Public meetings are being held every month. The next meeting will be tomorrow, April 17, from 9:00 to 3:00. You can participate via web conference at the DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office.
- The application period for 319 project grants is now open and will close July 31, 2015. If anyone is interested in submitting an application, that can be found on the DEQ website.
- The General Aquaculture Permit (GAP) has been completed and EPA is waiting for US Fish and Wildlife Service to complete their ESA consultation.
- DEQ is currently in the process of hiring the seasonal BURP crew. Katie provided a list of the potential creeks that will be monitored this summer. If there are any areas that you feel would be worthwhile to monitor, please call Sean Woodhead at the DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office.

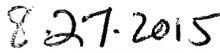
Mike Beus from the Bureau of Reclamation gave an update on the water storage outlook in the Upper Snake River and American Falls.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Tom Geary at approximately 3:20 p.m.



WAG Chairman



Date