

Meeting Notice

A meeting of the Planning Unit for the WRIA 55 and 57 Local Watershed Planning program for will be held at:

Time: 10:00 am
Date: October 25, 2000
Place: Main Floor Conference Room
Spokane County Conservation District
210 N. Havana Spokane, WA

Note: The date for this meeting was changed to accommodate two conflicting activities. There is an AWWA workshop on the Safe Drinking Water Act's new standards for drinking water at Vera from 8 to noon on the 18th. Also on the 18th and 19th there is a consensus building workshop for the Coeur d'Alene Basin clean up at the Coeur d'Alene Inn.

Agenda

- 10:00 am** Call to Order - Introductions by Committee Members
- 10:10** Introduction of Meeting Facilitator
- 10:15** Discussion of Contract Status
Stan Miller, Spokane County WQMP
- 10:20** Consultant Team presentation if needed
- 11:00** Work Group Reports
Discuss schedule for delivery of work to consultant.
- 11:30** Question and Answer session
- 11:45** Other items of Public or Committee Concern
Spokane County did not receive the Fish Habitat Study Grant from BPA. What are our options to deal with aquatic biota minimum flows?
- 11:55** Set next meeting date and location
- 12:00** Adjourn

If you have any questions regarding this notice contact Stan Miller at (509) 477-7259 or via e-mail at smiller@spokanecounty.org

Meeting Summary Planning Unit

Little Spokane River – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan
October 25, 2000

Stan Miller called the meeting to order at 10:05.

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheets were:

Lloyd Brewer
Doug Allen
Stan Miller
Joel White
Valorie Adams

Dave Jones
Leon Sproule
Dick Price
Steve Skipworth
Michele Vazquez

Bryony Hansen
Walt Edelen
Julia McHugh
Ty Wick
Gary Fergen
Paul Hudson

The meeting summary for the September 27 meeting was approved.

It was reported that the Golder contract scope of work has been “finalized.” There are still some issues with the boilerplate conditions that need to be worked out. These should all be in place by the next meeting.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Laura Rumpler, the County Public Information Specialist who was going to act as facilitator for the Planning Unit was not able to attend the meeting.

The next meeting will be dedicated to a review of the various models that might be used for the study. Golder will provide technical memoranda describing the features of several options. They will also make a formal presentation at the next meeting. If the memoranda are available in time they will be sent out for review before the meeting. Following discussion the group concurred that if the memoranda are not available before the next meeting, a decision on the model will be delayed to a later meeting the first or second Wednesday in December (current preference is for the 6th). This will allow all members not in attendance at the November meeting to see and review the options and either be at the meeting where selection is made or provide written or other feedback.

Concerns were expressed regarding the level of “descretization” for the model grid described in the scope of work. It was explained that while we are working on the assumption that most data will be input on a square mile basis, the choice of model will actually determine the grid size used. In no case are staff “lumping” data as we gather it at a scale smaller than square mile units. Lumping will be done only at the direction of or by Golder after reviewing the chosen models ability to use the available data.

Similar concerns were raised about the apparent inability of what we are doing to improve the ability of the current ground water models to evaluate pumping impacts on surface water flow. The reason for this is primarily cost. Recalibration of the ground water model may be done as part of Phase III if the results of the Phase II work generate information on river – aquifer interchange or other data that could improve the ground water models’ predictive capability.

It was reported that Inland Empire Paper has completed installation of a flow meter on the intake canal for Upriver Dam. Flow measurements should be available beginning in November. The canal flow can be added to spillway flow estimates to get total flow at the Dam.

The committee was informed of the decision of the Northwest Power Planning Council to not fund our proposed Fish Habitat Study. This element will remain in the Golder contract as a contingency item. If other funding can be found we will go ahead with the work.

Committee members present were given copies of the recommendation of the Independent Scientific Research Panel (Do not Fund), Hal Beecher's (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) response and two of the papers the panel referenced in their criticism of our proposed methods.

During the discussion it was pointed out that as we use the established instream flows for planning purposes, we need to remember that these are not based on good methods for assessing fish needs, and at least for the Spokane River, is not a flow we can reasonable expect to achieve on the regulated stream with the current management policies.

The next meeting was scheduled for Nov. 29th to accommodate conflicts with several meetings on the 15th and the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will attempt to start the meeting at 9:30 to allow more time for discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35