

Meeting Notice

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

Time: 10:00 am
Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2002 (Note different week than usual!)
Place: Conference Room
Spokane County Conservation District
210 N. Havana Spokane, WA

Agenda

- 10:00 am** **Call to Order: Introduction of Committee Members**
Discuss and Approve September 18, 2002 Meeting Summary
Facilitator Lead
- 10:10** **Report on Little Spokane River Instream Flow Work**
Stan Miller
- 10:40** **Discuss Watershed Plan Format**
Presentation of Examples – Stan Miller
Discussion – Facilitator Lead
- 11:25** **November 19th Watershed Planning Workshop**
Discuss poster to be used
Stan Miller, Bryony Hansen, and Doug Allen
- 11:40** **Other items of Public or Committee Concern**
Facilitator Lead
- 11:55** **Wrap Up of Session: Facilitator summarizes information presented**
- 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 23, 2002

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Doug Allen	Ty Wick	Rachael Pashcal Osborn
Lloyd Brewer	Julia McHugh	Roger Krieger
Harry McLean	Steve Skipworth	Dave Jones
Jane Cunningham	Walt Edelen	Stan Miller
Ken Kuhn	Megan Harding	Reanette Boese
Jim Wilson	Rick Noll	

Consultants that attended the meeting were: Sarah Hubbard-Gray of Hubbard Gray Consulting and Bryony Hansen of Golder Associates.

Guests that attended the meeting were: None.

Introductions: Sarah Hubbard-Gray called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Committee members introduced themselves. Sarah provided an overview of the agenda and asked if there were comments on the September 18, 2002 Meeting Summary. Jim Wilson said he had attended the meeting, but was not listed in the meeting summary. Lloyd Brewer expressed concern with how the meeting summary described the decision to use Option B for plan recommendation decision making. Lloyd indicated that he did not feel the decision was made by consensus and that the City of Spokane does not support a decision making process that requires a revised or new Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to be developed and signed. He clarified that at the September 18th meeting he agreed to discuss the option of developing a new MOA with other City representatives. It was suggested that the City of Spokane develop an amendment to the MOA that would be acceptable to them and bring it back to the Planning Unit for review. It was also suggested that Doug Allen request an opinion from the State attorney on the legally binding limits of the MOA.

Report on Little Spokane River Instream Flow Work: Stan Miller explained the status of the Little Spokane River Instream Flow work. Bryony Hansen gave a presentation on the work performed to date. Her presentation covered:

- Objectives and methodology being used (Wetted Perimeter plus habitat characterization)
- Six transect site locations and data collected
- September 23 to 25, 2002 initial survey field work
- Preliminary observations, which indicate that the wetted perimeter does not increase or decrease significantly with increased or decreased flows due to the channel morphology (i.e., incised channel configurations)

- Options for continued data collection, including 1) continue with current approach, 2) cluster measurements around the low flow time frame to assess habitat at low flows, and 3) add more cross sections to possibly catch inflection points.

Planning Unit discussion followed and included:

- Stan Miller explained how the channel morphology relates to the wetted perimeter.
- Bryony Hansen confirmed that Golder feels the cross sections are representative of the stream channels.
- Adequacy of low flows to protect fish, affect of irrigation withdrawal on stream flows, basis for choosing wetted perimeter method, possible mathematical techniques for estimating wetted perimeter during lower flows, etc.

Bryony Hansen indicated that Golder recommends using option 2 (cluster measurements around the low flow time frame to assess habitat at low flows). Stan Miller explained that he would insure that Hal Beecher at the Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is aware of the proposed modifications and that changes would be implemented only after consideration of his input/recommendations on how to move forward with the field studies. Any proposed modifications to the study approach will be emailed to the Planning Unit and an Instream Flow Work Group meeting will be scheduled to discuss the study approach with Hal Beecher and Golder representatives.

Discuss Watershed Plan Format: Stan Miller passed out the illustrative outline of a Watershed Plan from Ecology's Guide to Watershed Planning and Management, the table of contents from the Entiat Draft Watershed Plan, and a conceptual outline for the WRIA 55 and 57 Watershed Plan. Stan requested that the Planning Unit provide input on how they think the plan should be structured and written. To kick off the discussion, Stan suggested that the main body of the plan be fairly short with brief descriptions of the results in the plan that reference appendixes with the technical memos and documents that are developed during plan development (e.g., by Golder). The Planning Unit discussion followed and included:

- Emphasize purpose of plan – water use priorities for our community.
- Everyone agreed that the text volume should be kept to a minimum and reference technical/original documents/memos in appendixes.
- Include existing land use, demographic, and map information in appendixes.
- Use logical steps in developing the plan.
- Consider who will be using the document.
- Reference data consistently.
- Have Spokane County staff or contractor, as lead agency, do the majority of the writing to establish and maintain consistency.

November 19th Watershed Planning Workshop: Doug Allen explained the November 19th Watershed Planning Workshop that will be held in Olympia to give the legislators an update on the watershed projects across the state and feature the associated success stories. The Ecology watershed

leads have been asked to provide posters/displays on what has been accomplished by the planning projects. Stan Miller and Bryony Hansen explained that they have been putting ideas together for a WRIA 55/57 display. Bryony passed out a handout on the draft display and the Planning Unit representatives were asked to review the draft and get their ideas and comments to Stan Miller. In addition, Stan Miller explained that Golder has suggested a re-vamp of the project web page and that the poster/display could form the basis for an updated project web page.

Other items of Public or Committee Concern: Doug Allen suggested that the Planning Unit should begin discussing the possibility of instream flow work on the big Spokane River in the near future. Since Avista's relicensing work will likely entail instream flow work, Doug indicated that he feels a collaborative effort with the WRIA 55/57 watershed work should be considered. There is a November 14th Avista workshop to discuss Spokane River instream flow. Doug indicated that any Spokane River instream flow work would need to begin in early Spring 2003. Stan Miller expressed concern relating to adequate WRIA funds being available for a collaborative approach and whether Avista's approach would mesh with a WRIA approach. Doug Allen said he will review Avista's instream flow scope of work, meet with Avista to review, and report back to the Planning Unit.

Doug Allen also suggested that the Planning Unit begin discussing the opportunities to use storage. Stan Miller explained that the modeling effort can evaluate storage and provide outputs relating to storage questions. The possibility of using Ecology storage grant funds to evaluate where and how storage may be beneficial and the related river and aquifer impacts were discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm. The next meeting was set for Wednesday November 20, 2002 at 10:00 am at the Spokane County Conservation District.