

Meeting Summary
Watershed Implementation Team
Little Spokane – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan
July 11, 2007

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>	Tim Vore, <i>Avista Utilities</i>
Sara Hunt, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>	Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water District</i>
Mike Lithgow, <i>Pend Oreille County</i>	Lloyd Brewer, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Kris Graf, <i>City of Spokane</i>	Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>
Mike Hermanson, <i>Spokane County</i>	Jeff Storms, <i>Sacheen Lake Improvement District</i>
Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>	Claudia Crawford, <i>Whitworth Water</i>

Guests Present:

Jeff Lawlor, <i>Fish & Wildlife Dept</i>	Dick Anderson, <i>Horseshoe Lake</i>
Dale Gill, <i>Private Property Owner LSR</i>	Lynne Anderson, <i>Horseshoe Lake</i>
Tyler Llewellyn	

Consultants Present: Susan Gulick, *Sound Resolutions*; Laila Parker, *Cascadia Consulting*; Bryony Stasney, *Golder & Associates*, Stan Miller

Introductions and Meeting Summary: Susan Gulick called the meeting to order. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The meeting summary for June 20, 2007 was reviewed and approved with one change under *Other Issues/Announcements*: Lloyd Brewer reported that the Mayor of Post Falls and the Mayor of City of Spokane have agreed to meet with elected officials about the bi-state aquifer study.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

West Branch Little Spokane River: Jeff Storms asked the Planning Unit to send a comment letter for the Sacheen Lake Beaver Replacement Project for the SEPA portion of their application. Public comments will be taken until August 2, 2007. The West Branch Committee will have 2 meetings a month to try to move along on the beaver tube replacement project. Mike Lithgow reported that members of the West Branch Committee have not yet unanimously decided if that project is a good one. Sara Hunt stated the Department of Ecology has three major concerns, which will be stated on their comment letter; erosion control plan, proper disposal of debris and impact to the wetlands.

Jeff Lawlor, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, attended the meeting to explain the purpose of the project and to answer questions from the Planning Unit. The goal is to maintain the lake at a desired level. Jeff pointed out that this is not a fix all but will help with the maintenance of the tubes. There will be another application for a 5-year permit for maintenance of the tubes (cleaning the screens of debris).

Planning Unit members gave approval to Reanette to draft a letter from the Planning Unit in support of the project. She will present it at the next Planning Unit meeting on July 25, 2007 for discussion so that it can be finalized and mailed by the August 2, 2007 comment deadline.

Middle Spokane Instream Flow: Rob Lindsay reported that the WRIA 54/55/57 Instream flow committee held their “kick off meeting” on June 27, 2007. At that meeting a consultant presented findings for the work-study group, the Instream Flow Committee that has been established. The group is waiting for word from the Department of Ecology on grant monies that have been applied for to hire a facilitator for the Instream Flow Committee. The next meeting will be July 26, 2007 at the Department of Fish & Wildlife.

Conservation: Reanette reported that the Irrigation Efficiency Grant money was spent on five places for upgrades to their systems, The City of Deer Park, Spokane Public Schools (Chase Middle School), East Valley School District, Spokane County Parks, and Fairmount Memorial Association. The grant closed June 30, 2007.

Ty Wick reported that the educational outreach money was spent by June 30, 2007.

Inchoate Water Rights: Laila Parker from Cascadia Consulting presented a draft analysis for WRIA 55/57 Inchoate Water Rights and an explanation of the method she used to calculate her findings. She indicated that there are data she has not been able to find and if anyone from the Planning Unit could supply her with information on systems, she would appreciate receiving it. Also if members know of any water rights that were not listed she would like to know about them as well. She was asked to separate the irrigation water rights from domestic/municipal rights, split the analysis between WRIA55 and WRIA57, and the show the SVRP Aquifer water rights. There was a question about whether instantaneous rights need to be included in the analysis. Sara Hunt will check.

Detailed Implementation Plan: The Planning Unit ranked and discussed recommendations starting with Issue III B.03 and completed the matrix, ending with Issue III.C.01.b. At the next meeting Susan will have a draft summary of the 2-year implementation plan from ranking and recommendations.

Public Comment: Dale Gill, private property owner on the LSR, expressed his concerns about the detrimental impacts of recreational activities along the Little Spokane River. He also expressed concerns about the lack of information in the WRIA 55/57 documents regarding the request for the Attorney General's opinion on the definition of navigability for the Little Spokane River that would impact the land owners on the Little Spokane River. He would like to know how the public would find out about these proposals before they become law. Rob Lindsay responded that the request for the Attorney General's opinion did not come from the WRIA 55/57 Planning Unit, but was a part of the memorandum of Agreement between Pend Oreille County, Washington Dept of Ecology, and Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. Sara Hunt clarified the difference between an Attorney general's review and opinion and stated that Senator Morton declined to ask for a review.

Other Issues/Announcements: Some of the Planning Unit members asked Sara Hunt to get an explanation of "closed basins" from the Department of Ecology and report back at the next meeting.

Other Meetings:

July 17, 2007 *Public Hearing* Public Safety Bldg Revised Shoreline Master Program

Next Planning Unit Meeting:

July 25, 2007	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Conservation District Conference Room
August 8, 2007	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Chattaroy Fire Station
August 29, 2007	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Conservation District Conference Room