

**Meeting Summary**  
**Watershed Implementation Team**  
Little Spokane – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan  
August 29, 2007

**Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:**

Tim Vore, <i>Avista Utilities</i>	Walt Edelen, <i>Spokane Co Conservation</i>
Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Assoc</i>	Todd Henry, <i>Vera Water</i>
Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>	Lloyd Brewer, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>
Sara Hunt, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>	Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>
Claudia Crawford, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Mike Hermanson, <i>Spokane County</i>
Tom Wimpy, <i>Diamond Lake</i>	Howard Rowley, <i>Horse Shoe Lake</i>
Steve Skipworth, <i>Vera &amp; Liberty Lake</i>	Bryony Stasney, <i>West Branch LSR</i>

**Consultants Present:** Susan Gulick, *Sound Resolutions*  
Stan Miller, *Spokane County*

**Guest Present:** Brian Walsh, Dept of Ecology

**Introductions and Meeting Summary:** Susan Gulick called the meeting to order. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The meeting summary for August 8, 2007 was reviewed and approved with one spelling correction: “Domestic **Exempt** Wells”.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**West Branch Little Spokane River:** Howard Rowley requested again that the Planning Unit write a letter to Governor Gregoire requesting the state to help preserve 2800 acres of wetlands for sale in the West Branch of the Little Spokane River. Bryony Stasney reported that the West Branch group has written a letter and will be writing a series of letters to Governor Gregoire and the Department of Fish and Game. Bryony will provide a copy of that letter to the Planning Unit for some guidelines in preparing a letter. The state has given money to the Fish & Game Department to help purchase this property, which will be purchased in sections. Howard Rowley also reported that another 18 acres of prime property referred to as “Devils Well” is also for sale and would like to have the state help with the purchase of it.

**Middle Spokane Instream Flow Report:** Mike Hermanson reported the Instream Flow Committee met yesterday, August 28, and the next meeting will be September 25, 2007.

**Conservation:** Reanette reported that the Regional Water Conservation group will have a meeting September 13, 2007, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm, at the Department of Ecology.

**Grants:** Sara Hunt reported that the executive committee for the Department of Ecology met August 28, 2007 but had not made an announcement on the final decision for the 2008-2009 Grants. Sara will send an email or report next week at the Planning Unit meeting their decisions.

**Instream Flow Rule-Making Process:** Brian Walsh from the Department of Ecology was present to answer questions and discuss the rule making and policies of the Department of Ecology on Instream Flows. He will have Sara email the department’s terms, definitions and their meanings to the Planning Unit members. Also Sara will email the questions presented to

Brian and a copy of the power point presentation given to WRIA 54 on April 27, 2007. The presentation and responses to questions were recorded at the meeting.

**West Branch Recommendations:** Bryony Stasney is the facilitator for the West Branch Little Spokane River Committee. She presented a draft copy of their committee recommended actions for potential inclusion in the Watershed Plan Implementation Actions. These recommendations will be reviewed and discussed at the next meeting of the Planning Unit on September 5, 2007. The Dept. of Ecology and the state caucus have not yet received or reviewed the recommendations.

**Detailed Implementation Plan:** The Planning unit discussed and revised Section VI - *Strategies for Ground Water Recharge Augmentation* and Section VII – Approaches to Plan Implementation in the DRAFT 2-year work plan. At the next meeting September 5, 2007 the Planning Unit will discuss the “West Branch Little Spokane River Committee Recommended Actions”.

**Deer Park Water System Plan:** Reanette presented a copy of the Deer Park Water System Plan. The Planning Unit agreed that it is consistent with the Watershed Plan.

**Other Issues/Announcements:**

Megan Nicodemus from the Department of Health will be taking a new position with the Department of Transportation.

Sara asked if the Planning Unit would like to have someone from the Department of Ecology come to one of the meetings to talk about Water Rights Adjudication. The Unit would like to have a presentation after the first of the year.

**Other Meetings:**

September 10, 2007 there will be two Grant Workshops to be held in Moses Lake and Coulee Dam. Those interested can contact Sara for further information.

There will be a Bi-State Aquifer meeting with elected officials and other interested people on September 27, 2007 in Post Falls, agenda to follow.

**Next Planning Unit Meeting:**

September 5, 2007	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Chattaroy Fire Station
September 19, 2007	9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Conservation District Conference Room