

**Meeting Summary**  
**Watershed Implementation Team**  
Little Spokane – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan  
January 16, 2008

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

Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>	Lloyd Brewer, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>
Mike Hermanson, <i>Spokane County</i>	Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>
Claudia Crawford, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Assoc</i>
Rick Noll, <i>Sp Co Conservation Dist</i>	Tom Wimpy, <i>Diamond Lake</i>
Tim Vore, <i>Avista Utilities</i>	Steve Skipworth, <i>Vera Water &amp; Power</i>
Howard Rowley, <i>Horseshoe Lake</i>	Sara Hunt, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>
Brian Walker, <i>The Lands Council</i>	Stan Miller, <i>Property Owner</i>
Walt Edelen, <i>Sp Co Conservation Dist</i>	

**Consultants Present:** Susan Gulick, *Sound Resolutions*

**Guest Present:** Dale Gill, *Little Spokane River Private Property Owner*  
Laurie Jackson, *The Lands Council*  
Mike Peterson, *The Lands Council*  
Marcie Mangold, *Dept of Ecology*  
John Covert, *Dept of Ecology*  
Phil Butterfield, *WSU*  
Mike Barber, *Water Research Center, WSU*

**Introductions and Meeting Summary:** Susan Gulick called the meeting to order. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The meeting summary for December 5, 2007 was reviewed and approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**West Branch Little Spokane River:** Howard Rowley reported that at their last meeting they discussed beaver tubes and the sale of some land that would impact wetlands. The West Branch group may possibly be interested in purchasing this land.

**Middle Spokane Instream Flow Report:** Rob Lindsay reported that the meeting on December 11, 2007 was well attended. The position papers of the various groups relating to recommended instream flows are in the process of being submitted. At the next meeting January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008 they hope to discuss the recommended flows that have been submitted.

**Conservation:** Reanette reported the RWCC met on December 13, 2007. Spokane County has reserved a booth at the Tree, Turf, and Landscape Conference so they can contact professionals about xeriscaping and irrigation conservation. Other members of the RWCC will help.

**APC Meeting:** Rob Lindsay reported the January 15, 2008 meeting was interesting and an update was given on the status of what educational programs NPDES permittees are planning.

**Grants:** Rob Lindsay reported that the Wetland Restoration Feasibility Study and the Saltese Flats Restoration Studies are in the hands of Spokane County Purchasing.

There is approximately \$50,000 left from last year of the \$125,000 Phase IV Grant money. The plan is to use it for the facilitator and start projects for this year. It was decided that at the next meeting in February there would

be enough time set aside to go over the monies left from last year and the monies to be spent from this years grants.

**Detailed Implementation Plan:** The City of Spokane, Whitworth Water District, and the Department of Ecology have taken action on the final Implementation Plan. Spokane, Stevens, and Pend Oreille County and Vera Water still need to take action. Approval of the final Detailed Implementation Plan is scheduled for the next meeting, February 20, 2008.

**MOA:** Lloyd Brewer passed out copies of the proposed changes for the Memorandum of Agreement. Send any changes that you have to Lloyd by January 25, 2008 so the final can be sent out.

**401 Certification Process:** Marcie Mangold from Department of Ecology discussed the certification process that is part of "The Water Quality Act", Section 401 that relates to the Avista Relicensing process and answered questions from the Planning Unit. The deadline for Ecology's 401 certification is June 14, 2008. There will be a 30 day comment period. There are two parts to the certification: findings and conditions. Ecology is working with IDEQ to avoid conflicts with the Idaho 401 certification.

**Carnhope Irrigation District No.7 Water System Plan:** The Planning Unit agreed the Carnhope Irrigation District Water System Plan is consistent with the watershed plan. Considering the small size of this district, it is felt they are using their available funds in areas that will minimize water loss (leak detection and repair, meter upgrades).

**Columbia River Basin Watershed Grant Pre-Applications:** Mike Peterson from The Lands Council gave a presentation on Natural Water Storage and Urban Conservation pre-application. Mike Barber from WSU gave a presentation on Aquifer Storage and Recovery for Summer Flow Augmentation for the Columbia River. Both of these grant applications would be partially implemented within WRIAs 55 and/or 57. The Planning Unit had an open discussion and agreed that both were consistent with the Watershed Plan. Reanette Boese and Susan Gulick will draft letters to Department of Ecology expressing the decision.

**Other Issues/Announcements:** Laurie Jackson from The Lands Council reported that Spokane County, City of Spokane, Dept of Ecology and The Lands Council combined was submitting an application for a one time only \$600,000 EPA Grant due by January 25, 2008.

Reanette reported that Pend Oreille County Planning Commission met the beginning of January and recommended approval of several County Comprehensive Plan amendments. The Board of County Commissioners will hear the recommendations for adoption to the County Comprehensive Plan at an open public meeting January 22, 2008 at 3:30 p.m. in Newport.

There will be a class on "swales" Friday, January 25, 2008, 10 a.m. at the Conservation District. WSU, Spokane County, Spokane Valley and the City of Spokane are participating.

There will be a \$100,000 "Terry Husman Grant" for stream restoration available mid March. Sara Hunt advised that the applications would go out next week.

**Next Planning Unit Meeting:**

February 20, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

SCCD Conference Room

The Planning Unit meetings will be on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month. It is planned to have a conference call on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each month with a core group. The conference calls will not start until after the DIP has been formally approved by the WIT.