

**FINAL
Meeting Summary
WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed
November 19, 2008**

Location: Lakeside High School Library, Ninemile Falls, WA.

Planning Unit members and guests recorded on the sign-in sheet were:

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County	Sara Hunt, WA State Dept. of Ecology
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County	Lloyd Brewer, City of Spokane
Brian Crossley, Spokane Tribe	Linda Kiefer, Stevens County Watershed Planning
Bart Haggin, Lands Council	Larry Guenther, Stevens County Commissioner (elect)
Bryan St. Clair, City of Airway Heights	Craig Volosing, Landowner and Palisades Neighborhood
Hank Nelson, Avista	Misha Van Mansum, Spokane County Community College
Dave Moss, Spokane County Utilities	Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech
Bryony Stasney, Golder Associates Inc.	

Call to Order

Bryony opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. Attendees introduced themselves. Bryony requested that each attendee complete the sign-in sheet.

Review and Approve October 2008 Meeting Summary

The draft October 22, 2008 WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting summary was reviewed and approved as final with no changes by those present. The final summary will be posted on Spokane County's web site at <http://www.spokanecounty.org/wqmp/wria54.htm>.

Public Comment

None.

Discuss and Rank 2009-11 Watershed Implementation Grant Requests

Bryony noted that she received nine sets of rankings for the five Watershed Implementation grant requests (all operational projects). Bryony said that she averaged the scores from the nine completed forms and developed an average ranking for the proposed projects. Bryony provided the average ranking to those present in a handout. The ranking based on the nine completed forms is listed in the table below:

Project Name	Sponsor	Amount	Rank
Water Use Inventory & Demand Forecast	Spokane County	\$ 175,000	1
Nine Mile Non Point Source Study Phase I	Spokane County	\$ 400,000	2
Deep & Coulee Creek Hydrogeologic Characterization	Spokane County	\$ 285,000	3
Chamokane Creek Watershed BMP Project	Stevens County Conservation District	\$ 156,670	4
Greater West Plains Groundwater Inventory and Mapping	Spokane County	\$ 25,000	5

Hank asked if a proposed project cost of \$400,000 for the Nine Mile Point Source Study Phase 1 (i.e., a relatively large cost) would be viewed as a negative by Ecology. Sara said it possibly could and that there is much less money available this biennium for operational funds. Mike noted that he worked with TetraTech staff to scope the first phase of the Nine Mile Point Source Study and that the scope covers items that would need to be completed first.

Those present agreed with the project ranking. Mike will add the rankings to the application forms and pass the completed forms on to Ecology.

Review Comments on the October 2008 Working Draft Watershed Plan – Cynthia Carlstad, TetraTech

Cynthia Carlstad (TetraTech) asked those present to make sure that they had the following handouts:

- The comment log – noting that the final comment response table will include information on the actions taken to address comments.
- The October 2008 working draft Watershed Plan.
- The preliminary draft of Chapter 13 Implementation.

Cynthia noted that she will be going through the recommendations sections of the working draft Watershed Plan on the screen at this meeting and hopes to obtain consensus on suggested edits. Cynthia noted that the group will not be working with the implementation matrix tonight.

Rob Lindsay said that he would like the Planning Unit to keep the number of recommendations to a manageable level and to recognize the difference between a recommendation and a suggested action to implement a recommendation.

Cynthia provided the following presentation. A copy of the presentation will be posted on Spokane County's web site at <http://www.spokanecounty.org/wqmp/wria54.htm>.

Watershed Plan Topics to Discuss Today

- Comments on Plan Recommendations
- Implementation Matrix – only if time
- Implementation Chapter – only if time

Schedule for Completion

- September 2008
 - Present draft Watershed Plan
 - Identify areas that need discussion
- October 2008
 - Draft Watershed Plan will be mailed to all Planning Unit members
 - Planning Unit meeting
 - Draft Implementation Framework
 - Focus on areas that need further discussion
- November 2008
 - Comments due on draft Plan (November 7)
 - Planning Unit meeting
 - Discussion on major comments
 - Implementation Framework
- December 2008
 - Revised draft Watershed Plan, including implementation framework (or push to January and consider longer workshop-style meeting) *Afternote: the group decided to push ahead with discussing the revised draft Watershed Plan at the December meeting.*
- January 2009
 - Draft final Watershed Plan

- SEPA
- February 2009
 - Final Watershed Plan
 - Planning Unit approval (second approval meeting in March?)

Approach to Finalizing the Watershed Plan

1. **Resolve comments on recommendations in Draft Plan**
 - Major items (focus tonight)
 - Substantive, but probably not major (focus tonight)
 - Minor wording changes
2. **Consultants revise draft**
 - Work with individuals on resolving comments where necessary
 - Distribute “marked-up” Plan with proposed edits
 - Email review
 - Finalize next draft Plan – Public Review Draft?
3. **Public Review Draft**
4. **Finalize Plan**

Cynthia Carlstad worked with the group on suggested edits to the recommendations, starting on page 4-2 of the October 2008 working draft Watershed Plan. Those present discussed the major comments received and suggested edits on the recommendations for Chapter 4 (Water Rights Administration), Chapter 5 (Promoting Efficient Use of Water), Chapter 6 (Providing Water for Future Needs), Chapter 7 (Water Storage Opportunities) and Chapter 8 (Integrating Land Use and Water Supply Planning). Those present came to agreement on how to address the comments and Cynthia captured the change that was agreed to by the group on the electronic version of the working draft Watershed Plan (which was projected on to the screen).

The group agreed to the following review schedule for the marked-up version of the October 2008 draft Watershed Plan:

- **Tuesday December 2** – Cynthia will email out a marked-up version of the October 2008 draft Watershed Plan. This version will show suggested edits to the Plan based on comments received, and edits made to recommendations during this Planning Unit meeting. *Afternote: Marked-up version of Plan and updated Comment Response Matrix showing status of comment response emailed to all on distribution list on Wednesday December 3.*
- ~~Tuesday December 9~~ (*Afternote: changed to noon on Wednesday December 10*) – Deadline to get comments on the revised draft Watershed Plan back to Cynthia (cynthia.carlstad@tetrattech.com & fax: 206-883-9301 & tel: 206-883-9316).
- **Monday December 15** – Cynthia will email out November 2008 draft Watershed Plan

Public Comment

None.

Administration and General Schedule Announcements

The following meetings are scheduled and open to everyone:

DECEMBER 2008:

- WRIA 54 Planning Unit, Wednesday December 17, 9 am – noon, Airway Heights Community Center, Airway Heights, WA.

Next Meeting Date and Adjourn

The next WRIA 54 Planning Unit meeting is scheduled for Wednesday December 17, 9 am – noon, Airway Heights Community Center. Bryony adjourned the meeting at 9:05 pm.