

**Meeting Summary**  
**Watershed Implementation Team**  
Little Spokane – Middle Spokane River Local Watershed Plan  
February 4, 2009

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

Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>	Lloyd Brewer, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>	Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Assoc</i>
Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>	Tom Wimpy, <i>Diamond Lake</i>
Claudia Crawford, <i>Whitworth Water</i>	Tavis Schmidt, <i>City of Spokane Valley</i>
Steve Skipworth, <i>Vera Water &amp; Power</i>	Kris Graf, <i>City of Spokane Water Dept</i>
Sara Hunt, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>	Mike Lithgow, <i>Pend Oreille County</i>
Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water Dist</i>	Howard Rowley, <i>Horseshoe Lake</i>

**Guest Present:**

Dale Gill, *Private Property Owner*

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

**Introductions and Meeting Summary:** Susan Gulick called the meeting to order. Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The meeting summary for January 7, 2009 was reviewed and approved with the following addition and correction to the West Branch Committee Report: The group has \$30,000 for projects in 2009. The money has been designated as \$12,000 for Wetlands Restoration Site Analysis, priorities being Sacheen, Diamond and Eloika Lakes and \$11,000 Water Storage, primary site being Eloika Lake. Seven thousand dollars (\$7,000) has been spent.

The West Branch Comprehensive Plan is available on their web site, should read “The West Branch Little Spokane River Watershed Implementation Plan is available on their web site.”

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**West Branch Little Spokane River** Mike Lithgow reported that the group met last week without a facilitator and will continue to meet quarterly or when necessary. Mike agreed that any correspondence for the West Branch group could be emailed to him. Rob Lindsay attended the meeting and commented that they had good representation from the surrounding lake areas. The group has funds for beaver issues but no money for administrating it.

**Middle Spokane Instream Flow Report:** Sara Hunt reported that the meeting with Department of Ecology and the Fish & Wildlife Department will be held February 10, 2009.

**Conservation:** Reanette reported that the “Irrigation Troubleshooting” workshop put on by Ewing was attended by 70 plus people. The conservation classes for April 22/23, 2009 are almost full. If you plan on attending, sign up ASAP.

Rob Lindsay reported that the County is moving forward to finalize the Indoor Water Conservation Program contract.

Sara Hunt reported that the Little Spokane River Conservation & Outreach group is working on a draft letter/flyer on conservation. They will meet February 17, 2009 in the afternoon.

**Storm Water Update:** No Update.

**APC Meeting:** Reanette reported that they will have a workshop in the afternoon of May 28, 2009 to be held at the Panhandle Health District. The workshop is on communications and who will help who in case of an emergency.

**Grant Updates:** Rob Lindsay reported that the projected amount of money for the Wetlands Restoration Feasibility Study appears to be enough and there may be some administrative money left.

Sara Hunt reported that the Department of Ecology would not know if the watershed grant money would be cut this year until the Legislation completes their budget for 2009.

Reanette reported that there are three reports available on the Spokane County Water Resources website:

- WRIA 55/57 Wetlands Opportunity Report
- WRIA 57 Surface Storage and Recharge Opportunity Report
- West Branch LSR Surface Storage Opportunity Report

Ben Brattebo is seeking comments on content, recommendations, and wetland opportunities (public ownership or interested land owners) by Friday, March 6, 2009. Please send to: [bbrattebo@spokanecounty.org](mailto:bbrattebo@spokanecounty.org)

**Land Use:** Rob Lindsay presented the land use recommendations in the draft WRIA 54 Watershed Plan (Chapter 8). These recommendations address the need to include water availability (or carrying capacity) in Comprehensive Plan changes and preliminary plats. He also presented some preliminary GIS mapping analysis on exempt wells in the Little Spokane Watershed. It was suggested that information on water quality should be included on the maps because some high water yield areas may not have acceptable water quality. Stories from people in the watershed may help when presenting the maps of water issues.

WRIA 55/57 will re-visit the land-use recommendations in the DIP after the WRIA 54 plan is finalized. Lloyd Brewer, Ty Wick, Steve Skipworth, Greg Sweeney, Susan McGeorge and Sara Hunt volunteered to serve on a future inter-WRIA sub-committee to discuss with WRIAs 54 and 56 how to present unified, multi-WRIA recommendations to the Spokane County BOCC.

**Annual Report:** The WIT would like the annual report to summarize results to date. It will include a discussion of recommended plan amendments. The matrix of implementation actions will be attached as an appendix.

**Implementation Updates:** Exempt wells will be on the agenda for the March meeting. Rob Lindsay and Sara Hunt will discuss legal availability, and current bills in legislature relating to water availability.

**Next Planning Unit Meeting:**

March 4, 2009

**9:00am – 12:00pm**

Spokane County Conservation District