

**WRIA 55/57: Little Spokane River and Middle Spokane River Watersheds
WRIA 56: Hangman/Latah Creek**

Joint Watershed Implementation Team (WIT) Meeting

**Wednesday April 6 2011
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Spokane County Conservation District Conference Room
Spokane, WA**

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Reanette Boese, <i>Spokane County</i>	Bill Rickard, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Rusty Post, <i>Dept of Ecology</i>	Walt Edelen, <i>SCCD</i>
Lindsay Chutas, <i>SCCD, Facilitator</i>	Rick Noll, <i>SCCD</i>
Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>	Ty Wick, <i>SAJB</i>
Peter Grunte, <i>Hangman Valley Resident</i>	Tom Wimpy, <i>Diamond Lake</i>
Susan McGeorge, <i>Whitworth Water District</i>	Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Association</i>
Doug Greenlund, <i>City of Spokane</i>	Howard Rowley, <i>Horseshoe Lake</i>
Brian St. Clair, <i>Modern Electric Water Co.</i>	

Part I: WRIA 55/57 Issues 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Introductions: Lindsay Chutas called the meeting to order and committee members introduced themselves. The meeting minutes from the March 2, 2011 meeting were approved with no changes.

Project Updates

Water Conservation:

- The Little Spokane River Watershed Conservation Program now has 161 homeowner applications including customers from Whitworth Water District, Water District 3, and Deer Park. Over half of the applications are private well owners. Water District 3 is offering additional incentives to some customers in the Little Spokane.
- The Spokane County Rebate program is ongoing. The multi-family program is getting started. The County is looking at the possibility of running the program in-house to more efficiently run the program.
- WSU Extension - Pend Oreille continues to offer workshops to Little Spokane homeowners on ways to save water on landscapes.
- The Spokane City Council passed a resolution to reinstitute their rebate program. People can call 625-7800 or go online to Waterstewardhip.org for more information.

West Branch-LSR:

- The next West Branch meeting will be April 25th at the Riverside Fire District and will be reviewing the implementation matrix.
- Many new people have been visiting the Rustlers Gulch Area.

Priorities for Future Implementation with and Without Funding

- Continue water conservation efforts
- Studies on water availability
- Support changes to rural development ordinance
- Wetlands restoration enhancements
- Stream gauging

If you have questions or comments about the summary, please contact Lindsay Chutas of the SCCD at (509) 535-7274 or lindsay-chutas@sccd.org

- Forestry management
- Mechanisms to respond to shorter term issues
- Instream flows

Annual Report and Implementation Report

The group looked at a draft copy of the annual report and made comments and suggestions for changes. Rob presented a draft outline for updates for the watershed plan that will need to be included in the final draft of the Annual Report if the WIT decides to recommend any additions to the plan. The group has until April 15th to review the draft of the Implementation Report, the Annual Report, and the outline for updates to the watershed plan.

Part II: Joint WRIA 55/57 and 56 Issues, 10:00-11:10 a.m.

Introductions: Lindsay Chutas called the meeting to order. Committee members introduced themselves

Hangman Creek Groundwater Study Final Presentation:

Laura Straus, Jim Mathieu and Rick Noll presented the final results of the Hangman Creek Groundwater Study. Laura presented the results of the study, including the chemical analysis and results of age dating from each of the monitoring wells and her findings on the groundwater recharge mechanisms. Rick presented a hypothesis for the emplacement of the old groundwater into the hangman watershed via glacial lake Columbia. Jim presented the potential for future studies and what this study means for development and anticipated growth in the region, including recommendations for proactive management of the groundwater.

Part III: WRIA 56 Issues, 11:15-12:00 p.m.

Introductions: Lindsay Chutas called the meeting to order. Committee members reviewed the previous meeting's minutes and approved them.

Project Updates

AWEP- The application period is closed. The contracts will be ranked by May 4th. The program has \$238,000 for distribution this year.

Leak Detection: American Leak Detection has finished 6 reports for leak detection surveys completed in the watershed. The town of Rockford will be the final town to be surveyed. Only one leak of any significance, in Latah, has been found during the program. Once the final survey is completed, it will be determined which leaks will be fixed.

Irrigation Efficiency: The irrigation efficiency program is under contract with Dew Drop Sprinklers and Landscaping and Ewing Irrigation. The irrigation audit on the Freeman High School Football Field will be conducted in May, along with an irrigation efficiency class, a design for a retrofit to the system, and installation of the new system.

Willow Warrior Weekend: The SCCD in conjunction with the Lands Council and Trout Unlimited will be hosting the 3rd annual Willow Warrior Weekend for planting willows in reaches of Hangman Creek on April 23rd.

Rock Creek Reservoir: The rock creek reservoir is now on track to be completed.

Annual Report Draft

The group looked at a draft copy of the annual report and made comments and suggestions for changes. Walt presented a draft outline for updates for the watershed plan that will need to be included in the final draft of the Annual Report if the WIT decides to recommend any additions to the plan. The group has until April 15th to review the draft of both the Annual Report and the outline for updates to the watershed plan.

Announcements

April 30 will be the deadline for comments on the Groundwater Report.

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