

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

Joint Watershed Implementation Team (WIT) Meeting

Wednesday June 8, 2011

9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Spokane County Conservation District Conference Room
Spokane, WA**

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Bill Abrahamse, *Trout Unlimited*

Rick Noll, *SCCD*

Rusty Post, *Dept of Ecology*

Rob Lindsay, *Spokane County*

Susan McGeorge, *Whitworth Water District*

Doug Greenlund, *City of Spokane*

Dale Gill, *LSR Resident*

Walt Edelen, *SCCD*

Bill Rickard, *City of Spokane*

Lindsay Chutas, *SCCD, Facilitator*

Ty Wick, *SAJB*

Greg Sweeney, *Eloika Lake Association*

Howard Rowley, *Horseshoe Lake*

Peter Grunte, *Hangman Resident*

Part I: WRIA 55/57 Issues 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Introductions: Lindsay Chutas called the meeting to order and committee members introduced themselves. The meeting minutes from the May 4th, 2011 meeting were approved with no changes.

Project Updates

West Branch-LSR/Eloika Lake Updates:

- WB-LSR Next meeting Mon. July 25, 6-8 PM, Riverside Fire Station.
- Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) re: DNR / LS Wildlife Area ("Rustler's Gulch") - awaiting engineering ok to begin West side Trailhead construction.
- Eloika Lake - Year 2 Milfoil treatment, postponed due to high water, slow plant emergence, new target date, June 22.
- Eloika/SCCD - small engineering grant, outlet elevations and bioengineering evaluation, also postponed to late June, TBD.

Water Conservation:

- The LSR and Spokane County Rebate programs are continuing through the summer. Susan requested flyers to put into Whitworth Water's billing statements

Mt Spokane Expansion Project:

- Rob reported he presented a letter on behalf of the WIT at the May 18 PASEA meeting. He did not testify because our position did not fit one of the pre-determined discussion topics at the session.

Annual Report

The group looked at a draft of the annual report and made final comments. Rob and Lindsay will make final changes and send a final draft before June 30.

Watershed Management Plan Update

Rob presented the 2011 update to the Watershed Management Plan. The update includes the following sections: significant project updates, ongoing/completed implementation activities, update of recommendations, and priorities for ongoing implementation. Rob will complete his draft of the update and send it to the WIT for review.

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

Part II: Joint WRIA 55/57 and WRIA 56 Issues 10:15 am - 11:30 am

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

Idaho CAMP Presentation: Alan Miller from the Hayden Lake Irrigation district presented the development of the Idaho Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan (CAMP). The formation of the CAMP had 3 main goals: to assure sustainable water supply for 50 years, avoid conflict, and protect water quality. The document is broad reaching in it's scope. It is an Idaho-centric management plan, but it has implications for the water that supplies the Spokane River. Many of the lessons learned from the formation of the plan revealed that a bi-state approach to water management in this region is critical.

WRIA Activities in FY 12: Rusty explained the final budget for the upcoming fiscal year has not been allocated to the different WRIA's. The joint WIT discussed priorities for how to ask for money, if any becomes available for year. The group decided to recommend pursuing the base-grant support first to keep the group going, and then the implementation support second. Base grant money would be used for both administration, but any extra money could be used for implementation.

Part III: WRIA 56 Issues 11:40 am - 12:30 pm

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 next round of projects will be in Fall 2011. To recap, \$283,000 was used for improvements in Fall 2010, and \$238,000 was used for projects in Spring 2011.

Leak Detection: American Leak Detection has finished the leak detection surveys in the small towns of the watershed. The committee will use the remaining funding and engineering funds from the Washington Conservation Commission to purchase meters for the municipal systems as needed.

Irrigation Efficiency: The irrigation audit was completed at the Freeman High School football field on May 27. The designs for the retrofitted system have been completed and await installation in June. An irrigation efficiency class will be held on June 27th at the Fairfield Community Center.

Annual Report

The group looked at a draft of the annual report and made final comments. Walt and Lindsay will make final changes and send a final draft before June 30.

Watershed Management Plan Update

Walt presented the 2011 update to the Watershed Management Plan. The update includes the following sections: phase iv implementation actions to date, new technical information and data collection, and new recommendations. Walt will complete his draft of the update and send it to the WIT for review.

Announcements

The next meeting will be July 6, 2011