

**Meeting Summary**  
**WRIA 54 - Lower Spokane River Watershed**  
**September 28, 2011**

**Location:** Airway Heights Advanced Water Reclamation Facility, Airway Heights, WA.

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

Mike Hermanson, Spokane County  
Rob Lindsay, Spokane County  
Brian Crossley, Spokane Tribe  
Casey Flanagan, Spokane Tribe  
Doug Greenlund, City of Spokane  
Bill Rickard, City of Spokane Water Department  
Rusty Post, Department of Ecology  
Charlie Kessler, Stevens County Conservation District  
David Luders, Indian Village Estates Water Association  
Linda McCollum, Eastern Washington University  
Charlie Peterson, Spokane Conservation District  
Jeanne Barnes, Spokane Association of Realtors & Lake Spokane Park Homeowners Association  
Tim Vore, Avista  
Bart Haggin, Lands Council  
Amanda Parrish, Lands Council

**CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

Rusty Post opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Participants introduced themselves.  
The group approved minutes from the August 4, 2011 meeting.

**STUDY PRESENTATION**

Tim Vore from Avista presented the study entitled *Lower Spokane River Redband Trout Spawning Habitat: Monroe Street Dam to Nine Mile Dam Pool*. This study was done to comply with the conditions of the federal license for the Spokane River Project. The study focused on the quantity and quality of redband trout spawning habitat in the lower Spokane River. The study found redband trout spawning at greater depths than expected and found in literature and there was a high survival rate within the gravel environment. Spawning habitat exists over a wide range of flows.

**PHASE IV & SUPPLEMENTAL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECT FUNDING**

Rusty Post discussed funding for Watershed Planning grants. Ecology decided to fund Phase IV base grants at the full amounts and all supplemental implementation project grants. Rusty took three projects that were proposed for Phase IV project funding and submitted them as separate project grants. As a result WRIA 54 received \$100,000 for the Phase IV grant, \$27,000 for the West Plains Ground Water Elevation and Monitoring project, \$33,000 for the West Plains Delineation of Aquifer Zones within the Basalt Formations, \$24,000 for the Deep and Coulee Creek Watershed Restoration, and \$15,000 for the Stevens County Education Project. As a result of the additional project funding from supplemental grants some Phase IV project funding is now available for additional projects. Mike Hermanson presented the following table to show all of the projects that have been proposed since December 2010 for the 11-13 Biennium

<b>WRIA 54 2011-2013 Grant Applications &amp; Funding</b>				
<i>Operational Project Grants - Applications Submitted December 2010</i>				
Project Name	Proponent	Rank	FY12 Budget	FY13 Budget
West Plains Hydrogeologic Framework and Ground Water Budget	Spokane County	1	\$ 107,750	\$ 72,750
Airway Heights Paleochannel Hydrogeologic Study	Airway Heights	2	\$ 110,000	\$ -
WRIA 54 West Plains Delineation of Aquifer Zones within the Basalts Formation	EWU	3	\$ 16,487	\$ 16,487
Deep & Coulee Creek Watershed Restoration	Lands Council	4	\$ 12,120	\$ 12,120

<i>WRIA 54 Phase IV Proposed Projects</i>						
Project Name		Ranking	Original Proposed Budget	Proposed Budget - August 4, 2011	Proposed Budget - September 28, 2011	Notes
Water Availability Standard Development	Spokane County	1	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	
Lake Spokane Water Quality Project	Stevens CD	2a	\$ 48,425	\$ 34,625	\$ 34,625	
West Plains Ground Water Elevation Monitoring	Spokane County	2b	\$ 27,300	\$ 27,300	\$ -	funded by project grant
Bradford Storage Project Permitting	Stevens CD	3	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	
Selective Contouring of the CRBG West Plains Aquifer	EWU	4a	\$ 15,000	\$ 11,075	\$ 11,075	
Stevens County Education Project	Stevens CD	4b	\$ 16,487	\$ -	\$ -	funded by project grant
Deep & Coulee Creek Watershed Restoration	Lands Council	5	\$ 12,120	\$ -	\$ -	funded by project grant
Spokane County - Grant Administration	Spokane County		\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$ 151,332</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>	<b>\$ 72,700</b>	
					<b>Phase IV Remainder</b>	<b>\$ 27,300.00</b>

<i>Proposed Spending for Phase IV Remainder</i>		
Project Name	Proponent	Budget
Additional Grant Administration for Contracts and Interlocal Agreements	Spokane County	\$ 2,000
Bradford Storage Project Permitting	Stevens CD	-
Remainder of Selective Contouring of the CRBG West Plains Aquifer	EWU	\$ 3,925
Additional Funding for West Plains GW Elevation Project to add additional wells	Spokane County	\$ 2,375
Ground Water Age Dating	Spokane County	\$ 19,000

The group discussed how to allocate Phase IV funds made available from projects that are now funded by separate grants. Spokane County requested an additional \$2,000 for administration, and an additional \$2,375 to add additional wells to the Ground Water Elevation and Monitoring project. Spokane County also proposed allocating \$19,000 for ground-water age dating on the West Plains. EWU proposed adding an additional \$3,925 to the Selective Contouring of the CRBG West Plains Aquifer Project, since the initial allocation was not for the full project amount. The WIT approved the proposed allocation of the \$27,300 remaining Phase IV funds.

Charlie Kessler described changes to the Lake Spokane Water Quality Project. The project initially included water quality sampling, but due to the grant schedule water quality sampling during the critical period is not possible. The project now includes sampling for fecal coliform and optical brighteners found in laundry detergent in the near shore of developed and non-developed property to potentially determine if onsite septic system discharge is transported to the lake. With the WITs approval the originally proposed water quality sampling will be included in next years Phase IV budget.

Amanda Parrish reported that the Lands Council will begin contacting land owners to identify potential participants in the Deep and Coulee Creek Watershed Restoration project. Rusty asked if a letter of support

from the WRIA 54 group would be beneficial when contacting landowners. Amanda and Rob Lindsay will work to prepare a letter.

### **ADMINISTRATION & GENERAL SCHEDULE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next WRIA 54 meeting will be on October 26, 2011 from 10-12 at the Airway Heights Water Reclamation Facility.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Charlie Peterson informed the group that a discussion of a ground water study that will include parts of WRIA 54 and 56 will be discussed at the WRIA 55/57 & 56 Joint Meeting on October 4 at the Spokane Conservation District.

### **ADJOURN**

Rusty Post adjourned the meeting shortly after 12:00 pm.