

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

***Joint Watershed Implementation Team (WIT)
Meeting***

**Wednesday June 13, 2012
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Spokane Conservation District Conference Room
Spokane, WA**

Committee members recorded on the sign in sheet were:

Walt Edelen, <i>SCD</i>	Ty Wick, <i>Hangman Hills Water District</i>
Rusty Post, <i>Department of Ecology</i>	Doug Greenlund, <i>City of Spokane</i>
Lindsay Chutas, <i>SCD</i>	Rob Lindsay, <i>Spokane County</i>
Peter Grunte, <i>Hangman Resident</i>	Amanda Parrish, <i>Lands Council</i>
Rick Noll, <i>SCD</i>	Linda Kiefer, <i>Avista</i>
Greg Sweeney, <i>Eloika Lake Association</i>	Sue Kahle, <i>USGS</i>
Jase Brooks, <i>Americorps/University of Idaho</i>	Dale Gill, <i>LSR Resident</i>
Jim Mathieu, <i>Northwest Land and Water</i>	

The meeting was called to order by Lindsay Chutas and the committee members introduced themselves. The May meeting minutes were approved with no changes.

Committee Reports and Updates

West Branch Update

The next West Branch Committee meeting will be held Monday, October 22. The Diamond Lake group is pursuing dredging permits to help with the high lake level concerns. The Diamond Lake voluntary invasive species station will open soon at the DFW public access. The 2012 Eloika Lake Poker Paddle will be held Saturday September 15. The SCD secured funding for another round of herbicide application for Eloika Lake through funding from the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) and Lakeland Restoration which will be applied by the end of June 2012.

Livestock and Land Program

The SCD's Livestock and Land Program continues and the staff continues to do site visits to local livestock owners. The SCD received funding to implement BMP's for specific projects in the livestock and land program through the WSCC. These projects will be completed by July 1.

Groundwater Study

Rick and Jim updated the group about the WRIA 56/WRIA 54 groundwater study progress. A well was drilled to 300 feet at Peter Grunte's. A fractured zone was found at 298 feet, which contained an artesian aquifer. The committee decided to seal the zone and cap the well. Before sealing the well, they were able to collect water quality, geochemistry, and age dating samples. Northwest Land and Water will be able to present a final presentation about the findings from this study at the August meeting.

USGS Little Spokane Groundwater Investigation Presentation

Sue Kahle from the USGS gave a presentation about the Little Spokane Groundwater Investigation study. She highlighted to goals of the study being that the groundwater is an important resource, and understanding the effects of change on the resource. This study will be part of an overall groundwater flow model to be developed to assist planners and water resource managers make more informed decisions about the Little Spokane groundwater resource. The USGS has identified 411 project wells and has monitored the levels of the groundwater in these wells. The final results of this study are slated to be completed by June 30, 2013.

Annual Reports

Walt and Rob handed out the WRIA 56 and WRIA 55/57 Annual Reports. A couple of small changes were made to the reports, but they were accepted as final with those changes. They will have the final versions for the July meeting.

Extra FY 12 Funds Proposals

The group discussed the proposals that had been submitted for consideration to use Ecology's extra FY 12 funds. These funds are now to be used in FY 13 and the proposals will be competing against all statewide proposals. The proposals submitted for work were ranked in the following order:

High Priority:

- Riparian Enhancement in WRIA 56 (Lands Council): \$10,000
- Groundwater Online Data Warehouse (Spokane Co): \$30,000
- Whole Rock Analysis and Shallow Well Drilling in Marshall Pit (SCD): \$19,500

Medium Priority:

- Smartscape Website Update+Water Resource Center Transportation+SVRP
- Education and Outreach: \$12,000

It was decided that all of these proposals should be submitted for funding for the FY 13-15 biennium if they are not chosen for this round of funds.

Facilitation Plan FY-13

The Conservation District and Spokane County decided to work out between themselves facilitation of future meetings, both joint and individual WRIA meetings, for FY 13. The July meeting will be held July 11 at the Spokane County Water Resource Center.