

Wood River Watershed Advisory Group

Meeting Minutes

Big Wood Canal Company
409 North Apple Street, Shoshone, Idaho
Tuesday, September 18, 2012
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Attendees

Alyssa Kock – CSI Student
Bill Davis – CAFO
Chuck Pentzer – Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission
Craig Thomas – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office
Daryle James – Recreation
John Stevenson – Extension specialist with Oregon State University
Lynn Harmon – Big Wood Canal Company
Mark Toone – Livestock Gooding and Fairfield
Richard Bupp – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office
Steve Fisher – Biologist from Western Montana
Sue Switzer – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office

Welcome

Lynn Harmon, WAG Vice Chairman, directed the meeting, which began at around 7:00 p.m. The attendees introduced themselves and who they represented.

WAG Business

- The minutes for the previous 2 meetings were not reviewed and approved because there were not enough members for a quorum.

Wood River Watershed Overview

John Stevenson from Oregon State University presented an overview of alternative future projects that look at what types of impacts might occur under various climate change scenarios. This study could possibly improve the impact on the water and vegetation. They are considering the Snake River as a site to further this study in Idaho.

In Western Montana, scientists are looking for more information to present to the public to watch the climate change that is happening on a daily bases. They are also looking at the Snake River with supply, timing and demand. This research is being federally funded.

The questions that we are interested in through this project are 1) what would the basin look like in the future if everything stayed the same, 2) how would that future change with a 2 or 3 degree

temperature increase in the future, and 3) what strategies or decisions could you make that could maximize fertile outcomes.

Big Wood River Temperature TMDL

Sue Switzer discussed the status of the TMDL. The TMDL was sent in for public comment and stopped short in the State Office. It was determined that the temperature TMDL needs to have the entire required component (sub-basin assessment, water quality concerns and status, pollutant source inventory, and monitoring and status of water quality improvements) and not be an addendum to the Big Wood River TMDL approved in 2002.

Phenolic Acids WAG Generated Letter

A motion was approved at a previous meeting that a letter be drawn up concerning Bryan Ravenscroft's research on phenolic acids to be implemented into the TMDL as an appendix. The letter was presented to the WAG for signature.

Camas Creek

Because of priority in workload, Camas Creek TMDL 5- Year Review is not on the table this year. The concern for Camas Creek is getting temperature loggers out in creeks that have a TMDL and have identified temperature as a pollutant. Access to streams was discussed.

DEQ Updates

The 2012 Integrated Report is anticipated to be out for public comment in November for 30 days. DEQ will respond to the public and EPA comments and also be updating the database in January if no extension is received. If the report comes out, a WAG meeting will be scheduled for November.

Steve Fisher made available to attendees the 2011 Silver Creek Annual Report and discussed the current conditions and major concerns on Silver Creek and Loving Creek. He brought up the need for projects and 319 funding and credibility. He had questions concerning dates and process of the 319 program. Sue advised him to contact Katie Shewmaker who is the Twin Falls Region's DEQ 319 coordinator.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.



WAG Chairman

3/13/13

Date