



Lower Boise Watershed Council

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING IDEQ Regional Headquarters Office, Conference Room B Thursday, March 12, 2009 - 7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Brian Hoelscher, Tom Dupuis, Mark Hardy, Erica Anderson Maguire, Andy Waldera, Robbin Finch, Johanna Bell, Henry Hamanishi, Lee Van De Bogart, Sherrill Doran, Dennis Searle, Liz Paul, Craig Shepard

Meeting called to order, introductions made. The minutes from the February 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved by the Directors.

EPA's Approval/Disapproval of Idaho's Final 2008 303(d) List

Robbin Finch asked Craig Shepard whether the public notice had begun for the February 2009 EPA report supporting their 303(d) approval/disapproval process and rationale, including their justification for why EPA has disapproved removing the Lower Boise River mainstem from the 303(d) list for nutrient impairment. Craig was not aware that the public notice had been published but was thinking it might be by the end of the month.

Budget Discussions

As a follow-up to the February 2009 budget discussion, this topic was discussed in more detail. The monitoring workgroup had met before the monthly meeting and provided the following information and recommendation for the Board:

- IDEQ is cutting their matching budget for FY2009 from \$40,000 to \$15,000. This means that USGS also loses available matching funds so the FY2009 monitoring program could be reduced by a total of \$30,000 to a level of \$110,000.
- CH2M HILL is underspent so far this year, and if the LBWC transfers some of this anticipated underrun to USGS, the monitoring program could be restored to a level above \$110,000 for this year.
- If \$7,500 is transferred to help cover monitoring costs and USGS matches that amount, the FY2009 monitoring budget would be restored to \$125,000. For this amount, the two remaining intensive sampling events on Five/Ten/Fifteenmile could be completed, the remaining mainstem sampling at Diversion and Middleton would be suspended, and TSS and *E. coli* sampling would be collected at Parma as part of the Municipal Workgroup monitoring efforts near the mouth.

The group agreed that this transfer should occur so that the proposed monitoring program changes could be made for FY2009.

This transfer affects the remaining CH2M HILL budget for FY2009 as follows:

- To date, CH2M HILL has spent ~\$29,000 out of a budget of ~70,000. If \$15,000 of the remaining budget is set-aside for contingency for FY2010 and \$7,500 is transferred to USGS, that leaves \$18,500 to accomplish the following activities between now and October:
 - o Facilitation and finances - Cut back to meetings to once every two months
 - o TMDL support - Lake Lowell TMDL?, 5-year report follow-up?
 - o Monitoring coordination - WaterShed / BSU partnership
 - o Funding support - CIG, 319 grant funding opportunities
 - o Public outreach - Enlist help of Liz Paul to stretch these efforts further

The Board approved this approach for the remainder of FY2009. Budgets for FY2010 will need to be evaluated closely to determine priority activities, and the monitoring workgroup will begin to develop the FY2010 monitoring approach this spring given that IDEQ matching funds will not be available.

Director Change - Idaho Rivers United

Kevin Lewis has asked that Liz Paul take his place on the Board as a representative of Idaho Rivers United. Liz is the Boise River Campaign Coordinator for IRU. The Board approved this director change.

Update on NRCS Conservation Grant and 319 Grant

The deadline for this grant was extended to March 20, 2009, and the Board approved the draft letter of support from the LBWC.

City of Kuna NPDES Permit

Craig Shepard noted that IDEQ had issued its 401 Certification for the Kuna NPDES permit. Johanna asked for a copy of that document.

MSGP NPDES Permits

Henry Hamanishi noted that MSGP permits were issued by EPA in February.

Meeting Adjourned