

MINUTES

Walla Walla Regional Shoreline Master Program (SMP) Update Project Management Team Meeting

March 4, 2014 - Walla Walla Public Health and Legislative Building, 314 West Main, Room 203, Walla Walla

NOTE: All documents connected with the agenda for this meeting, as well as all documents related to this project, were previously placed on the county's website for easy public access, AND made available to project team members in advance.

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by team member County Commissioner Greg Tompkins. Roll call was held as follows.

Project Management Team members present:

Representing City of Walla Walla	Brian Walker
Representing City of Waitsburg	K. C. Kuykendall, (20 minutes late)
Representing City of Prescott	Chuck Kimzey
Representing Walla Walla County	Commissioner Greg Tompkins
Project Team Leader	Bill Stalzer

Team members absent/excused: None

A quorum was established.

Others present/in the audience:

Steve Donovan, Senior Planner, Walla Walla Joint Community Development Agency
Jaime Short, Washington State Department of Ecology
One member of the general public.

There were no conflicts of interest.

There was no public comment.

Approval of Agenda

It was moved, seconded and passed to approve the agenda as amended.

Approval of the Minutes

Motion was moved and seconded to approve the December 4, 2013 minutes; however the meeting was actually held on December 3, 2014.

Ecology Grant Update

Mr. Stalzer discussed the Ecology Grant and that expenditures after July 1, 2013 are eligible for reimbursement. He said that Ecology sent letters to the participating cities about the signed grant agreement and that it is valid until July 2015.

Shoreline Jurisdiction Update

Mr. Stalzer summarized the efforts taken by The Watershed Company since the December meeting to research flow data for Yellowhawk, Coppei and Whetstone Hollow creeks; memoranda prepared by The Watershed Company; discussions with Ecology; and Ecology's support of the Watershed Company's recommendation that the lower reach of Yellowhawk Creek up to the confluence with Cottonwood Creek be designated as a jurisdictional water. It was the consensus of the members to support the designation.

For Whetstone Hollow Creek Mr. Stalzer pointed out that The Watershed Company was unable to find any existing flow data, but that based on field research and anecdotal information from local residents, they recommended it be removed from SMP designation. However, given the lack of data, Ecology does not support the recommendation. After discussion of the budget and timing implications of conducting studies and that agricultural activities could continue unabated on the few affected properties, it was the consensus of the members to leave Whetstone Hollow Creek in as a SMP designated stream.

Mr. Stalzer then discussed The Watershed Company's research into Coppei Creek flows and their recommendation that it not be designated a jurisdictional water since it did not meet the 20 cfs criteria. He pointed out that Ecology is in agreement with the recommendation, and it was the consensus of the members that no additional research be conducted.

Inventory and Characterization Report

Mr. Stalzer summarized the progress of the draft Inventory, Analysis and Characterization report since December. He also presented summary maps of the proposed reaches and discussed how decisions were made about creating the location of reach breaks. General discussion of the reaches followed, and Jaime Short expressed reservations about the reach break decisions. Mr. Stalzer responded that the regional working group will conduct a detailed review of the reaches at two meetings in April.

Project Team Leader Update

Mr. Stalzer said that the fourth quarter progress report was submitted to Ecology on schedule. There followed a brief discussion of the grant budget and it was pointed out that the July hours were calculated incorrectly. Mr. Stalzer agreed and stated that it would not result in an overrun; he also stated that The Watershed Company's work is on budget. He pointed out that the Regional Working Group met again in December for members who could not attend the November meeting. He then mentioned that a public records request relating to the selection of the technical consultant had been filed. Mr. Stalzer did not think that a team meeting would be necessary in April, but that May and June would be important meetings due to the work of the Regional Working Group on the draft Inventory and Characterization Report. He also stated that he would provide monthly updates for months when the team is not meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.