

Water Quality Committee Meeting
September 4, 2002
Grays Harbor County Forestry Building

Terry Willis, chair, welcomed the group and opened the meeting with a discussion about committee expectations. The question was asked if this is a subcommittee of the STC or a separate committee. This question came about because the potential distribution for interested people/committee members is greater than the STC's list. There was concern that this group may be too large to be productive. The group felt the people on the list should be contacted to determine their level of interest. The CBP determined during the February 22, 2002 meeting that it would be a separate committee (see minutes).

The group then reviewed the draft Water Quality Committee description, which will become part of the Partnership's Operating Procedures Manual. The committee needs to establish some expectations regarding commitment to participate. Such as, if a member is absent it is that member's responsibility to keep caught up with the rest of the group. The group agreed that because of the potential size of the group and deadlines, the second to last paragraph should be revised. Dave Rountry would ask those on the list, from his TMDL working group, if they are truly interested in participating on the committee actively or as an interested party. The group also agreed that the committee needed to develop a work program and then determine who from the larger list is interested in the committee or a particular topic.

The group reviewed the draft Water Quality Committee document. The following areas were revised or need more work:

- Composition of membership- the group added local governments and agriculture interests;
- Create subcommittees for TMDL's, this would include occasional participation for other members that do not normally participate in the committee but are participating because of their expertise. Agencies would be included in the interest group list.
- Under the history section should we add text about watershed planning? The group would decide on this idea after this section was incorporated into the manual.
- Add a role that describes prioritization of the water quality projects.
- A question was asked about the decision-making processes. The group would be an advisory group to the Partnership. If there is an issue that can not be accepted by the entire group, then the Partnership will receive a report outlining both points of view. The Partnership can then decide how to address the issue.

- The group needs some structure to insure that the group's concerns are expressed and not the Ecology issues.

Dave Rountry will be the Ecology contact to assist the TMDL working groups with the work program. Dave is attempting to find a way to continue with his work program, which includes development of implementation strategies for the dissolve oxygen, bacteria, and temperature TMDLs. The group decided to leave the working groups, subcommittees to the Water Quality Committee, somewhat informal, so that people who had specific expertise or interests could participate in the working group for that particular TMDL.

The group discussed determining a regular meeting date and time. The group preferred to meet @ 9:00 on the second Thursday @ the County's Forestry Building. Dave reminded the group that the draft TMDL document would not be out until later in October. The group would review Water Quality proposed changes to the standards and the water quality standards grant. A briefing packet would be sent out before that meeting.

The meeting on September 18 will focus on basic TMDL information. Lee will send out an electronic notice and a copy to the CBP local government members.

The meeting adjourned by 3:55 pm.