

Meeting Summary
Utah Water Quality Standards Workgroup
July 21, 2014

See supporting materials at <http://www.waterquality.utah.gov/WQS/workgroup.htm>

Recording available on request.

2014 Triennial Review

Chris Bittner presented the Triennial Review scoping plan. The proposed changes on 2014 tab of the worksheet of the standards issues that DWQ will focus on for this review. Of these issues, methylmercury criteria and a variance policy are the first specific issues that DWQ will address. Leland Meyers suggested checking the zinc standard because the published standard results in acute criteria that are more stringent than chronic criteria. Mr. Meyers also asked about the origin of the 50 mg/l hardness for the aluminum criterion because the USEPA criteria document recommended 10 mg/l. No revisions to the priorities of the work plan were suggested by the workgroup.

Action Items: Chris Bittner to investigate the zinc and aluminum criteria and report back to the workgroup.

Effluent Dependent Waters

Chris Bittner led a discussion regarding effluent dependent waters and presented a summary of the Wyoming and Arizona approaches. Lisa Kirschner suggested that the USEPA's Waters of the U.S. proposal be monitored because it may affect ephemeral waters. The group discussed the different options and potential applications. Concerns were raised that the effort to establish an effluent dependent use class may be out of proportion with the benefits. A statewide approach may not be optimal for Great Salt Lake discharges. The group generally agreed with Leland Meyers suggestion that initial efforts be focused on effluent dependent streams. Depending on the outcome of these evaluations, expanding the efforts to include effluent dependent wetlands and Great Salt Lake can be scoped.

Action Items: DWQ to provide specific examples of where a revised policy may be applied. DWQ to investigate the effectiveness of the Wyoming and Arizona approaches.

Willard Spur Standards Options

Jeff Ostermiller briefed the workgroup on the findings and options for Willard Spur. Jeff explained that once the steering committee and science panel agrees on proposed standard changes, Jeff will report back to the Standards Workgroup. Leland Meyers noted that the implementation of any water supply recommendations for Willard Spur would have to be consistent with existing water rights laws.

USEPA Draft Selenium Criteria

Chris Bittner summarized the USEPA criteria proposed for selenium. Lareina Guenzel clarified that this version was a pre-peer review comment draft.

Adoption of 2013 USEPA Ammonia Criteria

Erica Gaddis updated the workgroup on the progress made towards adoption of the 2013 USEPA ammonia criteria. The workgroup didn't recommend any changes to the proposed approach that focuses on discharge-impacted waters. DWQ anticipates adopting the standard as proposed by the

USEPA for waters that don't currently have a permitted discharge. Tom Ward noted that the Jordan River Farmington Bay Watershed Council was investigating the Jordan River and tributaries for the presence of sensitive mussels and snails. DWQ will initiate a request for proposals and once the costs are determined, DWQ will seek funding to implement the study.

Action Item: Follow-up with the Jordan River Farmington Bay Watershed Council to avoid redundancy of effort.

Adjourn: The next meeting was scheduled for October 20, 2014 at 1:00 pm. After the next meeting, a more frequent meeting schedule may be necessary.

MEETING SIGN-IN SHEET

Meeting Water Quality Standards Workgroup

Meeting Date: July 21, 2014

Facilitator: C Bittner

Place/Room: Red Rocks Conf. Room

Name	Company	Attendance	E-Mail
Chris Bittner	DEQ/DWQ	✓	
Paul Dremman	Trout Unlimited		
Merrit Frey	River Network		
Lareina Guenzel	USEPA R8	✓ on phone	
Lisa Kirschner	KUC	✓	lkirschner@parsonsbrink.com
Thayne Mickelson	Utah Dept of Food and Agriculture	✓	
Leland Meyers	CSDS	✓	
Reed Obendorfer	CUWCD	✓	Reed@CUWCD.com
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Bard Rasmussen	Aqua Engineering		
Ben Holcomb	DWQ	✓	
Thomas Bustub	Prime Group Industry	✓	
TOM WARD	SALT LAKE CITY	✓	tom.ward@slc.gov.com
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