

## Meeting Minutes

### Selenium Management Program – Joint Subcommittee Meeting

10:00 am – 3:00 pm, Friday, April 15, 2011

USDA Service Center (Natural Resources Conservation Service), 690 Industrial Blvd., Delta

#### 1. Introductions & agenda review

#### 2. Review & report on old assignments (see following page)

- Justyn is waiting for contracts to be finalized. Group suggested she start drafting the article. Mainly focused on salinity and program promotion with a “by the way” we’re also getting this great selenium reduction pollution benefit. Suggested also that Justyn get a quote from awardees and allow them time to review.
- Sonja still working on BMP and SMP materials. Spoke to Dennis Murphy and Warren Young (MC Planning Commissioners) and they will both be at April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Steve McCall/CRWCD – River district covered 9 samples at Whitewater for 2011. Steve needs to work on agreement for 2012 and beyond with USGS.
- Steve Miller. Legislation went to appropriations. Bill number is Senate Bill 11-203. State budget passed last night so have \$500K this year. Next year, uncertain.
- Mike B - Funding in the President’s Budget for 2011 for Uncompahgre Project Operation and Maintenance for \$500K. We don’t know what will happen to that money yet. Purpose is to begin implementation of selenium mgt program in the Uncompahgre Valley. This funding goes to USBR and it helps pay for staff time which goes toward O & M activities for Uncompahgre Project.
- DK said staff turnover a concern (continuity) and therefore continuity in funding is important to us (e.g. Mike Baker), so that we can continue to move forward.

#### 3. Science & Research Subcommittee topics (Denis)

##### a. Status of Canal2Wash proposal; potential selling points, partnerships, & funding (Get a copy of Denis’ update slides)

- Dissolved oxygen (fluctuating water levels) and nitrogen questions.
- Coordinate w/Jason Peel of NRCS in the presentation of the information.
- Budget being closely reviewed and being revised.
- Group suggested that we re-submit proposal to BOR S&T for funding and make a tie to salinity in the proposal in addition to Selenium.
- Comprehensive Salinity Study will be at least another 18 months before we have on the ground. Six months before we get an engineer hired.

## b. Monitoring (DK)

- Submitting data to the state for basin rulemaking hearings.
- Need to submit private data collected in lower Colorado and lower Gunnison (Ken's trend report – main stem Colorado 4.58 as of 2008 and make presentation to WQCC that mainstem should be off the list). That's why it's important to get the 9 samples per year.
- Lower Gunnison still does not meet standard.
- Salinity Forum funding (\$86K) for sensors (salinity and temp).
- Can't have both sensors and discrete samples. Possibly need to have just one or the other because of cost.
- Healthy Rivers helped with Colona gage and will be complete in June.
- Need to plan a data monitoring meeting with all the collaborators and funders (Dave Kanzer, lead). Group would like to do sometime in the late summer.

## 4. Technical Review Subcommittee topics (Mike)

- Status of draft report & review timetable, assignments & desired outcomes
- Review of draft Long-Term Plan format and sample content, assignments & desired outcomes
- Complimentary needs for the Non Point Source Watershed Plan, salinity planning & common levels of detail
- Land use study planning & execution (who is doing what and when?)

## 5. Outreach/Education Subcommittee (Sonja)

- Activities plan: still working on updating SMP Pamphlet and Non-Ag BMP document. Working on developing a "short-term" education and outreach plan for SMP education and public input.
- Web page plan - Justyn (USBR) is working on getting some general information onto a dedicated webpage on the USBR website.

## 6. Joint subcommittee topics

- Plan for Field trip re: septic systems - Sonja working on the details of the April 27<sup>th</sup> field tour. Montrose County Sanitarian, Greg Pink, participating.
- Funding priority list for activities and studies
- Other funding issues

## 7. Review new assignments

8. Set next meeting(s) dates and times: Next meeting set for April 27<sup>th</sup>. Joint meeting with the Selenium Task Force (Montrose)

**Selenium Management Program**  
**Assignment Tracking Sheet - as of March 25, 2011**  
(O/E = Outreach /Education Subcommittee; TRS = Technical Review Subcommittee)

|    | <b>Assignment</b>   | <b>Lead</b>  | <b>Due date</b> | <b>Complete?</b>          |
|----|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| 1  | Incorporate comments and complete SMP pamphlet  | Sonja        | ASAP            |                           |
| 2  | Discuss scope and detail needed for the implementation plan in PFD or Watershed Plan with Patty   | Barb         | 1/11/11         |                           |
| 3  | Provide copy of Recovery Program draft plan to subcommittee   | Barb         | 1/11/11         |                           |
| 4  | Look into what we have to do to get Reclamation to make planning report acceptable for Congressional funding authorization. Also, does Reclamation have funds for selenium? | Steve McCall | 3/4/11          |                           |
| 5  | Provide news release when the Salinity funding grants are awarded   | Justyn       | ASAP            |                           |
| 6  | Develop complete public outreach/education plan with vision, goals and objectives   | O/E          | April?          |                           |
| 7  | Increase Whitewater WQ sampling to 9 /yr.   | McCall       | ??              |                           |
| 8  | Schedule MC conf. call re: planning/ implementation strategies; develop handouts  | McCall/ mike | ASAP            | Scheduled for April 26    |
| 9  | On April 15th agenda, review potential Imp. Plan components & tech evaluations  | Mike         | now             | done                      |
| 10 | Incorporate recommendations into draft non-ag BMP document; contact Dennis Murphy about further discussions   | Sonja        | 4-15            | Done - sched. for 4-27-11 |
| 11 | Revise list of questions & plan septic system field tour  | Sonja        | 4-15            |                           |
| 12 | Refine list of SMP funding priorities   | Mike         | 4-15            |                           |
| 13 | Follow action on Species Conservation Trust Fund appropriation in State budget  | S. Miller    | ongoing         |                           |
| 14 | Provide monitoring program write-up   | Barb         | 4-30            |                           |
|    |   |              |                 |                           |