

**SMP Work Group Minutes**  
**1:00 pm, Thursday, January 20, 2012**  
**Delta NRCS office**

**Attendees:** Mike Baker (USBR-Contractor), Terry Stroh (USBR), Barb Osmundson (USFWS), Sonja Chavez de Baca (GB/GVSTF), Ken Leib (USGS), Jedd Sondergard (BLM), John Sottolare (USBR), Theresa McGovern (NRCS), Dale Woodbury (NRCS), Dave Kanzer (Colo. River District), Ed Suppes (UWWUA).

**Facilitator:** Mike Baker

1. Non-agricultural selenium loading - pre-scoping discussion (Mike Baker)

Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. USBR has potential funding for a study, but funds would need to be obligated by May of this year. This would require a scope of work. Other sources of funding for a study, such as the SCTF, may also be available.
2. Three meetings were scheduled for the Science/Research and Technical Review Subcommittees to produce a scope of work. Meetings are scheduled for Feb. 24, Mar. 5, and Mar. 19. All will be at the NRCS office in Delta from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
3. Previous non-Ag selenium source studies were done in the Uncompahgre valley by Shavano SCD/Fred Fisher (pond seepage data collection) with Reclamation funding and directly by Reclamation employee Del Smith (pond seepage and Assessment of Non-Agricultural Water Use in the Uncompahgre Valley). Fred has offered to help with scoping the study.
4. As part of a previous groundwater study, the USGS installed a network of monitoring wells in the Whitewater area. Baseline selenium data were collected, but no recent follow-up data were collected. These wells may still be available for data collection.
5. A suggestion was made to use city/county data to determine potential infiltration due to septic systems.

Action Item(s):

1. Mike will send out copies of Del Smith's report to members of the SR and TR Subcommittees.
2. Review and discuss existing and proposed sampling sites for the lower Gunnison Basin Water-Quality Monitoring Program (Dave Kanzer & Ken Leib)

Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. Dave bought large maps displaying the location of current water quality sites within the study area. He suggested expanding the QW coverage to include sites outside the study

area to help determine what's coming into the system, as well as increased monitoring in the Tongue Creek area to better characterize the reach.

2. Sonja presented a table of QW work currently being done and went over it with the group. Some samples are being collected by River Watch. Their samples help to monitor concentrations. Since they typically don't collect a concurrent discharge measurement their samples can't be used to calculate loading unless discharge data from a nearby gage is available. Dave discussed using GPS to QA water quality sampling site locations.
3. Ken stated that Mike and John from the USBR are working with the USGS to establish new HID boundaries (formerly referred to as HUC boundaries by the group) for the GIS regression model in order to estimate salinity and selenium loads.

Action Item(s):

1. USGS to calculate modeled salinity and selenium loads for USBR. Agricultural salinity loads, as well as total selenium load, will be calculated for each HID basin. Agricultural and non-agricultural proportions for selenium load can't be determined at this time.
3. Review and discuss STF High Priority Action Items for 2012 (STF)

Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. Sonja shared a list of priorities for the STF for calendar year 2012.

**4. Next SMP Work Group meeting:**

There will be a STF meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>. No SMP meeting date is scheduled at this time.

SR & TR Subcommittee meetings are scheduled for Feb. 24, March 5, and March 19.