

**SMP Work Group Minutes**  
**1:00 pm, Tuesday, April 24, 2012**  
**Delta NRCS office**

**Attendees:** Please see attached sign-in sheet.

**Facilitator:** Terry Stroh

**1. Results of non-agricultural issue scoping (Ken and Mike)**

Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. Three meetings were held by the Science Subcommittee to produce a scope of work for a potential Groundwater/Context Study.
2. The subcommittee determined that the best approach was to set objectives of a Groundwater (GW) study that could also help determine potential selenium loading from non-agricultural and other unknown sources. Short-term tasks would include gathering information from previous Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) GW studies, designate sites for a nucleus of study wells that target non- agricultural sources such as septic, install new wells where needed, and go forward with a wetlands study in order to better understand important geochemical properties of selenium transport. Future studies could be added that would determine GW flow paths and geochemical site-specific processes.
3. We plan to use \$50k from the Species Conservation Trust Fund (SCTF), with \$50k matching funds from the US Geological Survey (USGS), to fund a GW study. Specific details of a proposed study, such as number of wells and their locations, will need to be determined.
4. A meeting was held by the Technical Review Subcommittee on April 23 to discuss scoping for a Non-agricultural Solution/Best Management Practices (BMP) Study. Even though non-agricultural selenium loading hasn't been fully quantified, many at today's meeting felt that it was important to determine the most cost-effective, acceptable, and reasonable BMPs at this time in order to "get ahead of the game".
5. Mike put together a draft BMP Study scoping document and shared it with the group. It focused on three main non-agricultural sources: Ponds, Septic, and Turf irrigation. A study plan was identified for each, and qualifications needed for a study team were listed.
6. A question was brought up as to whether or not we should include energy development as a potential source of non-agricultural selenium loading. Energy development may have the potential to bring large amounts of salt, and potentially selenium, up to the surface from great depths. The fluid that's not recycled is put into evaporation ponds. Also disturbance may occur on high selenium soils for roads and infrastructure needed to support energy development. Some at the meeting felt that we should be looking at this since we don't fully know the potential impacts.

## **2. Review FY 12 Study/Research Funding Strategy (Terry)**

### Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. Steve Miller has \$200k available through June. He needs a 1-page scope of work, which also identifies which entity is receiving the funds, in order to get a purchase order.
2. BOR can use a service agreement with the Denver Service Center to help fund some study tasks.

### Action Item(s):

1. We set a funding strategy discussion with Steve Miller, Ken Leib, Denis Reich, and Dave Kanzer.
2. A source of funding needs to be determined for Sonja's position.

## **3. Other**

### Status/Discussions/Decisions:

1. Mike put together a list of irrigation systems with potentially high selenium and salinity loading. State Technical Assistance funds could be made available to these systems to fund an engineering feasibility study that would assist with their participation in the 2012 BOR Salinity Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA).
2. Terry announced that Ed Warner has been selected as the new Area Manager for Reclamation in Grand Junction.

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

The next SMP meeting has been scheduled for June 1<sup>st</sup>.

# Joint Selenium Task Force & SMP Meeting

April 24, 2012 (10am - 3:30pm)

Delta USDA Service Center, NRCS Conference Room, 690 Industrial Blvd, Delta

Name	Representing	Travel Time (hrs)	Mileage	Email Address ("new" members only)
Ken Leib	USGS			
Tosh Lincoln	USGS			
DENIS REICH	CSU			
Ron Gadin	CSU			
Ken Lipton	Shavano CD			
Shannon Castrodale	Shavano CD			
Barb Osmundson	USFWS			
Charles McMurdy	Montrose, Ouray, and San Miguel Farm Bureau			
John Sattilare	USBR			

Continued on next page

Name	Representing	Travel Time (hrs)	Mileage	Email Address ("new" members only)
Wes Boyce	Delta NRCS			Wesley.boyce@co.usda.gov
Terry Stroh	BOR-65			tstroh@usbr.gov
Steve Schrock	DCED			
Ed Suppes	UWUA			
Reg Criddle	Redlands mesa water users + BOR			
MIKE BAKER	USBR			
Dave Kanzer	Colo River District	8	240 mi	dkanzer@crwd.org
<del>DAVE MERRITT</del>	URS			DAVID.MERRITT @URS.COM
Gabriel Lucero	NRCS	1/2		
Ralph D'Alessandro	DCD	1	46	
Tom Haverkamp				