

**Columbia River Regional Forum
Water Quality Team Meeting
October 29, 2007**

1. Welcome and Introductions

Today's WQT meeting was co-chaired by Mark Schneider (NOAA) and Agnes Lut (ODEQ), with representatives from COE, USGS, NOAA, USFWS, BPA and others attending. The following is a summary (not a verbatim transcript) of the topics discussed and decisions made at the meeting. Anyone with questions or comments about these notes should send them to Kathy Ceballos, Kathy.Ceballos@noaa.gov, or bring them to the next meeting.

2. 2008 Total Dissolved Gas Monitoring Plan

Jim Adams (COE) presented the COE's plan of action for monitoring TDG levels in 2008. The COE proposes to use essentially the same TDG monitoring plan this year as last year. Comments are due November 21. The draft plan was distributed via email to WQT members prior to today's meeting and will be finalized at the next WQT meeting December 11.

Data for TDG monitoring are much better than they were 15 years ago, Stu McKenzie said. But more work is needed to define the representativeness of individual gages. Some have more bias than others, for which adjustments can be made. Problems arise when the bias of a gage is unknown. A better definition of representativeness would lead to more credible and legally defensible data.

Representativeness is affected by many factors – spill levels and patterns, changes in flow deflectors, and other physical modifications such as RSWs and TSWs, Gary Fredricks (NOAA) said. Jim Adams noted that representativeness is easier to measure on some sections of the river than others. The most complex areas are below Bonneville Dam and in The Dalles and McNary forebays. It's important to focus the definition of representativeness on technical aspects of TDG measurement, keeping management issues separate, Mark Schneider said. Management objectives and biological objectives should be the same, Margaret Filardo (FPC) said.

Agnes Lut (ODEQ) wanted everyone to be aware that Oregon has removed the Camas-Washougal gage from its list of measurements required for a water quality waiver beginning in March 2008.

3. Status of ODEQ/WDOE Adaptive Management Team

As part of developing three sets of TMDL regulations for the Lower Columbia River, each TMDL includes adaptive management as part of its short-term and long-term implementation, Agnes Lut said.

The November 1 kickoff meeting for the TMDL adaptive management team will be open to the public, with 10 agencies and nonprofits ODOE has invited to serve as official members and technical advisors. These meetings are open to the public. The team's work will be technically not policy oriented. First order of business at the kickoff meeting will be the need for forebay monitors for determining exceedances of the 115% state standard. Chris Maynard (WDOE) will discuss his review of literature on TDG's biological effects.

For more information on adaptive management, go to http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/columbia_rvr/columbia_tdg.html. To receive regular notices of meetings, get on the interested parties list, which is accessible from the website. It will be possible to attend adaptive management team meetings via conference phone.

5. Next WQT Meeting

The next WQT meeting will be on the afternoon of December 11, with no meeting in November. This meeting summary prepared by consultant and writer Pat Vivian.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Affiliation</i>
Jim Adams	COE
Heather Bragg	USGS
Dwight Tanner	USGS
Greg Ruppert	USGS
Stu McKenzie	citizen
Laura Hamilton	COE
Karl Kanbergs	COE
Tina Lundell	COE
Richelle Beck	DRA
Shane Scott	NWRP
Russ Heaton	COE Walla Walla
John Lemons	Columbia Basin Environment
Bob Kimbrough	USGS
Margaret Filardo	FPC
Mark Schneider	NOAA
David Wills	USFWS
Gary Fredricks	NOAA
Rick Kline	Douglas PUD
Ross Hendrick	Grant PUD
Bao Le	Douglas PUD
Chris Maynard	WDOE
Agnes Lut	ODEQ
John Piccininni	BPA

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