

**Columbia River Toxics Reduction Workgroup
October 30, 2007
Tacoma, WA**

Meeting Summary

Participants

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| Helen Rueda, EPA | Ashley Kaiser, URS |
| Dale Norton, WDOE | Lyndal Johnson, NOAA |
| Jennifer Morace, USGS | Dave McBride, WADOH |
| Don Essig (phone), IDEQ | Barry Burnell (phone), IDEQ |
| Mike Karnosh (phone), Grand Ronde | Jeremy Buck, USFWS |
| John Piccininni, BPA | Kevin Masterson, ODEQ |
| Lonna Frans, USGS | Liz Carr, WADOH |
| Mark Curran, Battelle | Nancy Kohn, Battelle |
| Sondra Miller, Boise State | Tony Paulson, USGS |
| Lorraine Edmond, EPA | Agnes Lut, ODEQ |
| Anne Williamson, EPA | Mary Lou Soscia, EPA |
| Mike Cox, EPA | James Thomas, Yakama Nation |
| Rachel Pecore, Columbia Riverkeeper | Joanne LaBaw, EPA |
| Linda Bingler, PNNL | Elena Nilsen, USGS |
| Larry Hulstrom, WA Closure Hanford | Claudia Bravo, NOAA |

Introductions and Welcome

- Lonna Frans, USGS, and Mike Cox, EPA, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Updates:

- Jennifer Morace, USGS, discussed the USGS discretionary funding collaborative monitoring work proposed in the Lower Columbia River Estuary from the Willamette River to the Cowlitz River. A meeting was planned to start scoping the monitoring design (occurred on November 8th).
- Lorraine Edmond, EPA, discussed the work being done to finalize the REMAP and RARE funding decisions for monitoring in the Columbia River Basin. The REMAP sampling will probably occur in 2009.
- Ann Williamson and Mary Lou Soscia, EPA, discussed several meetings with other agencies and organizations to discuss the work of the Toxics Reduction Working Group and potential collaboration.

Presentations:

- Overview of Atmospheric Mercury Fate and Transport – Bob Kotchenruther, EPA, presented information on mercury which included technical information on the mechanics of mercury sources, deposition, monitoring and modeling.
- Oregon Mercury Reduction Strategy – Kevin Masterson, OR DEQ, presented information on Oregon's work effort to reduce mercury.

State of River Report

- Mary Lou Soscia, EPA, presented information including outline and schedule on the Columbia River State of River Report. Mark Curran from Battelle, the EPA contractor, introduced the Battelle team, Nancy Kohn, Lynn MacLeod, and Linda Bingler. A first draft will be completed by the end of February.

Subgroup Meeting Discussions

- There were updates from the various workgroups, Contaminant and Media, Data Sources, Sources, and Indicators. Helen Rueda passed out a table of studies and map of Columbia River. Lorraine Edmond discussed the work of the Sources Subgroup on the pathways of sources. For the Indicators group, Mike Cox, EPA, discussed the Indicators identified at the September Indicators Workshop:
 - **Salmon - juvenile**
 - **Sturgeon**
 - **Resident Fish – Mountain Whitefish, Pike Minnow**
 - **Osprey**
 - **River otter, mink**
 - **Clams**
 - **Lamprey**
- The next meeting was scheduled for February 7th, 2008 in Portland. We did discuss having some future meetings outside of Portland, for example, The Dalles or Hood River. We discussed inviting Elaine Faustman to the meeting to discuss the EPA CARE grant she and her Univ. of Wash colleagues received to do a study in the Yakima River Basin.

Next Steps

- USGS call on November 8th to discuss upcoming monitoring
- EPA will continue to share information on meetings with other organizations on coordinating activities
- Helen Rueda will share data with working group as it becomes available
- Subgroups will continue work and welcome additional participants
- EPA will post summary and presentations on website.