

DWSP June 1 Meeting Notes

POTOMAC RIVER BASIN DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP

Meeting Notes for June 1, 2006

Location: ICPRB, Rockville, MD

Attendees

Utilities

Miranda Brown, Washington Aqueduct
Russell Chambers, Town of Leesburg
Plato Chen, WSSC
Mike Chicoine, Washington Aqueduct
Traci Kammer Goldberg, Fairfax Water
M. T. Habibian, WSSC
Jamie Bain Hedges, Fairfax Water
Charles Murray, Fairfax Water
Ken Orndorff, Frederick County DUSWM
Greg Prelewicz, Fairfax Water
Mohsin Siddque, DC WASA

State Government

Gul Behsudi, MDE
Patrick Bowling, PADEP
Monir Chowdhury, DC Dept. of Health
Joe Lee, PA Dept. of Environmental Protection
Andy Putscher, VADEQ
Bill Toomey, WVBPH (via teleconference)

Environmental Protection Agency or Other Federal Agencies

Scott Ator, USGS
Vicki Benetti, EPA Region 3
Joel Blomquist, USGS
Carol Boughton, USGS
Jose Jorge Canales-Martinez, EPA Region 3
Paula Estornell, EPA Region 3
Chuck Kanetzky, EPA Region 3
Kevin McCormack, EPA Headquarters
K.R. Young, EPA Region 3

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Other Agencies and Organizations

Steve Bieber, MWCOG
Erik Hagen, ICPRB
Carlton Haywood, ICPRB
Joseph Hoffman, ICPRB
Janet Pawlukiewicz, Trust for Public Land
Cherie Schultz, ICPRB

ICPRB Staff Changes

Cherie Schultz has assumed responsibilities for coordinating and assisting in partnership activities.

Reports from Workgroups

Pathogens Workgroup (Plato Chen, WSSC):

The RARE Grant funding for *Cryptosporidium* source tracking (\$90,000 from the EPA) is on course, and the SOW and QA plan are in the process of being finalized. The decision was made to have all analyses done by the leading lab in the country for Crypto genotyping, the lab of Dr. LiHua Xiao at the Center for Disease Control. The Partnership agreed to the Pathogen Workgroup's request for additional funding (\$20,000) to expand monitoring. This will be provided as in-kind assistance via the utilities existing Crypto analysis contracts.

Emerging Contaminants Workgroup (Mohammad Habibian, WSSC):

The Emerging Contaminants Workgroup is pursuing funding for a national study to provide utilities with monitoring strategies and other guidance on how to approach the problem of emerging contaminants. Dr. Habibian is proposing to AWWARF's Research Advisory Council (RAC) that a project on endocrine disruptors be funded by AWWARF; the RAC will finalize its recommendations to the AWWARF Board at a meeting on July 11-3.

Disinfection By-Products Workgroup (Mohammad Habibian, WSSC):

Funding for a project on disinfection by-products is being pursued through AWWARF's RAC (see above).

Emergency Response Workgroup

(Steve Bieber, MWCOG:) MWCOG emergency response efforts related to water security include:

- Monitoring at 16 stations in the National Capitol region for biological and chemical agents (Urban Areas Security Initiative Grant); all utilities are just about up and running.
- A system redundancy study

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- Emergency operations planning, incl. water supply planning for fire fighting, hospitals
- A regional best practices forum, with utilities meeting periodically to share info

(Joel Blomquist, USGS:) USGS is initiating an early warning monitoring system for Maryland water supplies, in partnership with MWCOG, MDE, DHS and others. The first phase of the project will be completed by January 31, 2007, at which time four stations will be established (3 Potomac and 1 Patuxent), for real-time monitoring of chemical and physical parameters and biological sentinel organisms. Funding is available from DHS for an additional year of operation to allow testing and training of the system.

A source of funding will need to be found to continue operation and maintenance of the early warning monitoring system after January 31, 2008.

(Carlton Haywood, ICPRB:) On May 16, ICPRB conducted an exercise of emergency response measures for a simulated spill of a chemical contaminant in the Potomac River. The RICCS communication system was used for notification of water suppliers, the RiverSpill model (constructed by SAIC for EPA) was used to estimate peak concentrations and time of arrival of the chemical at downstream water supply intakes, and a password-protected page of the ICPRB web-site was used to post all spill-related information. ICPRB is continuing to evaluate RiverSpill, by comparing it with the existing spill/time of travel model that was developed through their Cooperative Water Supply Section (CO-OP). Additional spill exercises will be conducted in the coming months.

Urban Issues Workgroup (Traci Kammer Goldberg, Fairfax Water:)

The Urban Issues Workgroup prepared and provided to partnership members a SOW for design and installation of an urban stormwater BMP, for use in potential grant applications (also, see Discussion – Urban Stormwater at the end of these meeting notes) The Urban Stormwater SOW is available for members to review and to submit to their governing boards for pre-approval.

Funding

The proposed funding formula for administrative and technical support by ICPRB was accepted by Partnership members. Joe Hoffman (ICPRB) said that ICPRB will establish a separate bank account for all funds received by ICPRB related to Partnership activities.

Outreach (K.R. Young)

The Outreach Workgroup has been discussing strategies for involving more upstream utilities and NGO's in the Partnership. In order to better publicize Partnership activities to the public, they recommend using logo on all information, developing an information packet to be made available via the Partnership website, partnering with the ICPRB Rambles (canoe trip), and planning activities for the annual AWWA Drinking Water Week. The Workgroup will develop a workplan.

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Presentations - Urban Stormwater

Presentations are now available at ICPRB's website at www.potomacriver.org.

Introduction and Background

Traci Kammer Goldberg, P.E., Chief, Source Water Protection and Planning
Fairfax Water

Federal Stormwater Requirements

Paula Estornelle, P.E., Lead Environmental Engineer
US EPA, Region 3

Watershed Management, Frederick County

Shannon Moore
Frederick County DPW

Maryland's Stormwater Programs

Ken Pensyl, Stormwater Management Director
Maryland Department of Environment

Local Government Initiatives

Wm. Kelly Baty, C.P.G., Hydrogeologist
Loudoun County, VA

Non-Governmental Organization Activities

Brian Seipp
Potomac Conservancy

Discussion – Urban Stormwater

After the afternoon's presentations, the discussion focused on what role the Partnership could play in addressing urban storm water issues.

- Existing funding opportunities: The Chesapeake Bay Trust has a number of funding opportunities appropriate for stormwater-related projects (including Stewardship Grants (\$5,000 - \$25,000) and Community Greening Initiative Grants (up to \$50,000)).
- Establishment of a DWSPP grants program: Fairfax Water has a small watershed grant program which provides up to \$5000 to non-profit organizations. The possibility of a Partnership-funded grant program, similar to FW's program, was discussed. ICRPB staff would be available to provide administrative support for such a program.
- Reaching stakeholders: The importance of reaching all stakeholders, including land developers and planners, was stressed by several participants. Loudoun

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County's Strategic Watershed Management Planning project is an example of a collaborative and consensus-building approach to watershed management which seeks to include all stakeholders. The possibility of a Partnership-sponsored project to provide basin-wide handbooks or other types of guidance or management tools was discussed.

- Funding of showcase sites: Showcase sites equipped with a complete suite of storm water BMPs can provide the public/decision makers with a picture of what is necessary for good watershed management. Such sites already exist in Gettysburg, PA, Fairfax City, VA, and Burtonsville, MD.

Source Water Assessment Compilation

The EPA – Region 3 has completed its compilation of Potomac basin Source Water Assessments in Excel spreadsheet format. This compilation will be made available to Partnership members for review in the near future. ICPRB staff may provide assistance in preparing maps and other graphical displays of this information.

Next Meeting

The next Partnership meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 16, at ICPRB's offices in Rockville, MD. The focus of the meeting will be conservation lands.

The Partnership's Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 25, at the Adams County Emergency Services Center near Gettysburg, PA. More details will be available soon.