

**Columbia River Basin Monitoring Webinar**  
**Proposed Agenda**  
**February 11, 2021**  
**10:00 AM–12:00 PM (PST)**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the webinar is to provide a flexible forum for grantees to share monitoring activities, discuss analytical methods, ask questions of EPA and other grantees, and share information and best practices. If time allows, attendees will consider options for the future of Basin-wide monitoring efforts.

**Deliverables and Their Functions:**

<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Deliverable</b>	<b>Function</b>
Materials used for webinar presentations	Summary of Projects	Summarizes grantees, work to be done, and objectives.
	Map	PDF to show spatial extent of monitoring projects.
	Grantee Monitoring Excel Workbook	Summarizes chemicals being monitored for by grantees in water, sediment, and biota as well as the analytical methods employed.
Additional reference materials	Action Plan Items	Initiatives from the 2010 Columbia River Toxics Reduction Action Plan that may be relevant to current and future CRB monitoring and strategy development (reference document).
	Monitoring References	A list of monitoring references for the CRB.
	CRB Long Term Monitoring Strategy Development Questions	A starting list of questions to inform development of CRB long term monitoring strategy.

**Proposed Agenda:**

**10:00–10:15 Introductions, purpose of the meeting, and agenda review, *Mary Lou Soscia***

- Mary Lou will welcome attendees, ask people to confirm their contact information in the chat, and reiterate the purpose of the meeting.
- Reminder to attendees to post any questions in the chat.

**10:15–10:30 Background on Monitoring in the Basin, *Mike Cox (Retired EPA)***

- Mike Cox will share a history of monitoring strategy for the Columbia River Basin.

**10:30–10:40 Overview of grantee monitoring projects, *Lon Kissinger and Arthur Preston***

- Lon will give a brief overview of the monitoring projects.
  - Summary of information on the monitoring being done by grantees
  - Review of spreadsheet identifying chemicals grantees are monitoring in water, sediment, and biota as well as the analytical methods used for each chemical/medium.
- Arthur will summarize efforts to collect literature references characterizing Columbia River Basin monitoring.
- Grantees can expand/clarify anything they would like to add about their projects.

**10:40–10:50 What makes the UW Tacoma project unique, *Andy James***

**10:50–11:30 Interactive discussion**

- Participants can pose project-specific questions or ask clarifying questions.
- Are grantees having issues with their monitoring that they would like to discuss?

**11:30–11:50 Brainstorming session**

- Participants will discuss how to make sure that data from current projects will be useable to assess the condition of the broader Columbia River Basin.
- Discussion questions include:
  1. Can the data to be collected be used in conjunction with historic data to evaluate status and trends? Will choice of method affect ability to assess trends in contaminant levels?
  2. Will the results be usable for comparison with regulatory criteria to evaluate this aspect of status and trends? Do regulations specify analytical methods that must be employed in order for data to be relevant for assessing compliance with regulations or criteria?
  3. Can the group reach consensus on appropriate analytical methods? (Might not be of concern where standard analytical methods are employed.)
  4. What is the appropriate timescale/frequency of monitoring? What role does seasonality play?
  5. What is the percentage of replicate samples to be collected for QA/QC?
  6. Are analytical methods sufficiently sensitive to detect levels that pose ecological and human health risk?
  7. Are analytical methods sufficiently sensitive to detect background levels of contaminants?

**11:50–12:00 Closing and next steps, *Lon Kissinger and Mary Lou Soscia***

- Lon will ask the group to consider how to develop a long-term monitoring strategy and infrastructure in the Basin. Questions include:
  - Was this webinar helpful for participants?
    - If so, where should this group go from here?
  - Is there interest in another webinar in the fall of 2021?
    - What would attendees want to get out of a future webinar?
    - What topics are most pressing to include in the agenda?
    - Would attendees like to hear from other organizations that have been coordinating monitoring for larger water bodies/systems such as Chesapeake Bay, Puget Sound, Great Lakes, San Francisco Bay?
    - Are attendees interested in a follow-on presentation from EPA on web hosting?
- Mary Lou will share any closing thoughts and adjourn the meeting.