



Willamette River Toxics Reduction Meeting Summary

May 8, 2018, 1pm – 4pm

OR DEQ, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Portland OR

Attendees

Andrea Matzke, OR DEQ	Jim Cathcart, West Multnomah SCWD
Andrew Swanson, ACWA	Ken Grimm, PPRC
Alex Liverman, OR DEQ	Ken Marcy, EPA R10
Ben Hung, Coalition Environmental	Kim Hack, OR DEQ
Bob Sallinger, Portland Audubon	Kurt Carpenter, USGS
Brad Hermanson, Hart Crowser	Kevin Masterson, OR DEQ
Bruce Newton, Johnson Creek Watershed Council	Kevin Scribner, Salmon Safe
Catherine Corbett, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	Lisa Cox, OR DEQ
Cindy Ryals, Portland BES	Madi Novak, OR DEQ
Corrina Chase, Columbia Slough WC	Mary Lou Soscia, EPA R10
Courtney Johnson, Nez Perce Tribe	Michelle Mullin, EPA R10
Ed Gonzalez, PPRC	Mitchell Frister, OR DEQ
Jackie Calder, Portland Harbor CAG	Roy Iwai, Multnomah County
Jennifer Morace, USGS	Scott Dahlman, Oregonians for Food & Shelter
Jeremy Buck, USFWS	Sharon Selvaggio, NW Center for Alternatives to Pesticides
Jessica Terlikowski, Portland BES	Steve Mrazik, OR DEQ
	Travis Williams, Willamette Riverkeeper

Steve Mrazik (OR DEQ) and Mary Lou Soscia (EPA) opened meeting by reviewing history of convening of the Willamette River Toxics Reduction Partnership and reviewing the Partnership Principles.

Steering Committee Members Updates:

- Roy Iwai discussed the upcoming [Big Float](#), July 14 and the opportunity to provide outreach on toxics reduction work efforts. He also discussed the outreach that the [Clean River Coalition](#) is doing with OR Watershed Councils.
- Travis Williams discussed the [Willamette River mussel study](#). Mussel beds were sampled and many beds are not reproducing. Travis requested help from volunteers on their sampling work to look at additional beds in the Eugene area.
- Jennifer Morace shared that USGS would be doing extra samples for algal blooms from June through October at the Morrison Bridge.
- Corrina Chase discussed the restoration and community outreach work underway by the [Columbia Slough Watershed Council](#) including a partnership with VERDE on raingarden work, levee system education which will also include a conversation on toxics, trash clean up and monitoring work; expanding their business partnership to brownfields work; the June 30th opening of Cully City Park; and the Columbia Slough Watershed Council regatta on Aug 5th.
- Jackie Calder discussed participating in the [Community Toxics Coalition](#) which is a gathering of citizens working on Superfund clean-up efforts and on forming a Portland Harbor Watershed Council.

Meeting Presentations:

Roy Iwai, Multnomah County, presented an update on the [Clean Rivers Coalition Update](#). He said that the final decision on the contractor will be made shortly and they are looking forward to the outcome of that work effort.

Kevin Masterson, OR DEQ, provided an overview of the update to the OR DEQ Integrated Toxics Reduction Strategy. DEQ will be seeking input from Steering Committee members and other interested parties on proposed strategy actions this summer.

Lisa Cox and Mitch Frister, from OR DEQ presented information on OR DEQ's work with businesses to prevent toxics pollution in the Willamette River. Lisa discussed the Oregon Applied Sustainability Experience Internships and Mitch discussed the [EcoBiz Program](#).

Andrew Swanson, Clackamas County/ACWA, presented information on the Clackamas County MS4 permit including a history of permitting work efforts, challenges and the successes accomplished by the permit. Kurt Carpenter, USGS, presented the [USGS Clackamas Pesticides Monitoring Study](#). Nearly all streams contained at least one insecticide at levels exceeding an aquatic-life benchmark, most often for bifenthrin and/or fipronil.

Madi Novak, OR DEQ, provided a quick update on the [Upriver Reach Sediment Characterization](#) work effort. DEQ has submitted the final report to EPA. Here are report findings:

- The Upriver Reach is much less contaminated than the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.
- Most contaminants were either not detected or present below Portland Harbor cleanup levels, and significantly below remedial action levels, which trigger the need for active cleanup.
- In the few locations where concentrations exceeded Portland Harbor remediation action levels, contamination appears to be localized.
- Contamination detected in the Upriver Reach is not expected to impact the Portland Harbor Superfund Site.

Alex Liverman, OR DEQ, presented a quick update on the Toxics Reduction Partnership Report/Story Map. Alex committed to send an email to the group requesting information to help populate the story map. Here is the request to the Steering Committee:

"We need the help of the Steering Committee to fill out the information that will make the story map a useful and interactive tool for assessing and understanding toxics in the Willamette River and educating the public on reducing toxics. Each separate page has a request at the bottom for Steering Committee members to help populate the map with information, organizational logos and contact information.

Provide your logo contact info and web link via the submission form at:

<https://form.jotform.com/81237544097158> and other content at:

<https://form.jotform.com/81265658297167>"

Organizational logos and contact information was requested by **May 18th** and other content by **June 8th** to: alex.liverman@state.or.us

Mary Lou committed to send out an email to schedule the next meeting in September.

All of the meeting presentations can be found at:

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/willamette-watershed-toxics-reduction-partnership>