

**Wood River Watershed Advisory Group**  
**DRAFT**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Big Wood Canal Company  
409 North Apple Street, Shoshone, Idaho  
April 25, 2017

Attendees

Bill Davis – Camas Conservation District  
Bryan Dilworth – Blaine Soil Conservation district  
Lynn Harmon – Big Wood Canal Company  
Shell Howard – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office  
Rusty Kramer – Water District 37B  
Patti Lousen – Wood River Land Trust  
Irene Nautch – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office  
Chuck Pentzer – Soil & Water Conservation Commission  
Rob Sharpnach – Soil & Water Conservation Commission  
Bob Simpson – City of Carey  
Sue Switzer – DEQ Twin Falls Regional Office  
Mark Toone – Livestock  
Bryan Wood – Little Wood Irrigation District

The meeting of the Wood River Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) was called to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, Bob Simpson. The attendees introduced themselves and who they represented.

WAG Business

- The minutes for the Wood River WAG meeting held on May 10, 2016 were reviewed. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as written. There was no discussion and the minutes were approved.

DEQ Updates

Shell Howard discussed the following updates:

- Rich Bupp is doing E.coli follow up in the Camas Watershed. A memo from Rich was made available to the attendees.
- The BURP crew will also be in the Camas. A list of BURP sites was handed out. They will also be putting Quagga plates out in Magic, Little Wood, and Mormon.
- DEQ Personnel changes – Sonny will be concentrating on the Mid-Snake, and a new Water Quality Manager will be hired soon. Sue Switzer has transferred to the Air Quality section.

- The leak at Triumph Mine was only a broken pipe; it is getting fixed. A document describing the Triumph Mine Water Control Project was made available.
- They do not expect much in the way of algae blooms (HABs) this year.
- The State funded \$500,000 to go towards 319 projects, specifically Agriculture projects, which is separate from the federal monies. We are not sure how it will be divided.

### Ground Water Update

Irene Nautch presented a summary of the ground water sampling and testing effort that is occurring in Lincoln County because of a significant contamination event. Following a February thaw in an especially high snow year, 2 dairy lagoons were reported breeched and dairy waste was being pumped or was flowing into the Milner-Gooding canal northwest of Shoshone. DEQ received a complaint that well water was discolored and smelled like manure, which was referred to the Department of Agriculture. DEQ also received reports of a large hole in a trench associated with the North Gooding Hydro plant agency to the canal. Dairy waste was reportedly flowing into that trench and sinking.

Irene reviewed the results of sampling events by Department of Agriculture (February 22), Public Health District (March 9), and DEQ (March and April). Those testing positive in the first sampling event ranged from 10 to >2000 MPN/100mL for total coliform and 9 to 411 MPN/100mL for E. coli. Throughout the sampling events all the results have either decreased or stayed the same with just a few remaining E.coli ranging from 1 to 3 MPN/100mL. Irene accepted discussion and questions from WAG members.

### Big Wood River Sub-Basin Review

A copy of the Draft Big Wood River TMDL Five-Year Review was given to the attendees. Sue Switzer gave a presentation on the progress of the document and what to expect down the line. Sue collected the data for this document and that was the focus of her presentation. She has recently switched positions and will be turning the document over to Shell Howard for completion.

This is a big watershed and resources were limited. Sue took the creeks that had TMDLs on them and focused on the pollutants the TMDLs were developed for. She did random monitoring for what she saw as red flags, but other than that stayed with what was in the TMDL. This TMDL was written for phosphorus, total suspended solids, and E.coli. Sue presented the data she collected.

The 2012 Integrated Report shows Magic Reservoir as having a TMDL. That is not accurate. Therefore, no monitoring was done on the reservoir. Sue accepted discussion and questions from the WAG members.

Chuck Pentzer asked if information (a map or table) that demonstrates implementation of the TMDL by the agricultural community could be added to the document. Shell said that it would have to be done right away. As soon as Chuck gets the information to Shell, he will get it out to the WAG via email for review. Then it can be added to the document before it goes forward.

The WAG members were asked to take a good look at this document and contact Shell Howard with any questions or comments. This document is schedule to go to the State Office the end of May.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m. by chairman, Bob Simpson.

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WAG Chairman

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Date approved