

## Priest River Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) Meeting

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Priest River, Idaho



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## Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Beneficial uses
  - a. Existing
  - b. Presumed
  - c. Designated
3. Idaho water quality standards
  - a. Numeric Criteria
  - b. Narrative Criteria
4. Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program
5. Future WAG meetings



## Introductions

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## Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

- Mission – *To protect human health and preserve the quality of Idaho's air, land, and water for the use and enjoyment today and in the future.*
- Became a state agency in 2000

**DEQ webpage: <http://www.deq.idaho.gov/>**

## Coeur d'Alene Regional Office

- Five sections
  - Drinking water
  - Air
  - Engineering
  - Waste and Remediation
  - Surface Water



## Clean Water Act

- Requires that states and tribes restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation's waters
- Idaho's implementation of CWA
  - Develop WQS to protect beneficial uses
  - Approved by EPA

**Idaho Water Quality Standards**  
<http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0102.pdf>



## Beneficial Uses

- Aquatic Life
  - Bull trout
  - Cold water
  - Salmonid spawning
- Recreation
  - Primary contact
  - Secondary contact



## Beneficial Uses

- Designated
  - assigned to a specific water body in Idaho water quality rules
- Existing uses
  - uses that are/were actually attained in a water body on or after November 28, 1975
- Presumed
  - Idaho presumes most undesignated waters will support cold water aquatic life and either primary or secondary contact recreation

## Idaho Water Quality Standards

- Identifies the water quality necessary to protect beneficial uses
  - Numeric Water Quality Criteria
  - Narrative Water Quality Criteria



## Idaho Water Quality Criteria

- Numeric Water Quality Criteria
  - Water temperature - max and daily average (see handout)
  - Dissolved oxygen - 6% or 90%, >5%
  - Bacteria (*E. coli*)- 126 cfu/100ml
  - pH - 6.5 - 9
  - Turbidity - 50 NTU or 25 NTU



## Idaho Water Quality Criteria

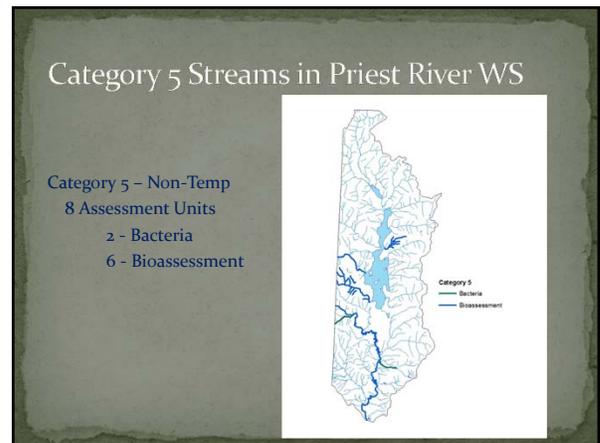
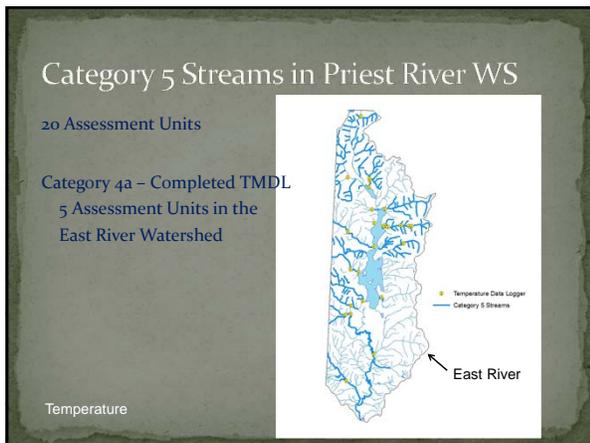
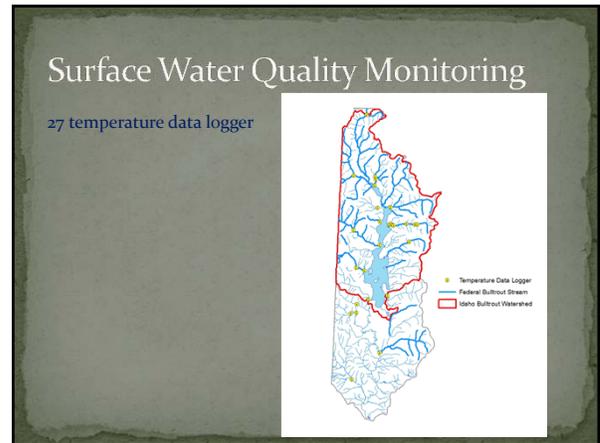
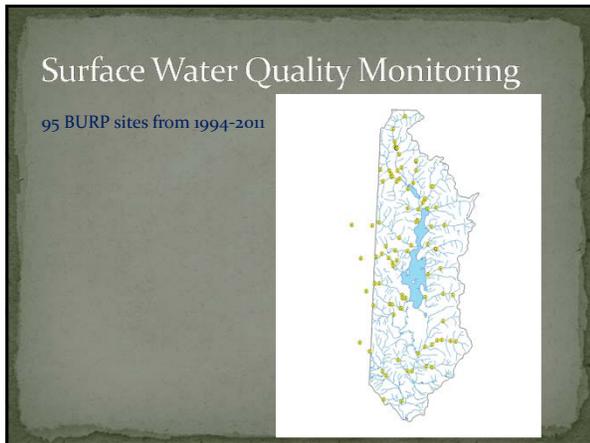
- Narrative Water Quality Criteria
  - Shall be "free from" pollutants such as oil and scum, color and odor, and other substances that can harm people and fish.
- Sediment
- Nutrients



## Surface Water Quality Monitoring

- Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program (BURP)
  - Physical
  - Biological
  - Chemical





- ### Upcoming TMDL Efforts
- New TMDLs for Category 5 pollutants
  - Revise old temperature TMDLs
  - Develop TMDL 5-year Review
  - WAG Roles
    - Supply data
    - Review documents
    - Recommend actions for TMDL implementation
    - Advise DEQ on matters of concern to the community

### Other Types of Data & WAG Involvement

- Temperature logger data
- Discharge reports
- Photographs
- Water chemistry data
- Observations
- Being Involved

## Data Types

- Tier 1
  - High scientific rigor with monitoring plan, QA/QC, collect by professionals, and analyzed by qualified lab
- Tier 2
  - Collected under less stringent conditions
- Tier 3
  - Collected under less stringent conditions

## Future WAG Meetings

- Tuesday February 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Continue meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month
  - Move to Tuesday
- Meeting topics
  - Water quality listing status, EPA approved TMDLs, Future TMDLs

## Priest River WAG Webpage

- Post documents, meeting material and other resources

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/>