

SVRP Aquifer Study
Management Committee Conference Call 5/31/07

Attendees:

Helen Harrington, Hal Anderson, Bob Haynes IDWR
Guy Gregory, Grant Pfeiffer, Keith Stoffel, Janis Gilbert, WDOE
Steve Lipscomb, Gary Turney, USGS

Status of Current Project: Final grant dollars are secured from EPA by parallel grant applications for approximately \$144000 per state. IDWR has contracts in place with USGS and Ralston and Associates to conduct a water budget for Lake Coeur d'Alene and seepage analysis of the Spokane Arm respectively. Ecology will be funding WWRC and IWRI to instrument and operate weather stations within the aquifer area and to develop response function spreadsheet tools for use with the model. Those contracts are pending.

Meeting debrief: Most indicated the meeting went well overall. Main criticisms both internal to the project and from others: 1) Some of the technical talks were over the heads of the audience, leading to some factual mistakes on behalf of less-sophisticated folks in the policy arena, and 2) the agenda development especially at the very end was "less than elegant". The result was the second day seemed disjointed and difficult to follow, though all agreed that the politicians agreeing to meet this summer seemed a positive development. If we do this again, we need to do this better.

Upcoming events: A semi-annual report is due EPA as of June 30. USGS may be briefing individuals at Interior on the project and sought interest from the States in participating, both states agreed to participate should the opportunity arise.

Status of Existing MOA and Next Steps morphed into the same discussion. All agreed that USGS role in the future will be on a secondary, as-needed basis, with main model operation and maintenance issues being shouldered by the states. ID and WA have been working on an MOA addressing these issues, that work has been set aside during the meeting and other more pressing issues for both states, both agreed to pick it up again and move forward. Both states share interest in the central themes of model maintenance and operation: agreed upon modifications and improvements. Helen and Guy were tasked with dusting off previous drafts and moving the MOA forward. Once those terms are agreed upon, the existing MOA will be reviewed for relevancy. The existing MOA remains in effect. IDWR will host the repository for the project and products.