Meeting Notes

November 8, 2018
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Oregon DEQ Lloyd District Building
700 NE Multnomah Street, Rm. 610
Portland, Oregon 97232

List of attendees
Jane Bacchieri, City of Portland
Michael Campbell, Stoel Rives, LLP
Lauren Goldberg, Columbia Riverkeeper
Tracy Rutten, League of Oregon Cities
Susie Smith, Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies
Jeff Stone, Oregon Association of Nurseries
Travis Williams, Willamette Riverkeeper
Caylin Barter, Jordan Ramis with Oregon Association of Nurseries
Jennifer Wigal, DEQ
Justin Green, DEQ
Michele Martin, DEQ
Rian Hooff, DEQ
Jeff Navarro, DEQ

Comments
• Links to documents discussed:
  o Statewide Permit Issuance Work Plan for Federal Fiscal Year 2019
  o Fact sheet: 2019 Water Quality Permit Issuance Work Plan
  o NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report
    The purpose of the NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report is to provide an evaluation of DEQ’s organization, permitting procedures, permitting resources, and training, and identify and prioritize potential enhancements that will maximize DEQ’s potential to achieve their permit issuance goals.
    DEQ will use this report as a guide for program improvements. The NPDES Permit Program Enhancement Report is a recent companion piece to the Recommendations and Implementation Plan published December 2016 (Chapters 5 and 6).
• Frequent and meaningful communication with stakeholders is appreciated
• Is DEQ concerned about space constraints, generally - and at lab specifically – in the event that the agency is granted additional personnel/resources for the next biennium?
• Consider a 10-year foundational work plan for the DEQ Water Quality program
• The Governor’s 100-year water vision – DEQ’s role
• Consider the differences between the Integrated Water Resource Strategy and the Governor’s 100-year water vision related to DEQ’s work
• Permit backlog – discussion and historical perspective of outsourcing permit writing
• DEQ is communicating well about the mercury variance
• Schedule forum conversations quarterly to build member cohesiveness and to have specific and detailed dialogue
• Develop meeting agendas to include technical staff and specific members of the community to have meaningful dialogue about strategies for solutions focused on pollution prevention and source reductions
Topics for future forums:

- Draft a broader picture of how DEQ fits into other Oregon agencies work in water toward a unified Oregon approach to quality and quantity
- Concentrated effort to educate Legislators about water issues, generally, and DEQ water quality programs in particular
- Infrastructure - Include a holistic assessment
- Temperature TMDL – looking for the next actions toward this policy
- 401 certification
- Implementation of stormwater settlement in 2019 and 2020
- Consider a one water vision when having forum dialogue
- Implementable permits
- Engage with other agencies focused on water to build a tool kit to fix river systems
- Water scarcity in Oregon
- Aquatic invasive species as a source of increased concern threatening WQ and habitat conditions in the Willamette and elsewhere
- Municipalities – role in water quality
- Practices for exchanging information between DEQ and permittees – open dialogue with legal solutions
- Regulation for watershed-based approach

Alternative formats
For questions about accessibility or to request an accommodation, please call 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696. Requests should be made at least 48 hours prior to the event. Documents can be provided upon request in an alternate format for individuals with disabilities or in a language other than English for people with limited English skills. To request a document in another format or language, call DEQ in Portland at 503-229-5696, or toll-free in Oregon at 1-800-452-4011, ext. 5696; or email mailto:deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.