

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

Meeting Minutes November 19, 2014
Grand Center, Moab

Stakeholders Present	Affiliation	Others
Dave Erley Mike Allred Ann Marie Aubry Geoff Freethey Bob O'Brien Amber Johnson Jason Johnson Chris Baird Eric Johnson Lynn Jackson Marc Stilson Heather Church Bryon Torgerson Dana Van Horn Patricia Holyoak George Carter John Groo Bob Davidson Vic Heilweil Kara Dohrenwend Melissa Masbruch Kirstin Peterson Roger Barton	Town of Castle Valley Division of Water Quality Moab BLM Trail Mix Moab Solutions NRCS State Forestry, Fire & Sovereign CWC City of Moab Grand County Division of Water Rights State Forestry, Fire, & Sovereign SITLA GWSSA Grand County Moab Irrigation Town of Castle Valley USFS USGS Grand County Conservation Dist USGS City of Moab Utah Ass of Conservation Dist	Arne Hultquist, Watershed Coordinator

ACTIVITY	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Review Agenda and Introductions	Introductions were made and no changes were suggested for the agenda. There was a slight change made to the footer of the October minutes.	October minutes were approved.
WC Update	Arne reported the monthly monitoring has occurred and the website was updated within the last month with agendas, minutes and the current version of the Watershed Management Plan (WMP). There hasn't been any progress on the mini-grants. The NPS grant group at the DWQ has changed the funding for MAWP projects. The City of Moab Wagner St project has been moved from 319 funding to NPS funding. The Pack Creek AFO project on 400 East that was started before the MAWP existed was moved to 319 funding. Because the NPS funding is available now, the Wagner St project can begin anytime Moab City would like to start.	Arne will make appropriate changes to the Project Implementation Plan.
Annual Data Collection Summary and	Arne gave a 33 slide presentation on data collected last year. There was a lot of edification involved and a lot of discussion on what could be done. Highlights of the discussion were:	Arne will write a letter to DWQ and request a fish sampling event

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<p>Recommendations for next year:</p>	<p>Mercury in Fish: DWQ sampled this summer Seven 8 to 12.5 inch trout below the Power Dam. The Mercury data is not available yet. DWQ will not recommend to the Department of Health remove the consumption advisory even if the fish are below the limit because they don't know the mechanism for mercury variations in fish. The group conclude another sampling location above the Sheley Diversion would be appropriate because more fishing is occurring there.</p> <p>E. Coli: Overall the data was similar to last year's findings. E. Coli is virtually non-existent in Ken's Lake, Castle Creek at USFS boundary, and Mill Creek below the Power Dam. E. Coli does violate its standards at all other sites. The group discussed what could be done, but the members didn't have any proposals for projects that could decrease E. Coli concentrations. The group did suggest a one-time sampling event next year where cotton would be placed in tubes, the tubes placed in the creeks, and then illuminated with a black light to determine presence/absence of optical brighteners used in laundry detergents. The Group also discussed the 2A versus 2B designation for Mill Creek. The group concluded 2A was a more appropriate designation.</p> <p>Total Dissolved Solids: The good news is that only one site in our watersheds violated its TDS standard last year. That site; Castle Creek at U128 violations were close to the standard and the group hopes the current projects in Castle Creek will help lower those TDS concentrations.</p> <p>Temperature: It has been several years since we had continuous monitoring instruments in the Mill Creek watershed. The results were not surprising but they were informative. Mill Ck bl Sheley Diversion, Left Hand Mill Ck ab Mill Creek and Pack Ck at Spanish Trail Road exceed their 20⁰ C temperature standard occasionally but the percentage of exceedances is small enough that they support their use designation. The other sites with continuous instruments (Mill Ck @ 500 West, Mill Ck ab 191, Pack Ck at 200 West, Mill Ck ab N Fk, and Mill Creek ab Spring Canyon all had a high percentage of temperature standard exceedances. We are currently supporting revegetation projects that could help these streams with their temperature issues. The BLM is considering switching phase II and phase III of their Mill Creek project to address the temperature issue in Mill Ck ab Left Hand sooner.</p> <p>Flow: The continuous monitoring for pressure was converted to depth and then flow from curves generated with instantaneous measurements. All the graphs of flow throughout the summer were very similar, basically a straight line of base flow with occasional huge peaks during rain events. The graphs emphasized the flashiness of this watershed. There was some discussion among the group about damage during those high events and what could be done to</p>	<p>above the Sheley Diversion.</p> <p>Arne will add an optical brightener event to next year's SAP.</p> <p>Arne will write a letter for the MAWP requesting Mill Creek and tributaries Recreational Use Designation be changed from 2B to 2A.</p> <p>No Changes were suggested to the field parameter sampling.</p> <p>The MAWP will consider projects that could help lower TDS values.</p> <p>The MAWP will continue to support projects that increase shading and lower temperatures in streams.</p> <p>Arne will work with the BLM and USU on data sharing and what would be the required elements for a minimum flow study.</p> <p>The monitoring plan for continuous monitoring will remain the same.</p>
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	<p>protect the streams functionality and private property. Emergency Watershed Program funding was also suggested as a source of funding for those types of projects.</p> <p>Data for Minimum Flow Study: Arne indicated that as a group we haven't decided whether a minimum flow study should be undertaken. However, if one was requested, and a contractor was hired we could save a lot of money if we had a significant portion of the required data. The group agreed to discuss the study and data requirements at a later date because we were out of time and the attendees were not prepared for that discussion. For more specific information on the data presented please refer to the data presentation on the MAWP website.</p>	
USGS Groundwater Study for Spanish Valley:	<p>Vic Heilwell of the USGS was prepared with a 20 minute power point on the Groundwater Study the USGS is performing to support a Groundwater Management Plan for Spanish Valley. However, we were out of time. He explained briefly his current data collection efforts and emphasized his support for data sharing between the Watershed Coordinator for the MAWP and USGS.</p>	<p>Arne and Vic will continue to collaborate on data collection activities and will share their results.</p>
Annual Project Updates:	<p>Annual project updates were not presented because we were out of time.</p>	
Next meeting scheduling and agenda reminders	<p>The group decided not to have a meeting in January, our next meeting will be February 18. Arne reminded the group we will need to change our bylaws and elect new officers. We will have two months between our February and April meeting to finalize projects and because we are the targeted basin for NPS funds we may get a significant amount of funding this year.</p>	
Items not on the Agenda	<p>Ranking Criteria, Bylaws We need to discuss these at the next meeting. Section 2.8, 9, & 10 Groundwater Management Plan</p>	<p>Arne put these items out as not on the agenda, using it as a place holder for future meetings.</p>
Adjourn	<p>The next meeting will be February 18 at the Grand Center</p>	<p>Adjournment</p>