

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

Meeting Minutes November 17, 2017
Grand Center, Moab

Stakeholders Present	Affiliation	Others
Dave Erley Dana Van Horn Jeff Adams Don Andrews Ann Marie Audry Taylor Hohensee Chris Wilkowske Scott Hacking Mike Allred Kara Dohrenwerd Jason Johnson Makeda Hanson Bob Obrien Greg Owen Mickaile A Hill Tina Marian Eric Johanson Jennifer Jones Keri Nelson Tatsy Guild Gerrish Willis	Town of Castle Valley GWSSA Canyonlands Watershed Council NRCS Moab BLM Moab BLM USGS UDEQ UDWQ Rim to Rim and GCD USFF&SL UDWR Moab Solutions NPS NPS USFS Moab City Moab BLM NPS Private Citizen Grand County	Arne Hultquist, Watershed Coordinator

ACTIVITY	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Review Agenda and Introductions	Introductions were made. There weren't any changes suggested for the September minutes. Some informational items were added to today's agenda.	September Minutes and today's agenda were approved.
Watershed Coordinators Report	There weren't any inquiries from the group on the Watershed Coordinators Report. Dave Erley asked about the status of La Sal Sustainability Collaboration monitoring. Arne informed him that all the monitoring was completed successfully for this year.	Arne will continue submitting WC reports
Jet Boats on the Colorado River Discussion:	Arne opened the discussion by reminding the group that the Colorado River was outside of the MAWP's area and we are having the discussion at this meeting because MAWP members thought the venue would be a good place for this discussion. Arne also noted that the private citizen that originally requested the discussion was not in attendance. Jason Johnson from Sovereign Lands explained the extent and history of Sovereign Lands. He also informed us that commercial operations on Sovereign Lands needed a Right of Entry permit to conduct business on those lands. Then he explained the public trust doctrine policy that UFF&SL follows for that permitting process. Utah has a mandate in Statute to manage for multiple use and ecological values. He said this was a good opportunity to have this discussion because UFF&SL is developing a	

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

	<p>comprehensive management plan for the Colorado and Green River Sovereign Lands. There has already been one developed for several other Sovereign Lands in the State. Kara and Dave expressed concerns with erosion from the jet boats. Mike Allred asked if there was any science supporting their concerns. Mike Hill explained the permitting process for Colorado and Green Rivers downstream of the National Park Boundary. Jennifer explained the permit systems upstream of Sovereign Lands that are managed by the BLM. All entities provided examples of difficulties associated with jet boats and user conflicts. Jason informed attendees that there will be open houses and public comment periods associated with the Colorado and Green River comprehensive management plan. He encouraged attendees to attend those meetings and provide comments.</p>	
<p>Monitoring results from the 2017 Water Year: Mercury in fish results</p>	<p>Arne informed the group that the fish collected for mercury in fish have not been analyzed yet.</p> <p>Arne provided a list of characteristics that waterbodies in the MAWP area are exceeding. Which is the justification for the monitoring we are performing.</p>	
<p>Coliform monitoring results</p>	<p>Arne presented the E Coli monitoring data for 2017. He explained that we never have any standard exceedances of E Coli in Kens Lake, above the lower BLM boundary on Mill Creek or above the USFS boundary on Castle Creek. The data show that the other nine sites all exceed the geometric mean standard for E Coli and the mean of samples at six sites exceed the maximum one instance standard for E Coli. Arne said they may have an opportunity to hook up a septic tank that is close to Mill Creek to the sewer and that may help alleviate the E Coli contamination in Mill Creek. Arne showed the average results from the last four years at the same stations on another graph. Only the Pack Creek stations show a trend and the trend is increasing E Coli concentrations.</p>	
<p>Field parameter results</p>	<p>Arne presented Total Dissolved Solids averages for this year and for the last four years. He noted that Pack Creek is listed for TDS and Selenium. Selenium concentrations are related to TDS and he expects the Selenium concentrations to be below standards if the TDS values are below standards. Pack Creek hasn't violated TDS standards in 4 years and Arne is hopeful that Pack Creek will be de-listed simply by being dropped from the list of impaired streams for TDS and Selenium because it isn't exceeding standards. Arne said the only site on Castle Creek that is exceeding standards is Castle Creek at U128. That site has a site specific standard of 1800 mg/l. Arne noted that values exceeding standards are only slightly above the standard and he is hoping that something might be done about the reverse osmosis discharge water that might be contributing salt to this Castle Creek site. Dave suggested we add two sites to the lower end of</p>	<p>Arne will install a stilling well with a pressure transducer at the old USGS gage on lower Castle Creek. He will also add that site and a site at the culvert in the Town of Castle Valley as a monthly site for field parameter collection. H</p>

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

<p>Continuous Temperature results, Continuous</p> <p>Depth/flow monitoring results</p>	<p>Castle Creek. One at the USGS gage above the well and reverse osmosis and one at the bridge/culvert in the town of Castle Valley. He also asked if a pressure transducer could be installed at the former USGS gage. Arne agreed to do so. Arne also noted that none of the sites violated pH standards in the last four years.</p> <p>Arne provided graphs and statistics for three years of continuous temperature monitoring. Most sites are exceeding temperature standards more than 10 % of the year and therefore continue to be considered impaired for temperature. Arne was asked to determine if water temperatures were rising in these streams. Arne separated the data into three water years to compare yearly statistics. None of the sites showed a trend toward warming because the 2016 water year was quantitatively plentiful and that kept stream temperatures lower that year. Garrish asked if it was appropriate to have a cold water fishery standard for these desert streams. Mike suggested that it is and it would be difficult to justify changing the use classification to a warm water fishery.</p> <p>Arne explained that the continuous depth probes need to be adjusted for barometric pressure. The barometric pressure transducer failed in December last year and Arne will have to use data from the Moab airport. That data will require quite a bit of hand editing but he has edited December's data at this time. Arne presented a year of depth to groundwater data from a City well near Swanny Park. The data indicates during the irrigation season groundwater levels drop and fluctuate rather extensively. The stream depth profile data has not been updated due to the missing barometric pressure files. The current stream profiles illustrate the "flashiness" of the Pack, Mill and Castle Creek watersheds.</p>	
<p>Other Business Water Conservation Board discussion</p> <p>Manti-La Sal NF Management Plan Revision Schedule</p> <p>RC&D Council</p>	<p>The attendees did not have any questions for about the discussions at the last two Water Board meetings</p> <p>Arne asked if anyone knows about the schedule for the Manti-La Sal NF Management Plane revision. No one in attendance had any information on it.</p> <p>Arne asked the group if any of the attendees had engaged Sam about becoming part of the RC&D Council. The attendees said they had not. Arne informed them that Sam would be reaching out to them</p>	
<p>Items not on the Agenda</p>	<p>Section 2.8, 9, & 10</p>	<p>Arne put these items out as not on the agenda, using it as a place holder for future meetings.</p>

Moab Area Watershed Partnership

Adjourn	The next meeting will be at 1:00 January 17, 2018 at the Grand Center. It will focus on the project development for this year's grant cycle.	Adjournment
---------	--	-------------