

**Watershed Management Area 4
Technical Advisory Committee**

October 28, 2004

Meeting opened at 6:40pm.

Discussions pertaining to the fecal coliform **QAPP** began. The original intent for the QAPP was for sampling on WigWam and Molly Ann. The purpose of sampling WigWam was for it to be put on Sublist 5 for fecal coliform. The purpose of sampling Molly Ann Brook was to define the nonpoint source contribution to fecal coliform. Molly Ann is supposedly already on sublist 4 because of the CSO contribution to fecal coliform. It is on sublist 4 because the DEP felt that the CSO contribution to fecal coliform would be addressed by some management measure other than a TMDL. For Molly Ann, the water quality sampling is not for listing purposes. Sampling on Molly Ann is to determine other sources of NPS. A QAPP is needed prior to sampling. Our QAPP is approved but not signed.

The Priority Stream Segment (PSS) needs a QAPP. Sampling has begun. The current QAPP needs to be amended to add PSS fecal coliform. Data that was collected prior to NJDEP notice can be used. However, NO future sampling may be done until QAPP is signed.

Russ Furnari suggested creating a generic QAPP and sampling plan for the DEP to approve. Once approved, specific information pertaining to the sampling can be added and sent to DEP for expedited approval.

Molly Ann Brook is on Sublist 5 for benthic invertebrates and committee was unable to find it listed on Sublist 4. Once again, no sampling until QAPP is approved and signed.

Only the DEP can do TMDLs. The Department can contract out sampling for TMDL development but only DEP can create a TMDL.

Dr. Pardi is not concerned about other parameters being included in PSS due to abundance of approved data (USGS, PVSC, etc).

Items needed for QAPP: map, chain of custody form, lab certification #, field schedule and possible SOPs. The QAPP, once complete, will be submitted to the BEAR group. There will be no sampling in winter (Dec.-Feb.). It is assumed that fecal coliform sampling during Sept and Oct is OK because its being used for informational purposes only. The Department needs to define which level of data they want. Which tiered level?

Statewide Phosphorus TMDL will be completed by end of 2005. It will include site specific reduction in one comprehensive document. It is unknown if the Passaic River Phosphorus TMDL will be included in the document. Areas in WMA 4 on Sublist 5 that require TMDLs include Passaic River @ Elmwood Park, Second River, and Saddle River.

Visual assessments – Michele Bakacs will look through old Ambassador information to pick out hot spots. Wyckoff EC is doing visuals along HoHoKus. LWV is doing visuals on HoHoKus in Ridgewood and Glen Rock. This terms Ambassador will focus on TMDL segments. Michele stated that by next meeting she'll have volunteer assignments done for long-term.

Passaic River Data Exchange - Dr. Pardi stated that the whole thing will come down to modeling. The DEP/TRC Omni has tied P to Dissolved Oxygen. Russ reminded the group that the concern is the P impact on drinking water. Pardi finds it hard to believe that DO isn't swinging below 4mg/L because there was no sampling during drought conditions. In low flow, NJDWSC is pulling so much water that the majority of the Passaic becomes treated effluent.

People are catching trout between the Great Falls and Dundee Dam. How? The temperature is too high. Is there any proof of spawning?

EENJ grants – Committee discussed asking Kirk Barrett at the Passaic River Institute to pursue the Urban Watershed Training Program.

WPU fiscal officer will be meeting with Pardi and GS Engineers in immediate future to discuss 319 project. Michele will send out 319 proposal for PAC to review.

New Business:

Attendance: it was suggested that we send out more reminders about the meetings. We are planning on combining the November and December meetings into one during the second week of December. Russ will look into inviting Tim Wilson, USGS, to discuss the data on the Passaic. We will send out a message polling stakeholders as to their preferred meeting day. Russ suggested having the next PAC meetings in Saddle River area.

Meeting closed at 8:50pm.