

South River Science Team Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2009
Web-based meeting

Introductions – *Don Kain, DEQ*

Announcements, Newsletter, Outreach, etc. – *Calvin Jordan/Don Kain, DEQ (Mike Liberati joined meeting late)*

-The 9th annual Virginia Fly Fishing and Wine Festival will be held on April 18th and 19th, at Constitution Park on the banks of South River. Riverfest is scheduled for the following Saturday, April 25th, and the week proceeding it will include watershed educational activities for the local schools. The SRST plans to participate in both and anybody who is interesting in volunteering should contact Scott Gregory. Scott Gregory is a member of the Riverfest Planning Committee. Both Calvin and Scott will be working at Riverfest. There will be a table set up with SRST information. We will also have a table set up at the Fly Fishing festival and will attend the table when possible. Information for both events can be found at the following websites.

www.riverfestwaynesboro.org

www.vaflyfishingfestival.org

-For the past two years, the Living South River Labs at Grand Caverns Park in Grottoes has provided a meaningful watershed experience for over 2,000 sixth graders. The SRST was an important contributor in the development of the program, and will continue to support it this spring. The administration of the program is entirely volunteer-based, and anybody interested in participating should contact Mike Liberati. Information can be found on the following website.

www.grandcaverns.org

-The establishment of a Citizen's Advisory Panel for the SRST will be accomplished this year. Don Kain and Mike Liberati have the lead on this item, and progress will be reported in future SRST meetings.

-Don asked if field crews could notify him of days in the field for possible coordination and help.

-Kyle Tom's Thesis is out

-Hg conference in June

Phase II Eco-Study Conceptual Plan – *Todd Morrison, URS*

-See presentation.

-Plan is guided by NRDC

-Slide 2 - grayed sections of spreadsheet are areas where more characterization is wanted.

- Corbicula filter feed from water column and feed off of substrate. Corbicula will be used to differentiate between water column and substrate loads. Caged/suspended Corbicula will be filter feeding whereas the seeded Corbicula will be feeding off the substrate.
- Biological sampling will be occurring over the same period as physical/chemical sampling.
- Fish sampling will be addressing variability by sampling recaptured fish and by possibly analyzing frozen archived samples.
- Mayflies and caddis flies may be looked at to address low level food web organisms.

Natural Resources Damage Assessment (NRDA) Process Update – *Ralph Stahl, DuPont*

- No presentation
- Reviewing a number of proposals for 2009.
- Complete toad and turtle work.
- Plan on looking at possible restoration sites at April SRST meeting.
- There will be another Biosummit meeting after the July SRST meeting.

Workgroup Updates

Remedial Options Program – *Nancy Grosso, DuPont*

- See presentation
- Mike Newman asked if they were looking into SediMite, Thiol-SAM and nanoparticles. Yes, those are being looked into. Thiol-SAM has worked on a small scale but was not cost effective. These materials have mostly been used in low energy environments and may not work well in a river system.
- CBAM is working on a bioavailable Hg measurement method.
- Working on a list of potential task team members.

Bank Stabilization Pilot Project – *Nancy Grosso, DuPont*

- See presentation
- There will be minimal disturbance to bank.
- Melanie Davenport voiced concern over the permitting process and stated that permit turnover was about 120 days with a 30 day public notice period. She suggested needing 6 months.
- Reed Harris asked how success will be measured. The easiest measure will be erosion rates.

Human Exposure Workgroup – *Annette Guiseppi-Elie, DuPont*

- See presentation

Pulling It All Together – *John Green, DuPont*

- See presentation
- John outline data available, analysis done and analysis he plans to do.
- Don asked if you have data to send it to John.

Expert Panel Feedback and Discussion – *Jim Dyer, DuPont*

- See presentation
- Received feedback from 3 panel members. Their answers to the questions are attached to presentation. Jim will update as other members submit feedback.
- There is discussion about a new format for the annual expert panel meeting.

Announcements, Calendar Items, Next Meeting

- April meeting will have a risk assessment agenda
- It may be time for a mission goal update
- Time for document listing what we have concluded so far.

Future meetings:

April 21st

July 21st

Biosummit July 22nd

TMDL meeting January 27th