

Raccoon Creek Forum Meeting
Technical Advisory Committee of the Raccoon Creek Partnership
January 13th, 2010

Action Items are underlined!

In attendance: Mary Ann Borch – ODNR-DMRM, Barb Flowers - ODNR-DMRM, Amy Mackey – OU Voinovich School, John Kellis – Ohio Valley RC&D, Jen Bowman – OU Voinovich School, Ben McCament – ODNR-DMRM, Natalie Kruse – RCP Board & Voinovich School, Randy Spencer – OEPA-DSW, Rina Caldwell – AmeriCorps, Mike McAvoy – ODNR-DMRM, Regan Welch – ODNR-DMRM, Kaabe Shaw – ODNR-DMRM

Time: 9:00 am

Location: Voinovich School, The Ridges, Bldg 22

1. Reviewed and Approved October 21st, 2009 minutes - All

- Comments:
 - Mitch would like all RC priority projects to be added to SWERP clearing house. As projects are completed, they will be removed.
 - Watershed groups can now access Quick Base
 - Jen contacted Martha (EPA) to notify them of PR delays. Will schedule site visit in spring. OK with possibly needing another extension if we can't finish the project by June 2010.
 - Pam Stachler sent Mary Ann the WNF annual plan, Mary Ann will forward the plan to Amy.
 - Mary Ann mentioned the possibility of getting USFS funds from Steve Marchi for Water Quality Specialist Position. She will contact them.
 - Randy will check on status of Vinton County Airport sediment violation.

2. Interim Watershed Coordinator Update – Jen Bowman

- New Raccoon Creek Watershed Coordinator has been hired – Amy Mackey (former Water Quality Specialist) started at the Voinovich School on January 11th, 2010. Amy can be contacted at mackey@ohio.edu or 740-597-1473.

3. RC Water Quality Specialist Update – Amy Mackey

- Now need to hire a new Water Quality Specialist
 - RC&D, MRM, OU need to get together to post, interview, and hire a new WQS soon to help with sampling, etc.
 - Suggestions of where to post position: OU, Hocking College, Rio Grande, other RC coordinator applicants, RCP website and Facebook Page, Watershed List Serve, Local Watershed groups, SEOWC...
 - Hiring Timeline: Job Description complete this week, post ASAP, applications due February 5th, 2010, interviews Feb 15th, 2010, projected start date – March 8th, 2010.
 - Need to decide where position will be housed. Amy will attend VSWCD meeting on Jan 14th. Other possible office locations: ILGARD, Jackson SWCD, Waterloo
- All 2009 proposed sampling was completed (273 chemical samples at 123 sites, as well as 33 MAIS sites, and 4 fish sites)

- 2009 field, lab, and flow data has been compiled (by AmeriCorps – Rina Caldwell) and will be verified (checked for errors) by student – Jason Akbar.
- Currently writing 2010 monitoring plans.
- MAIS identification is complete, now need to enter all data and do final calculations to get site scores.
- Raccoon Creek outreach activities: Presented to Hocking College Fish and Wildlife careers class and Athens High School Honors Ecology class.
- Jon Brauer (OU MSES student) is still sampling at Elk Fork, monthly chem samples and recon.
- All 2010 RCP activities are posted to the website (www.raccooncreek.org)
- Upcoming sampling: high flow samples at Orland Gob Pile and West Branch LTM
- Waterloo Committee Meeting July 17th, 6:00 p.m. at the Center to discuss future plans (equipment, curriculum, programs, etc.). Everyone is welcome to participate.
- Amy will do annual water quality report for Mary Ann (QAQC info, pre-construction data, post-construction data)

4. ODNR Water Quality Monitoring Update – Mary Ann Borch

- Trace Run
 - Mary Ann has measured flow from Kennard Seep. Flow ranges from 30-48 GPM (average 39).
 - Average acid load 650 lb/day.
- Middleton Run
 - Mary Ann will continue to monitor Salem Rd project in 2010
 - Recommend that we get more info on the ponds and tribs draining the barrel company.
 - We need a plan for Middleton Run recon (other areas of the watershed), need to work on getting landowner permission.

5. AMD Project Prioritization List – All

- Mike McAvoy announced that there is more money available in the next several years than we have projects ready for. We will need to move some of our lower priority projects up and get them ready to be built.
 - Need large projects such as Middleton Run surface mine reclamation, Harble Griffith Phase II.
 - Updating the LRC AMDAT should help identify projects
 - ODNR-DMRM will be looking for more local contractors (Parkersburg, Huntington)

6. 2010 RC Monitoring Plan Review – Amy Mackey & All

- Amy will revise plans and email to TAC committee for further review.
- We need to finalize list of fish sampling sites and divide between ODNR-DMRM (Ben) and OEPA (Kelly and Randy)

7. AMD Project Updates – Mike McAvoy , Kaabe Shaw, & Barb Flowers

- Pierce Run: Shut down until spring. Weekly stormwater monitoring (looks good, no erosion problems)

- East Branch Phase II: Contracting is complete, Mike will schedule a pre-construction meeting at Forest Service office. Mike will also make several minor changes to the construction plan and submit to contractor ASAP
- East Branch Phase III: Preliminary design being completed by Regan (will send Amy a copy). Estimated March-April bid release and summer construction. Possible soil shortage on site, may have Stimmel stockpile soil on site for later use.
- Carbondale Doser: Pre-bid Jan 19th, at 2:00 at the doser. Expecting high attendance.
- Jaymar SLB: Maintenance complete. Could not stir slag due to extensive hardening. Slag is still permeable and functioning. New valves were installed and we can now flush the pipes.
- Maintenance Plan
 - We all need to meet and form a formal written maintenance plan for all watershed groups (who's doing what and when)
 - Possibly create an online maintenance log to enter all maint activities. PA watersheds have a good site to use as an example (? Waterdata.org ?). Would be good to have for volunteers, landowners...
- Maintenance Items – because small projects are hard to fund, a Unit Price Contract (UPC) has been created. This will combine several small maint projects into one large contract (one bid, one contractor, advertise one time). If anyone has any additional projects to add, let Mike know ASAP! Current RC UPC projects:
 - East Branch Phase I – replace agridrains, put in periscope pipes and gate valves. Modify site 8 into actual slag beds.
 - Lincoln SLB – clean out organic matter, new valve on source pond, improve percolation.
 - Mulga wetland – remove beaver dams
 - Flint Run East – pipe SLB discharge to the AMD source
 - Lake Milton – Fix / replace valves from SLB, modify sediment pond inlet structures to allow sediment to settle out and not be washed into bed.
 - Carbondale – install flow measurement devise.
 - Buckeye Furnace – rehab systems
 - LRC gage – raise pump out of sediment with concrete pad, rip rap...
- Other Project Maintenance – Local trapper is working on removing beavers from Lincoln and possibly Mulga and Jaymar.

8. New Business / Announcements

- Jen is working on 2009 NPS report, should be done by summer 2010
- RCP Owl Prowl at Waterloo this Friday, Jan 15th 5:30 – 7:30 at Waterloo.
- Watershed Coordinator Work Plan due Jan 22nd.
- Need to create a committee for LRC AMDAT revision
- Need to create a committee for hiring new Water Quality Specialist

Next Meeting: April 14, 2010 at Voinovich School, Building 22, 9:00 a.m.

