



Meeting Minutes

Big Dry Creek Watershed Association Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday, April 21, 2015, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Location: Broomfield Water Treatment Plant, 4395 W. 144th Avenue

1. Results of 2014 Water Quality Monitoring Program – Jane Clary, Wright Water Engineers, Inc.

Jane Clary presented a summary of the results of the annual Big Dry Creek water quality monitoring program for 2014. A few key findings from the presentation include:

- Water quality in Big Dry Creek attained currently applicable stream standards, with the exception of *E. coli*. *E. coli* concentrations are elevated at multiple instream locations, with the highest concentrations present at bdc2.0 and 3.0 in the Westminster Open Space below the Broomfield and Westminster WWTP discharges and at bdc6.0 in the lower agricultural area. *E. coli* concentrations in the WWTP discharges are very low and do not exceed stream standards.
- For the most recent 5-year analysis period (2010-2014), Big Dry Creek attained its site-specific selenium standard. Although the stream remains on the currently applicable 303(d) list of impaired waters, it is expected to rotate off of this list in 2016. Additionally, starting in 2016, a new statistical methodology will be used for site-specific standards. This should help with Big Dry Creek cycling on and off the 303(d) list of impaired waters.
- During certain times of the year, stream flows are dominated by different sources. As the sources change, the chemistry of the water changes. During 2014, Broomfield and Westminster had larger discharge volumes from their WWTPs relative to the past few years.

- Big Dry Creek would not attain the interim warm water instream nitrogen and phosphorus values adopted by the CWQCC in 2012 at locations below WWTP discharges (from the Broomfield WWTP to the South Platte River). Although these values are not expected to be adopted as stream standards for this portion of Big Dry Creek prior to 2022, addressing nutrient sources on Big Dry Creek should be an increasing area of focus for BDCWA.
- Phosphorus concentrations and loads to Big Dry Creek have decreased due to enhanced treatment processes at the Broomfield and Westminster WWTPs, along with reuse programs that continue to be implemented at these WWTPs. Despite these substantial improvements, the stream would not meet the interim total phosphorus criteria from I-25 to the confluence with the South Platte River. Nonetheless, there has been a roughly 50% decrease in Big Dry Creek's phosphorus loading relative to 2003-2004, which is the baseline time period referenced in the Barr-Milton Phosphorus TMDL.
- Big Dry Creek currently attains aquatic life uses, based on calculation of MMI scores in accordance with CWQCC's Aquatic Life Use Attainment Policy 10-1. Scores were calculated at six biological monitoring locations for fall monitoring conducted during 2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014. MMI scores vary substantially, both temporally and spatially.
- In 2014, several field blanks and replicates required under the SAP were inadvertently omitted or collected during a different month than specified in the SAP. Care should be taken to closely follow the SAP, particularly as it relates to Regulation 85 monitoring requirements.
- Depending on revisions to stream standards during the June 2015 Regulation 38 Rulemaking Hearing, revisions to the instream monitoring program may be warranted for certain metals.
- The four new flow gauges on Big Dry Creek operated by Northern Water are important sources of flow data for BDCWA; however, data for these gauges were not yet available for use in refining the conceptual water budget for Big Dry Creek.

Comments on the draft Big Dry Creek Water Quality Summary for 2014 are requested by May 31, 2015. Once comments from the BDCWA Board are integrated, the report will be available on the Big Dry Creek website (www.bigdrycreek.org).

2. Routine Business

- Tami Schneck will be invoicing BDCWA for the October 2014 macroinvertebrate sampling and fish shocking. She has also prepared testimony for the Regulation 38 hearing regarding the Division's proposed fish ingestion qualifier at the request of the City and County of Broomfield.

- As part of the Regulation 38 Rulemaking process, BDCWA has requested that bdc4.0 be formally replaced by bdc4.5 as one of three sampling locations used to assess the Big Dry Creek site-specific selenium standard. The Division has expressed support for this proposed change.
- Jane Clary noted that Brian Bledsoe (CSU) has proposed a research project on Big Dry Creek to evaluate the role that channel erosion plays in nutrient loading. UDFCD is planning to provide \$15,000 in funding to match a \$15,000 contribution from BDCWA for this study. The estimated total cost of the study is \$70,000 for the incorporation of historic data, field data collection (including soil sampling), and a written report. The remainder of the project would be funded by the CLEAN Center at CSU. Bledsoe anticipates that the study would begin in the summer of 2015 and conclude in early 2017.
- For planning purposes, the 2016 baseline BDCWA budget should be estimated at 2015 contribution levels.
- David Carter noted that all BDCWA members representing cities and counties have paid their annual dues. Woman Creek Reservoir Authority is expected to contribute in 2015, but their contribution has not yet been received.
- Lyndsay Massey is the new representative for Weld County on the Board, replacing Don Dunker/David Bauer, and Julianna Archuleta is the new representative for Adams County, replacing Andrea Berg.
- The group discussed meeting planning for the remainder of 2015. Two meetings were tentatively planned, with exact dates to be determined:
 - i. September 2015: Legally required annual board business meeting and update from Brian Bledsoe on research project.
 - ii. December 2015: Findings from 2014 biological monitoring program, Tami Schneck, Aquatics Associates.

Attendance

Craig Hoffman, City and County of Broomfield
Laura Hubbard, City and County of Broomfield
Lesa Julian, City and County of Broomfield
Evelyn Rhodes, City of Northglenn
Tony Steck, City of Northglenn
Chuck Guilmette, City of Northglenn
Bob Fiehweg, U.S. Department of Energy-Rocky Flats
Al Quintana, City of Thornton
Paul Tedesco, City of Thornton
Caleb Owen, City of Thornton
Lyndsay Massey, Weld County
Mary Fabisiak, City of Westminster
David Carter, City of Westminster
Dave Meyer, City of Westminster
Seth Plas, City of Westminster
Jane Clary, Wright Water Engineers
Kelly Behling, Wright Water Engineers

These minutes of action constitute the record of the meeting of the General Membership and Board of Directors of the Corporation and any officer of the Corporation is hereby authorized to certify any action taken by these minutes of action as having been duly taken or ratified by the Board of Directors of the Corporation on April 21, 2015, notwithstanding the date of actual signing. Meeting minutes were prepared for the Secretary by Watershed Coordinator, Jane Clary.

By: _____
BDCWA Secretary