TRRP-15E Meeting
November 10, 2010; 9:30 – 12:45
Minutes

Note: Action Items are throughout the minutes (see underlined text)

Attendees

(In person and on the phone) Larry Champagne (TCEQ Remediation Division), Johanna Gregory (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), Tom McHugh (GSI Environmental Inc.), Tommy Mobley (Texas General Land Office), Paul Lewis (TCEQ Remediation Division), Vickie Reat (TCEQ Remediation Division), Margaret Roy (URS Corporation), Mike Smith (TCEQ Remediation Division), Charles "Chip" Wood (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department).

I. Minutes from the Last Meeting/ News/ Discussion of Agenda

- There were no corrections to the October meeting minutes and the minutes were accepted as drafted.
- There were no updates to the TRRP-15H work group effort.

II. Discussion of Text for Sediment Exposure Pathways - Wildlife

- Vickie indicated that the issue of how to springboard from the soil text is still pending. She said she would like to finish "new text" unique to sediment and then figure out how to retrofit. Hence the introduction text (pages 1-2) will need revision along these lines.
- Regarding the reptile/amphibian text on pages 1 and 2 (lines 41-44 and 1-9), the changes reflected were based on input from Carolyn Fordham. Vickie indicated that the ECOTOX reference may be more pertinent for water exposure. Carolyn has suggested several other papers as s reference including the Navy paper on evaluating amphibians.
- Looking at the text on page 4, lines 30-33, there was some concern at the last meeting about the use of the term, "average." Vickie indicated that this is the same text that appeared in the soil wildlife discussion and the group was comfortable with it. <u>Chip volunteered to evaluate this some more after revisiting the same text in the soil section.</u>
- On page 5, lines 30-31, Chip suggested adding a parenthetical: "...but may be available to benthic and fish communities discussed later in this document."
- Regarding the title, "Causes for Vulnerability to Sediment Hot Spots," (page 7, line 17), Vickie said she is still looking for a better title. Larry suggested "susceptibility or sensitivity. Larry suggested dropping "Causes for, and Tom suggested "Evaluation of Vulnerability to COC Hotspots." <u>Vickie said she would consider these suggestions.</u>

- With regards to the Attractive Nuisance text on page 8 (lines 6-16); Vickie said she is looking for more examples that are sediment-specific. Action Item: All let Vickie know if you can suggest some examples here.
- Regarding the T/E text on pages 8 and 9, Chip asked why there wasn't more discussion of reptiles. Vickie explained that the exposure medium is sediment (specifically hot spots) and that amphibians and water birds would be more likely candidates for exposure.
- Regarding the "Spatial Analytical Techniques" place holder on page 9, Vickie reminded everyone that Chris McCarthy was going to finish a general overview and a detailed appendix for the soil exposure pathway for wildlife. Chris has indicated he should be able to get to this by Christmas. Vickie hopes that we can use some of this for the sediment text.
- Regarding the "Risk Management" text on pages 9-11, Vickie received suggestions on text for ecological services analyses (ESAs) from Richard Seiler (lines 9-13, page 10). Chip Wood and Johanna Gregory also provided input to point the reader back to the ERAG. Vickie asked the trustees to check and see if there were any lessons learned for the ESA for the Freeport site (Dow) as this was essentially a sediment hot spot.
- Regarding the last bullet in the risk management text on page 12, Vickie indicated that Ralph Stahl was comfortable deleting this text as long as something along these lines appears elsewhere in the overall text. Vickie will check where to place this.
- Regarding the text on page 12, lines 10-30, Ralph and Larry to work together on the T&E sampling text from Larry, and the remediation text from Ralph and develop combined text for the January 2011 meeting.
- Regarding the question of trustee consultation (lines 15 – 18, page 11); again this will be part of the general text Ralph and Larry are working on. There may need to be a reference to this discussion somewhere in the general hot spot discussion.
- Tom McHugh suggested that TRRP-15E is about data analysis and data interpretation, maybe the text on remediation could better fit into the ERAG.

III. Discussion of Sediment Exposure Pathways for Fish (pages 12-14)

- There wasn't much discussion here. Vickie reminded everyone that there was an overall action item to indicate when this pathway might be important. She received feedback from Carolyn Fordham and this is reflected in the comment.
- Action Item for All: Vickie asked for site examples for the sediment-to-fish pathway. Vickie indicated that Carolyn suggested there was a lot of work on this pathway for the Clark Fork River, and Vickie will look into this.
- Vickie will start writing this section and may ask for initial targeted reviews or for help writing the text.

IV. Discussion of Keith Bradley's Suggested Text for Metals Partitioning

- Vickie reminded everyone that Keith Bradley had an action item from the previous meeting to provide text related to metals partitioning in the sediment environment. This text was provided to the work group prior to this meeting.
- Although Keith was not present, he stated in his e-mail that he wasn't sure where this proposed text would go in the guidance, and if it was needed.
- The group decided not to use this text.

V. Discussion of Future Schedule and Wrap Up

- Since the Texas Surface Water Quality Standards were recently amended this past summer, Larry asked Vickie to give an overview that compares our use of the TSWQS in the TRRP program, contrasted with the Wastewater Permitting program. Vickie indicated that for the permitting program, the new water quality standards will not be used until U.S. EPA Region 6 approves the standards. In contrast we will use the new standards in the TRRP program since the Commission did approve them. Vickie noted that some portions of the 2000 TSWQS were never implemented into the wastewater permitting program since U.S. EPA only approved portions of the standards. Nevertheless, the TRRP program has used the 2000 standards all along as the TSWQS are cited in the TRRP rule and were approved by the Commission.
- Vickie noted that we will be evaluating the new water quality standards as we move forward to the water section of this guidance and for updates to TRRP-24.
- Vickie repeated some discussion from last month related to the overall progress of the guidance and tasks left to complete. Vickie indicated that once the sediment text is complete, our next task will be the background section. This will likely be difficult.
- Vickie indicated we still need to write the surface water component of the guidance and the groundwater-to-sediment/surface water text, but does not foresee these as particularly difficult or controversial.
- Vickie added that there will also likely be appendices on composite samples and statistics (post script: also outliers and spatial analytical tools).
- Regarding meetings for 2011, we discussed when to have the March meeting since March 16 is spring break for many. The group decided that the March meeting should be on March 23 to avoid a conflict with the local spring breaks.
- Other meetings are generally the 3rd Wednesday of each month with a few exceptions: January 12, February 16, March 23, April 20, May 11, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, and December 14, if needed. Mark your calendars!
- The December 2010 meeting has been cancelled. <u>Vickie will continue working on text revisions until then</u>.

Next Meeting: January 12, 2011; 9:30 – 12:45 central