

Aquatics Task Group December 18, 2008. Buffalo, Wyoming

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- Anna Senecal (UW) field work done this summer -thesis by May 2009. Found 4 sturgeon chub upstream of Crazy Woman Creek on Powder River.
- Aida (USGS) presented latest findings. The group decided we wanted to include all data and wait for the final report, which could then be used to develop water quality standards for HCO₃. This report would be late summer or fall 2009. Some discussion of standards and who should/would set them. The group's decision was to wait for the final report that can be used for regulatory agency standards.
- Jeremy (WYDEQ) Update – Assimilative capacity is driving untreated water discharges. Belle Fourche and Cheyenne are not receiving much produced water anymore. 20 + - treated discharges in powder.

- Dave Peterson (USGS) update – No sampling in Belle Fouché or Cheyenne in 2008. Other sampling continues - Fish, Invertebrates, habitat, algae. A final report is due and in review. Final report should help guide future monitoring.
- Hanna Griscom (WYNDD) update – Field work will continue in 2009. Short discussion of tiger salamander deaths in ponds with follow-up needed between WYNDD and WYBLM.
- Hanna and Dave need to discuss sampling at Burger Draw and Salt Creek.
- Legal update on lawsuits, eiss etc.

AFTERNOON

- Future of the Aquatics Task Group and getting ready for the May Interagency Working Group meeting.
 - Deliver to the IWG; what we have accomplished and where we want to go in the future. The BLM (at least) wants to know what they are getting out of funding the ATG, and what they can expect in the future.
 - March 18 meeting in Miles City to put together the May presentation. Those groups that have projects completed, in progress, or planned should come with those project presentations so we can put one presentation together.
 - January 16th please submit requests for funding to Bill so we can start working on the 2009 budget. Include what you want given “normal” funding and a scaled-back “survival funding” version.
- Voting Members of the ATG will be Buffalo BLM (1), Miles City BLM (1), WY Game and Fish (1), MT Fish Wildlife and Parks (1), WY DEQ (1), MT DEQ (1), EPA (1), USFWS (1). Need five for a quorum.
- Additional needs etc;
 - Matrix for IWG from Tom Bills
 - Compile funding and prioritize work