

Attendance

Present: Eric Dripps, Jay Stack, Steve Ruden, Cheryl Klinker, Douglas Mora, Nancy Malmgren, Suzie Burke, Craig Omoto

Absent: Martha Burke, Lydia Heard

SPU Staff Present: Vikki Anselmo, Andrew Lee, Miles Mayhew

Chair Report

Cheryl Klinker

Review of prior meeting minutes postponed to next meeting. **Action Item:** Laura Kelly to provide draft June meeting minutes to CDWCAC for review.

Overview of SPU's Combined Sewer Overflow Program

Andrew Lee

- Andrew Lee is the SPU Manager overseeing the City's CSO program.
- Andrew: 1/3rd of the City's system flows into combined sewers. EPA is currently conducting an audit of SPU's wastewater program. There is a difference between the King County and City of Seattle systems. If the basin that the sewer flows to is greater than 1000 acres, the County is responsible. Basins 1000 acres and under are the responsibility of the City. 92 are City responsibility and 20 within the City are for the County to maintain. In 2001, per NPDES permit requirement, the City installed monitors at all of our CSO sites. The areas in which an overflow would have the most impact on people and shoreline habitats are our priority, as is stated in the EPA guidelines. We have about 11 priority locations that overflow during low rains. We monitor them for water level and sometimes for velocity. This information is used to ensure that we report CSO events, for real-time warning about a problem, and to calculate overflow volume. The SPU Service Level target is 1 overflow per site per year. We overflow 250-400 times per year. SPU applies robust monitoring, modeling, and asset management triple bottom line principles to understand the economic, social, and environmental impacts of our work, which helps us make better decisions. It is clear to SPU that there is a disadvantage to operating the system on a basin-by-basin basis. We could be more effective with dollars and operation of it were treated as a single system and if planning were done jointly by the City and County. We are dialoguing, somewhat unsuccessfully, with the County.
- **Action Items:** Andrew Lee will investigate the potential for CSO problems at the Fremont Bridge and at the site of what will become the new North Transfer Station. He will also contact Jason Sharpley for sediment study data to provide to CDWCAC.

Overview of Restore Our Waters Program

Miles Mayhew

- Handouts: Restore Our Waters Program Highlights; Seattle's Urban Watershed Strategy Draft Outline 6/16/08; Aquatic Habitat Matching Grant Program; State of the Waters 2007 Volumes I & II and Map Folio on CD. For more information about the Restore Our Water Program, go to: <http://www.seattle.gov/mayor/issues/row.htm>
- Miles: The Urban Watershed Strategy will not replace the existing watershed and neighborhood plans. The criteria for the highest watershed priority in Seattle would be determined with an eye on current science and the # 1 or 2 things we can do as a City to have the biggest impact per dollar on any given basin. We are looking for synergy between habitat and aquatic health. Recommending ways for the City to integrate green infrastructure into everything we do would be a great thing for the CDWCAC to focus on.

- Cheryl: Rats and birds are the primary source of fecal coliform in the water bodies and can turn into a bacteria problem. Coppers are the highest urgency for Thornton Creek, they are killing the fish.
- Suzie: The same standard for control of vectors (rats and birds) should be applied to City facilities and property as is required for private property. I believe that people on a down gradient are blamed for what flows into water bodies when contamination may be caused by a lack of a drainage system up top.
- The City should look for facilities that it owns that offer opportunities to improve drainage and decrease contamination.
- **Action Items:** A new unnamed subcommittee of CDWCAC will review the Science Framework and Restore Our Waters documents to provide suggested amendments to the committees and individuals responsible for the content of the documents, and to Chuck Clarke for him to take to interdepartmental meetings, such as with SDOT. Suzie will take the lead on 'Walking the Talk' (see Restore Our Waters Program Highlights handout) regarding holding the City accountable for demonstrating leadership at City facilities and in practices. Martha should schedule time on an upcoming CDWCAC meeting to discuss recommendations on the Science Framework and Restore Our Waters before they go to Chuck.

Announcements

- For more information on the South Puget Sound Dissolved Oxygen Study, go to the Puget Sound Partnership URL at http://www.ecy.wa.gov/puget_sound/dissolved_oxygen_study.html

Communications Committee Report

- Eric: A discussion topic per month on the new CDWCAC website is one way for the site to be productive. The group praised Eric's work. **Action Items:** Eric will send Miles an invitation email to join the CDWCAC website and Miles will integrate information about the CDWCAC website into the Restore Our Waters website.

Discussion of August Field Trip

Cheryl Klinker

On August 13, instead of meeting at SMT for the normal CDWCAC meeting, meet at and start the field trip tour at Carkeek Park. Douglas asked permission to bring his 15 year old nephew. The group said, 'ok.' **Action Items:** Cheryl will talk to Martha about what time to start the tour (3:30 or 4PM). Martha will reserve a 12 person van for the tour group. Members who plan to attend must R.S.V.P. to Martha.