

Watershed-Based MS4 Pilot Permit Stakeholder Meeting

NMED District 1 Offices • April 24, 2012 • 8:30 a.m.-Noon

Summary of Agreements/Actions

The April 24, 2012 meeting was attended by 32 representatives of local federal, tribal, state, county, municipal, flood control authority, and private consulting agencies. Agenda items included three presentations:

1. Monitoring Work Group Proposal
 2. Sector Framework Proposal
 3. Cost-Sharing Algorithm Proposal
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Discussion Points/Agreements/Actions

1) Re: Monitoring Work Group Proposal

Anita Steed from Bernalillo County presented a detailed monitoring proposal for Nelly Smith and EPA Region VI to consider. The proposal outlines 1) an outfall monitoring program that is aimed at monitoring program and BMP effectiveness; 2) a watershed survey that genuinely helps all jurisdictions understand the watershed better; and 3) monitoring and sampling protocols that are practical and not overly expensive.

The proposal was well-received. Participants appreciated the emphasis on evaluating program and BMP effectiveness, and charting the watershed to improve understanding, rather than “monitoring for monitoring’s sake.” Most of the discussion focused on the practicality of using disposable samplers, and determining whether samples can actually be analyzed within the six-hour window normally required by EPA. (Storms in New Mexico many times are in the afternoon, and there is only one lab that can analyze samples, which is not open 24 hours.)

There was general support for the proposal. Anita’s presentation accompanies this summary as an attachment.

2) Re: Sector Framework Presentation

Trevor Alsop presented a revised sector framework. The framework considered, first, a binary matrix—whether a jurisdiction had a MS4-related characteristic or not. Second, the framework considered a weighted matrix—certain characteristics were given more weight. Weighted totals were compared, and several levels, or “sectors,” appeared for consideration.

Trevor’s proposal introduced an additional element for consideration in the draft permit: Activity Tables. The present Phase 1 permit includes several activity tables for permittees to use to determine what they may have to do in their respective SWMPs. Trevor’s proposal uses the present Phase 1 permit as a starting point for determining appropriate activities under the new draft permit.

The proposal was well-received. The weighted values correspond fairly well to the rough set of categories developed back in September 2011, indicating some overlap in thinking (although more still needs to be done.) Also, the Activity Tables provide a starting point for considering specific items/activities to actually include in future SWMPs.

Trevor’s presentation accompanies this summary as an attachment.

3) Re: Cost-Sharing Algorithm Presentation

Jessica Bennett, who has been recently hired by the Ciudad Soil and Conservation District under the 604(b) grant to work on an equitable formula for sharing costs for joint activities under the new watershed-based permit, introduced herself and her proposed approach.

Jessica plans to work with maps of the watershed and determine the extent of several variables for each prospective permittee. These variables are a) drainage area, b) impervious surface, c) population density, d) slope, and e) distance from the river. Points will be assigned for each variable and added up for each permittee; scores will be normalized to the area that the permittee covers.

Discussion focused on clarifying questions and on providing Jessica with information about where to get information. Jessica also indicated that she may be calling various representatives of jurisdictions for additional information.

4) Next Meeting

- a) The next meeting was scheduled for **Wednesday, May 23 from 8:30-Noon at the NMED District 1 offices.**

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Meeting Participants

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
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Trevor Alsop	SSCAFCA	talsop@sscafca.com
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