

Dry Creek Watershed Planning Team Meeting - October 9, 2008  
5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Participants: April Haight, Christi McMichael, Steve Reid, Bob Wells, Joseph Lewis, Brooke Shireman, Margi Jones, Lajuanda Haight-Maybriar, Tessa Edelen, and Samuel Williams.

April Haight opened the meeting with a round of introductions since a new participant, Tessa Edelen, was present. Tessa is the new Watershed Program Director for the Kentucky Waterways Alliance. She replaced Katie Holmes.

### 1. Comments and Approval of Chapter 2

- The team discussed the scientific language of the watershed plan. Lajuanda stated that much of it was higher level scientific vocabulary. Christi suggested an executive summary at the beginning or end of each chapter. April suggested a summary at the beginning of the entire document. Group discussed at length. Brooke suggested the summary be modeled on an abstract from a journal article.
- Also, proper notation for some references was discussed. Geoff might know the title of the McCafferty article.

### 2. Update on current data collection efforts – Geoff, Steve, Christi, April

- Christi discussed the land use map. She has a student working with 2006 photos to make a larger scale classification. It should be more accurate. She would like to run them through the model to see if the recommendations change for BMPs.
- Steve reported that he has good low flow and moderate flow data, but not for high flow. He is hoping to catch the high flow this winter. Bank pinning is underway; a student is working on it for a thesis project. His students now have field assistants. He is investigating and measuring loads. Margi suggested pinning good versus bad sampling sites pinned is a good idea to create a diversity of data.
- April is conducting habitat and biological sampling. One more spring sample needed. She is going through data and conducting quality control. Nutrient data is ongoing. Macro sampling is missing due to lack of water for several months. Hydro labs are set up; there is some DO concern, below 4.0 at some sites. DO is too low late at late, and the same with pH. Temp – no problems exceeding max levels at any sites. No flow before this last rain (yesterday). Mostly 3 sites have been collectable until this last sampling session.

### 3. Presentation on Modeling, Christi

- Pollutant Reduction Impact Comparison Tool (Predict) – model proposed to be used to estimate loads and BMPs. Used to evaluate rural and urban pollution reduction strategies at the watershed level. Helps answer questions about strategies you can use to work on your watershed.
- Pollutants addressed: N, P, sediment, and pathogens. It is a scenario-based modeling program called GWLF. Input: current pollutant loads and landscape conditions. Select: pollutant reduction strategies. Output: estimated load reductions and associated costs.

- There is also a “pre-model” that can be used instead of inputting loads that is GIS based and can give you loads. It is a distributive GIS model. We need to decide if we will input our own data into Predict or use the pre-model to do it for us. See handout for examples for the input screens. Urban and rural are separated. Optimizing tool will be added, hopefully by the end of the year.
- Christi said she would run the pre-model for a range of climate years: a period of wet years, a period of dry years, and a period of moderate years. Margi asked if Christi thought of using a different modeling system like StepL. Christi responded that GWLF seems more truthful and includes pathogens. She did look at the list of models listed in the guidebook, but for some of them we don’t have the data or they seemed too simplistic.

#### 4. Discussion on Best Management Practices

- The team discussed who needs to be involved in the BMP development. Various members suggested Mike Hardin of FWS, Dr. Eisenhower, Bob Marsh, Shawn O’Keefe, and Barry Toning.
- April discussed the possibility of conducting a BMP workshop at a site to observe some BMPs in practice. She also stated it might be advantageous to include road crews. Bob might have some sites.
- Getting developers to the table was discussed by the entire group. The possibility of a BMP being a new county ordinance was discussed. New City involvement in watershed planning was discussed as a possible way to approach the planning process differently. April volunteered to contact them to see if they are interested in attending the December meeting. Frontier Housing was discussed as low impact friendly development and a possible way to attract other developers to the project. Lajuanda stated that the real way to get developers to the table is to talk about the pocketbook. Brooke said there is already a lot of data demonstrating that green infrastructure saves money, and that this could be a good hook for those not necessarily interested in low impact development.
- Others added that green practices may start taking place in areas with a MS4, but not likely in Rowan County. Sanitation District 1 in northern Kentucky has a lot of green infrastructure and might be a good field trip, said Lajuanda.

#### 5. Work Plan Revision

- Tessa will send out agenda for the next meeting and the meeting notes for this meeting. Timing of the next roundtable was discussed briefly by April and Tessa.

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