

Data Collection, Characterization, Monitoring Working Group**Charge from Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee****Working Group Members**

Kirk Cook (Chair); Andres Cervantes; Dr. Kefy Desta; Jan Whitetfoot; Jim Trull; Kevin Lindsey; Laurie Crowe; Lonna Frans, Matt Buchman; Lorraine Edmond; Mark Nielson; Steve Swope; Stuart Turner; Thomas Tebb, Ali Sedighi

Meetings/Calls Dates

Meeting: Thursday, May 2, 2013

Participants

Jean Mendoza, Kevin Lindsey, Lorraine Edmond, Mark Nielson, Steve Swope, Ali Sedighi

Key Discussion Points

The status of Scope of Work for the Initial Characterization Assessment was discussed. Yakima County has submitted Request for Proposals for this Scope of Work to potential consulting firms and they have until May 17, 2013 to respond. Interviews will be held by phone or in person during the last week of May.

Status of data collection from different sources

Yakima County has received the database “dump” from DOH and WSDA. The USGS has sent some nitrate data and additional nitrate data can be obtained from the USGS National Water Information System website (NWIS). Also, the EPA has sent some nitrate data from the new wells reported in the March 2013 report (Monitoring Well Installation and Data Summary Report, Lower Yakima Valley, Yakima County, Washington, March 2013). Other potential data sources are data from the EPA’s screening evaluation study and data from Port of Sunnyside. Charles Ellingson discussed some other sources of Nitrate data for consideration.

The possibility of adding nitrate tests in the future to Ecology’s Well Route and data base was discussed and considering that most of these wells are deep irrigation wells, the group decided that a data gap analysis should be performed first to find out if there is a need to add nitrate test to Ecology’s Well Route and data base in the future.

Yakima County will put all these data together and will send them to the selected consulting firm that will prepare the Initial Characterization Assessment.

The possibility of having a data management website for the GWMA was discussed and it was suggested that Yakima County should talk to Columbia Basin GWMA's GIS person, Patrick Royer, to discuss the options for this website.

Some group members provided comments regarding the Water Well Risk Assessment Survey that could be beneficial to the Data Work Group. These comments were sent to the EPO Workgroup for consideration.

Resources Requested

Recommendations for GWAC

Deliverables/Products Status

Proposed Next Steps

Dr. Robert Stevens, retired soil scientist from Washington State University's Prosser Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, will be invited as the guest speaker to the next CAFO/Livestock meeting (Thursday, May 23, 2013 from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at KDNA Granger) to discuss findings from his long experience with groundwater nitrate contamination. An invitation will be sent to the Data Workgroup to attend this meeting.