

**HINSON CREEK COLLABORATIVE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT**  
**ACTION TEAM**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 18, 2012**  
**1:30pm**

General Services Building, Univ. MO Campus, Room 185

Action Team Members Present: John Glascock, Larry Hubbard, Steve Hunt, Tom Ratermann, Melissa Scheperle, Georganne Bowman

Staff Present: David Sorrell, Mary Ellen Lea, Erin Keys, Brett Obrien, Tom Wellman, Nicki Fueemmler

Visitors: No visitors present.

**1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 1:32pm by Steve Hunt.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda was approved.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

**4. AGENDA ITEMS**

- Minor change to minutes from joint Action/Science Team Mtng in July

City staff neglected to bring the change. No action.

- Finalize the rule(s) for accepting comments from outside the team

Tabled until the meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of November.

- Revisions to the Hinkson Creek Watershed Management Plan

Tom Ratermann will write a description of the small wastewater treatment facility projects to be done and send that to County Staff. They will try to get DNR to approve a change in the watershed management plan to include the projects.

- Hinkson Creek Fall Sampling

One DNR team came out to do the sampling (during the week of Oct. 12). They sampled all 11 sites. There were no root wads sampled on the downstream-most 4 or 5 sites because the water was too low. The stream near Walnut looked really bad, and the site near Recreation Drive looked pretty bad, too. It was noted that construction just upstream of Walnut may be making it look bad it right now, but that with grass growing back in the spring, it should look better

There was a general discussion about sampling and how it determines whether Hinkson is attaining standards. Steve said that he had noted to Joe Engeln that these samplings need to be representative so that if the water is unusually low due to the drought, that

might not be a good sample. The group recalled that the goal of 77.4% of sites attaining is the goal.

- Discussion of site visit w/ Science Team

Tom Wellman gave a synopsis of the site visit with the Science Team to the Forum Nature Area, Jason Hubbard's projects just north of there, and to the Oak Forest detention basins just north of Green Meadows Road.

Wellman noted that the team generally agreed that the Nature Area level spreader project seemed to be a good one to implement and monitor.

Wellman reported that Hubbard told the group that his research was finding 20 times more infiltration in the forested section than in the area which had been in grass for many years. This seemed to support the Nature Area project. During the site visit, Hubbard reported that erosion was also much greater at the grassed site than at the forested site.

Wellman said the Science group did not think the Oak Forest detention basin retrofits would be a good project to monitor. There was a consensus among the team that the two basins were too different to be a good paired study, and that the application to the broader watershed might be limited. The team indicated that the projects may be worthwhile for water quality in Hinkson Creek, just not the best use of energy and funds to study. Wellman said the Team might reconsider if more information were brought forward, particularly about broader applicability of the retrofit in the watershed.

- Mitigation Banks

Melissa brought more information about mitigation banks and the subject was discussed by the group at length. Melissa noted the following:

Normally, the Corps (and the group that oversees the process) prefer that the instruments (the documentation and processes) are set up before construction begins, although MoDOT normally starts construction before approval.

MoDOT does better than breaking even financially on the banks. It is not that much work for them, especially since they design them to be as low maintenance as possible.

With respect to maintenance, weeds are increasingly scrutinized by the Corps, so that is leading to more maintenance.

Endangered species and Historic Preservation are important to consider early in the planning.

The banks get more or less credits depending on the type of work done, so from least credits to most; preservation of existing stream gets least, enhancement of existing gets more, and creating high quality stream banks and buffer gets most.

Melissa said she would send a few examples of the instruments that MoDOT set formulated when setting up mitigation banks.

The MoDOT banks are primarily for highway projects but they have sold credits to TDDs.

Erin Keys and Tom Wellman reported that, in a meeting with Steve Apfelbaum of Applied Ecological Services, Mr. Apfelbaum noted that they partner with entities on establishing mitigation banks and then split the proceeds. Mr. Apfelbaum said that most municipal mitigation banks (those managed entirely by the municipality) in his experience were not successful.

Brett O'Brien noted that a portion of Hinkson a thousand feet or so upstream of Scott might be a good place for a mitigation bank. Tom Wellman also noted that the area owned by the City north of town in Clays Fork watershed might be a good candidate.

## **5. ANNOUNCEMENTS / COMMENTS FROM ACTION TEAM**

Georganne noted that Jason Hubbard would like to set up additional monitoring stations; one each on Grindstone and Flat Branch. The cost would be \$18,000-\$20,000 each to establish, and he would be looking for partners.

She said that some monitoring data was in from the step pools at Grissum and that some heavy metals were found at the upstream end but fewer were found at the downstream end, which indicates that it is working.

Melissa said that she had met with DNR regarding bacteria TMDLs in St. Louis. She believes that chlorides will be next.

## **6. COMMENTS OF VISITORS**

Tom Wellman alerted Melissa Scheperle that the Stakeholders were asking about the "Hot Spot" plan which had been proposed a few years ago for the Hinkson Phase II 319 Grant. The plan consisted of preliminary plans to retrofit 15 to 20 sites in the area around Hwy 63 between Broadway and I-70. Most of the sites were in MoDOT right of way.

## **7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Finalize rules for comments

Minor change to July minutes.

## **8. UPCOMING MEETINGS**

November 2, Meet with DNR regarding bacteria TMDLs on local streams.

November 5, next Science Team Meeting, 3-5pm at Allstate Consultants, 3312 Lemone Industrial Blvd

## **8. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 3:50pm