**NRCS STAC Nutrient Management Subcommittee**

10:00am – 3:00 pm

Cle Elum, US Forest Service, Tom Craven Conference Room

10:00 Welcome – Introductions – Purpose – Phosphorus Index Schedule future meetings?

10:30 Minutes – Mitigation table (work in progress)

11:00 Biosolid presentations, Andy Barr (WSU), Sally Brown (UW), PNW0511e Application

Rates, Chelsea Durfey (Natural Selection Farms)

11:45 Lunch

12:45 Commercial Fertilizer – How the 590 will affect the Industry, Producers, Air Quality

 2:00 Mitigation table – Best Management Practices – Alternatives

 3:00 Adjourn

September 27: 590 Nut Mgmt Standard DOE and LGU guidance

October: Adaptive Nutrient Management Strategies for WA

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| **Committee Members** | **Organization** | **Email Address** |
| Bonda Habets | NRCS St Resource Conservationist | bonda.habets@wa.usda.gov  |
| Ernie Holt | NRCS C Area Agronomist | ernie.holt@wa.usda.gov |
|  Marty Chaney | NRCS W Area Agronomist | marty.chaney@wa.usda.gov |
| Ann Swannack | NRCS Nutrient Mgmt Specialist | ann.swannack@wa.usda.gov |
|  Tracy Hanger | NRCS State Agronomist | tracy.[hanger@wa.usda.gov](file:///C%3A%5CDocuments%20and%20Settings%5Cjanice.monk%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CA3NRJYGD%5Changer.tracy%40wa.usda.gov) |
| Karma Anderson | EPA 10 Agriculture Advisor | anderson.karma@epa.gov |
| Joe Harrison |  WSU Extension | jhharrison@wsu.edu |
| Jody Cornwall | Yakama Nation | littlejoe@yakama.com |
| David Haggith |  N3/WSDF | dhaggithn3@frontier.com |
| Ron Cummings | WS Dept of Ecology | [rcum461@ECY.WA.GOV](file:///C%3A%5CDocuments%20and%20Settings%5Cjanice.monk%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5CA3NRJYGD%5Crcum461%40ECY.WA.GOV) |
| Chris Clark | Whatcom CD | cclark@whatcomcd.org |
|  Robert Marsh | Univ of Washington/EPA  |   |
| Carol Smith | WA Conservation Commission | [csmith@scc.wa.gov](file:///C%3A%5Chome%5CSTAC%5Ccsmith%40scc.wa.gov) |
| Heather L. Wendt | Benton & Franklin CDs | heather-wendt@conservewa.net |
| Stuart Turner | Turner & Co. Dairies | agforensic@aol.com |
|  Chery Sullivan | WSDA | [csullivan@agr.wa.gov](file:///C%3A%5CDocuments%20and%20Settings%5Cshelly.lassiter%5CLocal%20Settings%5CTemporary%20Internet%20Files%5CContent.Outlook%5C2RG2J3X7%5Ccsullivan%40agr.wa.gov) |
| Kara Rowe | WA Wheatgrowers | [Kararowe@wawg.org](file:///C%3A%5Chome%5CSTAC%5CKararowe%40wawg.org) |
| Jim Fitzgerald | Far West AgriBusiness Assn | jim@fwaa.org |
| Guests: |  |  |
|  Sally Brown | Univ of WA Soil Scientist; Biosolids | SLB@uw.edu |
|  Andy Bary | WSU Soil Scientist; Biosolids | Bary@wsu.edu |
|  Stuart Crane | Yakama Nation |  cranes@yahama.com |
| Chelsea Durfey | National Selection Farms | Chelsea@NaturalSelectionFarms.com |
|  Sally Brown | University of WA Soil Scientist | SLB@uw.edu |

Minutes: August 21 – Mitigation Table Development

Minutes: Sept 5 -

\*WA is meeting as a State Technical Advisory Council’s (STAC) Technical Subcommittee with 18 members from State, Federal, Industry, and NRCS. We have been meeting since April in hopes of posting the 590 Standard in October so NRCS planners could use it. However, the Phosphorus Index will delay implementation until January. A poll was taken and it was decided to continue meeting as a Subcommittee to discuss other things with the 590 Nutrient Management Conservation Practice implementation.

\*Progress Reports on STAC Nutrient Management Technical Subcommittee progress reports are given at WATAC (NRCS Washington Tribal Advisory Council), WSCC, and NRCS State Leadership Team.

\*State Water Quality Control Authority (WA Dept of Ecology) submitted comments on their suggested guidance mid August. NRCS Agronomists will review and pose concerns, issues, recommendations to DOE in a fall meeting.

\*The Land Grant University submitted guidance in June. Material will be reviewed and suggestions considered on how to put it in a supplement document.

\*A grad student compiled fertilizer guides in NW USA with a draft due mid September.

WSU dept head (LGU) said due to low budgets, fertilizer guides will not be a common practice for LGU. Instead they hope to distribute them as Western LGU guidance. Material will be reviewed and suggestions considered on how to pose the information.

\* OR has currently garnered OSU Soil Scientist as they did in the existing version of the Phosphorus Index. WA and OR developed their Phosphorus Index together, one for Western WA/OR and one for Eastern WA/OR.   It was suggested that the two have the same numerical format, currently one is addition and one multiplication. OSU will make recommendations to assist WA OR Phosphorus Index state-approved validation by SERA17. The extra high category will be removed in the 2013 590 Nutrient Management Conservation Practice. Consequently, the ranges from low to medium and medium to high will need to be evaluated.

\*The STAC subcommittee is currently developing a mitigation table or tool on alternative technologies for nutrient management. This working document was distributed as homework to quantify the mitigation benefit each would achieve, replacing an “x” with a 1 Poor, 2 Fair, 3 Good, 4 Excellent. Collaboration on this will take place in Sept 27 meeting.

\*It sounds like there won’t be a centralized Phosphorus Index in CDSI and that states will have their Phosphorus Index validated by SERA17. SERA17 will be presenting information on Phosphorus Indexes at the American Society of Agronomy this fall. The Subcommittee will work with West National Technical Support Center agronomists to vet our Phosphorus Index’s progress so we stay on the necessary path.

\*Agenda item suggestions were brought up, especially for Webinars during the winter months. However, the Subcommittee will stay on task in getting the strategy for the 590 Nutrient Management Conservation Practice posting by February 1, 2013. The majority felt that the Subcommittee was working well and recommended to continue the meetings. A Doodle poll will schedule the next meeting dates. These will be posted under STAC (State Technical Advisory Council) in the left side on the WA NRCS Homepage.