

## Irrigated Ag Working Group

### Charge from Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee

#### Working Group Members

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Dr. Troy Peters (WSU), Jean Mendoza (Friends of Toppenish Creek), Jim Trull (Roza-Sunnyside Joint Board of Control), Ralph Fisher (EPA), Ron Cowin (SVID), Stuart Turner (Turner & Co.), Tom Tebb (Department of Ecology), Ginny Prest (Dept of Ag), Laurie Crowe (South Yakima Conservation District), Dave Fraser (Simplot Agronomist), Scott Stephen (Citizen), Donald Jameson (Citizen), Mike Shuttleworth (Citizen), Chelsea Durfey (Citizen), Doug Simpson (Farmer), Rosalio Brambila (Farm Manager)

#### Meetings/Calls Dates

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Where: KDNA Granger – 121 Sunnyside Avenue, Granger, Washington

When: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Thursday, January 16, 2014

Call: (509) 574-2353 - PIN# 2353

#### Participants

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Jim Trull (Chair), Dan McCarty, Ginny Prest, Frank Lyall, Jean Mendoza, Doug Simpson, Scott Stephen, Laure Crowe, Donald Jameson, Ralph Fisher (by phone), Tom Tebb, Rosalio Brambila, Mike Shuttleworth, Stuart Turner, Kirk Cook, Don Gatchalian (Yakima County staff support)

#### Key Discussion Points

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##### Agenda

1. Deep Soil Sampling and Nitrogen Assessment

The group discussed the two letters from Kirk Cook to deal with confidentiality using alphanumeric code and/or using bar code system. The concept is similar to election ballot system – names and locations not recorded; only interested in the information obtained to determine effectiveness of nutrient application.

**ACTION:** Jim T. will work with Laurie C. to incorporate the concept in drafting the Deep Soil Sampling Plan.

## 2. South Yakima Conservation District's Role in Deep Soil Sampling (DSS)

The group discussed the role of SYCD in implementing the DSS Plan. Scope of Services will include doing the sampling, working with the producer, how to recruit growers for sampling, etc. The scope of services and budget will be finalized after the confidentiality is included in the DSS Plan. There was discussion of getting the EPO Working Group's help in public outreach including the media. The sampling protocol established by EPA and Ecology will provide representative samples. Question was asked on who will develop the questionnaires and address confidentiality issue.

**ACTION:** Jim T. and Laurie C. will develop the questionnaire and present at the next IAWG meeting.

## 3. Grower Education – Newsletters/Workshops

There was discussion on how to provide public outreach on deep soil sampling (nutrient management and irrigation water management). EPO may be able to assist. In the meantime, there are other information that can be done like nutrient management, BMP, etc. Public information is an ongoing process.

**ACTION:** Jim T. will communicate with the EPO Working Group Chair of the request and report back at the next meeting.

## 4. Final Review of Irrigated Ag Best Management Practices

Jim T. thanked the working group for providing comments to the BMP list developed by the consultant. There was discussion on what was remaining of HDR task regarding review of BMP database and BMP effectiveness study. Don G. reported that HDR still needs to provide a technical memorandum on BMP effectiveness.

**ACTION:** Don G. will follow up with HDR on status of BMP Effectiveness Technical Memo.

## 5. Work Plan Submittal to the GWAC

Jim T. informed the working group of Penny's request to develop the 2014 tasks list and timelines. A draft task list was presented as a starting point. Comments are requested to Jim T. and Don G. by January 30<sup>th</sup>. Final draft will be presented to the working group by e-mail by February 5<sup>th</sup>, review comments to Jim T. and Don G. by February 7<sup>th</sup> and to Penny by February 10<sup>th</sup> deadline for GWAC distribution.

**ACTION:** Comments to draft task list to be provided to Jim T. and Don G. by January 30<sup>th</sup>.

6. Relationship between the Working Group Chair, Consultant and Yakima County

Jim T. briefed that the working group chairs had a conference call and discussed how to compensate the consultant for extra work requested and/or when proposing changes to the existing contract. This is to make sure that the consultant is compensated for any extra work done.

ACTION: Don G. will investigate on a form.

**Resources Requested**

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**Recommendations for GWAC**

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**Deliverables/Products Status**

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**Next Meeting**

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3:00 PM – 5:00 PM, Thursday, February 20, 2014, KDNA Granger