

Irrigated Ag Working Group (IAWG)

Charge from Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee

Working Group Members

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)

Meeting/Call Date

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

When: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Thursday, February 20, 2014

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

Participants

Jim Trull (Chair), Dan McCarty, Jean Mendoza, Doug Simpson, Scott Stephen, Laurie Crowe, Donald Jameson, Dr. Troy Peters, Rosalio Brambila, Mike Shuttleworth, Stuart Turner, Ginny Prest (by phone), Ralph Fisher (by phone), David Cowan (Farmer), Chelsea Durfey (Farmer), Pony Ellingson (PGG), Don Gatchalian (Yakima County staff support)

Key Discussion Points

- Agenda:**
1. Confidentiality Issue
 2. Grower Notice / Invitation
 3. Growers' Survey
 4. Task List and Schedule
 5. Deep Soil Sampling Plan
 6. Other business

1. Confidentiality Issue

The confidentiality issue has been resolved by using the bar code system. Survey questions will have assigned numbering system and only the volunteer grower will know

the assigned bar code. No names or locations will be taken. Information on the survey will be used to determine the effectiveness of nutrient application. A question was asked on a case study and the response to the question was surveys and results of the deep soil sampling study will be the case studies. The working group agreed to move forward and requested Jim T. to present the proposal to GWAC for approval.

ACTION: Jim T. will present the confidentiality issue proposal to GWAC for approval.

2. Grower Notice/Invitation

Jim T. presented the draft letter that will go with grower survey questions. Aside from some edits, the working group agreed in principle that the letter is satisfactory. They also agreed that more grower participation will provide better results.

ACTION: Jim T. and Laurie C. will finalize the letter.

3. Grower Survey/Questionnaire

The working group reviewed the Deep Soil Sampling Questionnaire and provided feedback such as adding an "Other" section for comments, providing example of cropping pattern, TKN, soil type, etc. There was discussion to include soil type as part of the survey and whoever is collecting it should be able to determine the soil type using NRCS soil information and iPhone application. Cost to test the soil type and TKN should be added to the budget being prepared by South Yakima Conservation District to implement the Deep Soil Sampling Plan. A question was asked if there will be report at the end of the survey and the response was affirmative. Findings and summary will be included in the report.

ACTION: Jim T., Ginny P., and Laurie C. will finalize the questionnaire.

4. Task List and Schedule

The working group reviewed the task list and schedule presented by Jim T. September 2014 start date looks reasonable but public outreach needs to happen sooner than what is shown. There was consensus that public outreach to growers need to be done several times for effectiveness. Recommendation was to use the Roza-Sunnyside Board of Joint Control newsletter since it has wider dissemination, including media blitz - newspapers and radio. One recommendation was to add this to Commissioner Elliott's radio spot.

ACTION:

- a. Jim T. will incorporate comments received and finalize the Task List and Schedule and submit to Penny.
- b. Jim T. will draft public services announcement (PSA) and/or insert flyer in the newsletter and will be reviewed at the next IAWG meeting.

- c. Jim T. requested the working group for public outreach ideas to be discussed at the next IAWG meeting to include assistance needed from the EPO Working Group.

5. Deep Soil Sampling Plan (DSSP) and Scope of Work

The working group worked on the draft October 3, 2013 DSSP and identified certain areas that need be edited to include resolution of the confidentiality issue. There was consensus that SYCD should use one testing laboratory for samples. Once another draft document is completed, this will be presented to the working group and to be discussed at the next IAWG meeting

ACTION: Jim T., Ginny P., Laurie C. and Don G. will work on the DSSP document.

6. Others

Resources Requested

Recommendations for GWAC

Deliverables/Products Status

Next Meeting

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