Spokane River Permit Tools
Workshop 2:
Decoding the Variance Process

WELCOME
Spokane River Permit Tools
Workshop 2:
Decoding the Variance Process

Adriane P. Borgias
Eastern Region Water Quality Section Manager
Where we’ve been
A brief recap

2016
- Permits started

2017
- New WQ standards
- Stakeholder meetings
  - “Adaptive Management”

2018
- Workshop #1: Understanding the Tools
- Workshop #2: Understanding Process
- Public Meeting: Permit strategy

What’s Next
- Today
Permit Goal

• To write permits that meet legal requirements and are relevant to other waterbodies in the state;

• So that we can continue to find and reduce PCB inputs in order to meet water quality standards in the Spokane River and elsewhere.
A brief recap

2016
Permits started
New WQ standards
New permitting and water quality tools

2017
Stakeholder meetings
“Adaptive Management”

2018
Public Meeting: Permit strategy
Workshop #1: Understanding the Tools
Workshop #2: Understanding Process

What’s Next

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A brief recap

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- Permits started
- New WQ standards
- New permitting and water quality tools

2017
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- Public Meeting: Permit strategy
- Workshop #1: Understanding the Tools
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Today

What’s Next
Key Tools

• Administratively extend permits
• Issue permits
• Compliance schedule
• Variance
A brief recap

2016
Permits started
New WQ standards
New permitting and water quality tools

2017
Stakeholder meetings
“Adaptive Management”

2018
Permit strategy developed
Workshop #1: Understanding the Tools

Today
Workshop #2: Understanding the Process

What’s Next
Where we are going
Workshop Objective

• Attendees will leave with
  – A better understanding of the variance process
  – Rulemaking Basics
  – How this might apply to the Spokane Permits
  – Next steps for permittees and Ecology
What you will hear today

• More details about
  – Discharger specific variances
  – Rulemaking process
  – Timelines

• Technical presentations
  – Reference materials
  – Posted on Spokane River website
The Workshop Agenda

• Introduction: Where we’ve been
  – Adriane Borgias (1:00 – 1:15)

• Variance Process
  – Cheryl Niemi (1:15 – 2:00)

• Break (2:00 – 2:15)

• Rule-making
  – Becca Conklin (2:15 – 2:45)

• Local applicability/Path forward
  – Art Jenkins (2:45 – 3:00)

• Q&A (3:00 – 3:30)
Introductions
# Permit Team

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References

Spokane Permits Web Page

Ecology Spokane River Web Page