

**DELAWARE REGIONAL SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Act 220 CWPA**  
**January 11, 2008**

**SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Desiree Henning-Dudley	PA DEP, SERO
Michelle Clark	PA DEP, SERO
James Newbold	PA DEP, SERO
John Fabian	PA DEP, SERO
Hoss Liaghat	PA DEP
Mike Hill	PA DEP
David Jostenski	PA DEP
Bill Manner	PA DEP, NERO
Bharat Bham	PA DEP, NERO
Bob Wendelgass	Clean Water Action
Preston Luitweiler	Aqua PA
David Sayers	Delaware River Basin Commission
Kent Barr	Delaware River Basin Commission
Dr. Kenneth Najjar	Delaware River Basin Commission

The following are minutes from the January 11, 2008 meeting of the subcommittee to the Delaware Regional Committee. The subcommittee was tasked with creating a short list of priority watersheds to be presented to the Delaware Regional Committee. The short list was selected from the "list of Potential Critical Water Planning Areas from Initial Screening Process" provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.

**Possible Criteria for Identification of Critical Water Planning Areas (CWPA)**

1. Known concerns – quality / quantity
2. Drinking water intakes
3. Max. exceedance of SIP %
4. Unique features and uses
5. Special protection HQ/EV
6. Clusters of problematic pour points
7. Growth areas

No mitigating effects (e.g., storage) considered

**Review of Potential CWPA Identification by Watershed Screening Tool (WST)**

**O1B Lackwaxen River**

- Not felt to be a problem
- Comment regarding limited growth
- Deficit almost entirely groundwater oriented
- Public supply for Honesdale was surface water now ground water

## O1D Shohola

### Bushkill Creeks

- Public water supply seems to be causing problem at the top of this watershed
- Not sure about magnitude of problem
- Add to list for consideration during first pass

### Hornbeck's Creek

- No discharges within the model
- Public water in this watershed is returned to groundwater via private septic systems

## O1E Brodhead Creek

### Pocono Creek

- Put on backburner pending results from current projects in the region

### Brodhead Creek

- Lots of detailed studies regarding public water supply, treatment plants, pipelines, etc.
- Quite a bit of complexity – suggests looking deeper
- HQ from Brodhead Water Authority intake downstream,
- Fits criteria of growth influence
- Consensus about putting this watershed on the list
- Comment suggesting that the ENTIRE Brodhead should be looked at

## O1F Jacoby – Bushkill Creeks

### Bushkill Creek (Northampton County)

- Direct discharge to Delaware just above Lehigh River
- Public water supply met by another watershed
- Pass on putting this on list

## O2B Middle Lehigh River

### Lehigh River

- Yellow point to 216623 may be caused by an interbasin transfer
- Local knowledge suggests mine may be mislocated
- Mining point investigated by Mike H. – Luasanne Tunnel
- It's actually a discharge, not a withdrawal
- This issue will be resolved first

### Pohopoco Creek

- Three reservoirs – Pennforest Wild Creek and Beltsville
- Beltsville is for flood control only
- Penn Forest and Wild Creek feed supply to Bethlehem
- 20 MGD is exported out of watershed

- Pour points should be located below Wild Creek, not in between because of how the system is designed.
- Intake on Tobyhanna is piped to Penn Forest during drought

#### Aquashicola Creek

- Headwaters are at 30% Q7-10 for Class A trout streams
- This region is affected by a reservoir which is not being reflected in these pour points
- Source groundwater wells for augmentation pumped over from Cherry Creek
- Supply is coming from both reservoir and wells
- Negative SIPs suggests it as a good listing

#### O2C Lower Lehigh River

##### Jordan Creek – Little Lehigh Creek

- There is a question about the public water supply values for the total withdrawals, possible 4<sup>th</sup> issue to be investigated by DEP
- Suggestion to rank Little Lehigh higher than Jordan
- Agric. felt to be an unknown water user in Jordan
- Comment made suggesting that the effects of the agric. is diminishing greatly due to land use change associated with development
- Delineation issue needs to be ironed out between Little Lehigh and Jordan Creeks
- Little Lehigh added to the list

#### O2C Lower Lehigh River

##### Lehigh River

- Monocacy Creek has some demand pressures
- Monocacy Creek not taken off list but request for investigation of return flows and greater data verification

#### O2D Cooks and Tohickon Creeks

##### Tohickon Creek

- Quakertown City treatment discharge in the headwaters may have been missed
- Could be a data issue that might be causing the points to turn yellow
- Data issue will be investigated to determine if this changes the result

#### O2E Pidcock and Mill Creeks

##### Delaware River

- Aquetong Creek not considered a problem
- Mill Creek industrial withdrawal is for cooling
- Question regarding whether it is actually withdrawn from Mill Creek or the Delaware River, possible bad lat/long data

#### O2F Neshaminy Creek

- Consensus to list for numerous reasons – growth, cluster, drinking water intakes, etc.
- The complexity of the system causes many to suggest further investigation
- N. branch of Neshaminy is influenced by Point Pleasant pumpover but other branch is not
- List entire watershed – possibly to be broken out later

#### O3A Upper Schuylkill River

##### Bear Creek

- Class A trout stream portion
- Check into whether ag. estimates are accurate
- Pass on listing

##### Mahannon Creek

- Investigate if missing discharges
- Pass on listing

##### Mill Creek

- Issues with mining discharges
- Pass on listing

##### Little Schuylkill River

- Data missing STPs? Doesn't look like it

#### O3B Maiden Creek

##### Maiden Creek

- Need South Central DEPs input
- Hold for now

##### Ontelawnee

- Pass

##### Saucony

- Need to verify mining discharge
- Mike Hill feels the mine performs groundwater injection that the data process may have missed
- Ag. estimates may be low
- Look at more closely – verify with South Central DEP

O3C Tulpehocken Creek

Tulpehocken Creek

- Pass

Schuylkill River

- Consultation with South Central DEP is necessary

O3D Manatawny – French creeks

Schuylkill River

- pass

Pickering Creek

- pass

O3E Perkiomen Creek

Macoby Creek

- A lot of growth expected
- Large STP is scheduled to be expanded
- A lot of effluent
- Water quality concerns
- Decision made to list it

Pleasant Spring Creek

- Will be looked into by South East DEP

O3F Lower Schuylkill River

- Pass

O3G Darby – Crum Creeks

Chester Creek

- Pass

Crum Creek

- Keep it on list – growth, exports of water from watershed by reservoir, no passbys

Ridley Creek

- Pass

O3H Brandywine Creek

East Brandywine Creek

Valley Creek

- High water quality
- Suggestion to track down return flows
- List as a maybe (data investigation)

West Brandywine Creek

- Suggestion to list West branch Brandywine

O3I White Clay Creek

E. Branch White Clay Creek

- skip

O3J Poquessing – Pennypack Creeks

Pennypack Creek

- List

Suggestion also made to list the Wissahickon Creek – decision to list

Suggestion made to list the tributaries of the Unami Creek – decision to list

Subcommittee conference call Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> @ 2:00 pm, PA DEP to set up call and notify participants.

Short list agreed to by subcommittee:

- Bushkill (Monroe) – development, Nesquehoning Cr? Mining?
- Brodhead – no reservoirs, dev. Pres., reser Cherry Creek
- Aquashicola
- Little Lehigh
- Monocacy
- Neshaminy – break out sections later
- Macoby – effluent dominated, growth, expand WWTP
- Crum Creek
- W. Branch Brandywine
- Pennypack
- Wissahickon
- Unami – dry tributaries