

Report for 2002WA4B: Information Transfer

There are no reported publications resulting from this project.

Report Follows:

The following items constitute the core of the technology transfer activities of the SWWRC.

After the February 2002 regional water quality conference, a considerable amount of effort went into putting the proceedings on our WEB page and analyzing the responses to program questionnaires in order to improve our next conference. To maximize the impact, the WEB page was available to everyone whether or not they attended the conference.

Planning began for our next conference on TMDL implementation. This conference will be held in October 2003 in conjunction with the Washington Department of Ecology and the US EPA. A steering committee was organized comprised of a number of regional experts in water resources. A number of telephone conference calls were conducted and one, face-to-face meeting was held in Yakima. Plans for the conference and a pre-conference workshop were developed.

Continued funding for the USDA-CSREES grant was received. The project helps coordinate research and extension activities of the Water Research Institute and Cooperative Extension Services in Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, and Washington with EPA Region 10. Bi-monthly meetings were held, and communication between researchers and government agencies is expanding rapidly.

Three meetings with the Spokane/Rathdrum Prairie aquifer committee were attended to discuss Idaho and Washington Water Institute involvement with a potential project near Spokane. The project would be a joint venture between the USGS and the States of Washington and Idaho.

Our WEB page underwent a major upgrade during the last year. This is an important avenue for us to present information about the activities of the Center and the research faculty in the state as well as news and events, research reports, and opportunities for research funding. This media requires nearly continuous work to ensure that the material is current and the look of the page is up to date. Last year, we totally changed our WEB site moving from a HTML-based system to one based on Dream Weaver. All of our links were verified and reorganized as a number were no longer applicable, new links were added, and we began the process of making future research reports available for download via PDF format rather than mailing of paper copies.

Our database of interested stakeholders is constantly being updated. Currently, over 2,200 names are included with the number constantly increasing.

Participation in a University of Washington seminar for Journalists interested in technical background for water-related articles. This has led to several telephone interviews from journalists from Montana, Oregon and Washington.

A variety of other small activities were conducted during the year such as a) addressing questions related to the Eastern Washington Stormwater Manual, b) presentations to watershed groups, c) service in response to telephone and e-mail requests from users, and d) attendance at extension and agency meetings.