

Standards Oversight Council

Meeting Minutes

April 1, 2005

DATCP, Madison

Present: Mark Jenks, Bruce Olson, Mike Murray, Gail Lisse, Gordon Stevenson,
Bruce Webendorfer, Pat Murphy
Absent: Rebecca Baumann, Ed Odgers
Guest: John Pfender, DNR

New meetings are scheduled for 9:00 - 12:00 at DATCP in Room 172 on May 13th and June 10th.

The December meeting minutes were approved and the action items reviewed.

- The regional hydrologic geometry curves concept was presented to the NRCS Management Team. They agreed that it seems logical to undertake. The next step for proceeding (consulting other agencies etc.) will be undertaken by Barb Lensch and John Ramsden. **AR: SOC** provide names of individuals within your agency/organization and others (i.e. regional planning commissions, Mike Hahn at SEWRPAC) that should be involved with the regional hydrologic geometry curves development. Forward names to Barb Lensch, NRCS.
- **AR: Pat** check with the National NRCS Office about adding Interim Standard 643A, Shoreland Habitat. Will a new number be issued?
- The Standard 313 trainings went well. Mainly issues related to interpretation of the new standard were discussed.
- The 2004 SOC Accomplishment Report is posted on the website.
- Mike will be working with the WALCE Technical Committee to develop the technical standard/conservation concepts volunteer contact list. The list will be contained on the WALCE website. More coordination with WALCE is expected in the future.
- The solicitation for county funding was sent in mid March. Three counties have pledged money.
- **AR: Mike** incorporate Bruce's companion document process language into the Handbook and forward the draft to SOC.

Proposed Work Team: Proprietary Stormwater Device

Crediting the effectiveness of manufactured stormwater devices used for pollutant reduction is a growing concern because there is no industry standard. John Pfender presented the DNR argument for forming a SOC work team to create a standard for determining the pollutant removal efficiency of proprietary stormwater devices.

Proprietary devices are an appropriate technology however comparing devices is difficult. Industry is claiming high efficiencies in the 80% reduction range, yet two test sites monitored by the DNR show controls in the 10-20% range.

It is thought that a standard can be written which specifies the variables necessary (i.e. particle size, storm event, modeling) for determining the type and size of device needed to achieve the desired pollutant removal. The new standard would not tell how to design/manufacture a device, simply how to determine efficiency. A methodology for determining proprietary device effectiveness would benefit municipalities, DNR,

counties, and the Dept of Comm. Industry agrees with the DNR that a statewide standard for evaluating devices would remove a level of uncertainty that currently exists. Manufacturers (i.e. Vortech, Stormceptor) tentatively support an effort that would enable the DNR to properly credit pollutant removal efficiencies.

- The idea of a product approval list naming devices that pass testing criteria was talked about. A list could potentially be developed in the future (possibly by Dept. of Comm.?), but until a testing protocol is developed the list cannot be created.

The DNR is proposing a three tiered approach to developing a standard. A normal SOC work team would form. In addition a panel of approximately five industry representatives would be invited to provide feedback related to industry's scientific design approaches, and to be available to answer work team questions. A third group of nationally recognized stormwater scientists would be formed to review milestone documents prepared by the SOC team. Currently the DNR is drafting a technical note that could be used as the basis for a technical standard. The DNR is hoping to begin writing this standard in May.

The proposed product appears a mix of companion document and technical standard material. There was debate if it merits being written as a technical standard. Alternates to undertake the development of this standard such as industry, ASTM or a single agency working alone were debated. This type of standard moves away from the traditional standards SOC has dealt with in the past, but it does match the reason why SOC exists. It was agreed that SOC should proceed because an interdisciplinary team will lend credibility to the final product. This may be a good standard for Commerce to be the custodian.

Progress of Active Work Teams

Milking Center Waste Team

Expected completion in August

Finishing the initial review. A new draft will be sent for broad review this month. A sub-group began developing the companion document. It will be important to track success/failure of treatment methods installed according to the new standard.

580 Team

Expected completion in August

A presentation of proposed changes to 580 was made at the WALCE Conference Technical Roundtable. The team will finish responding to initial review comments and proceed with the broad review. The group is beginning to evaluate the companion materials and need for new specifications.

Feed Storage Leachate Team

Expected completion in June 2006

Solicitation for volunteers has occurred and the work team selection will be made this month.

Infiltration Team

Unknown end date

The Vegetated Infiltration Swale standard remains to be finalized. Kevin Kirsh has not finished updating the draft. A substantial revision is expected. The team will need to regroup and again send the revised version for review. **AR: Gordon** determine accuracy of Green Book. Should it be distributed? Or revised?

Channel Team

Expected completion unsure, October?

This project is not progressing. The team leader has been diverted from this task, and difficulties completing detail drawings are causing delay. Status of standards remaining to be completed:

- Channel Erosion Mat – Completed but not yet posted on DNR webpage.
- Sediment Trap and Ditch Check – Need revised detail drawings then both can be posted by the DNR.
- Silt Curtain and Turbidity Barrier – Need detail drawings and both can be sent for broad review.
- Sediment Basin – Minor editing and detail drawing revision needed before it can be sent for initial review.
- Dewatering – Editing and then initial review.
- Riprap – Will not be created.

Lawn Nutrient Management Team

Expected completion in April 2006

Mike participated in a session at the Fox-Wolf Watershed Alliance 2005 Stormwater Conference related to urban nutrient management. General recommendations for lawn nutrient management were created by a committee containing three of the SOC team members and other experts from the Fox Cities area. The session at the conference generated feedback that will be brought to the work team. Potential roadblocks are the lack of standardized soil testing and fertilization recommendations, and the qualifications of a certified urban nutrient management planner.

590 Team Regrouping

Expected completion in September

The ATCP 50 & 51 public hearings did not bring about large new issues. After organizing the technical comments received, the 590 work team will be reconvened. It is believed the necessary discussion can be accomplished in three meetings. There have been internal NRCS discussions concerning the reinstatement of Standard 633 Waste Utilization, although it is unclear if this will happen.

Buffer Initiative

Gordon informed SOC of ideas presented by the Buffer Initiative. Their final report is due in December, yet some members are anxious to begin the revision of the NRCS Standard 635. Implications of the findings and potential changes to 635 or state codes need to be weighted by the Natural Resources Board. The acceptability of buffers by production agriculture is a roadblock - buffers take too much land out of production. The need for adequate upland practices (part of a conservation plan) is often overlooked.

AR: Pat present Buffer Council with NRCS viewpoint that better upland practices are needed to reduce buffer size. It is premature to revisit 635 until after the Buffer Council's final report has been published.

2006-2007 Work Plan Development

SOC began the process of developing the 2006-07 SOC Work Plan. At this meeting the need for the revision or creation of standards included in the 2004-05 Work Plan were reevaluated. SOC member agency/organization input is needed to determine if the above mentioned standards shall remain on the work plan. An assessment of technical standards needs will be sent to the user group this summer. After the evaluation of the user group's input and the agency needs, SOC can finalize the new work plan.

Standards on the 2004-05 Work Plan (shown in bold) and newly requested standards rated by priority for revision:

HIGH Priority

- **Liquid Land Application of Manure**
- **Hydraulically Applied Products**
- **Standard 484, Mulching** - Potentially combine with hydraulically applied products. Review for consistency with the DNR Standard 1058, Mulching for Construction Sites.
- Proprietary stormwater device efficiency standard - See above
- Standard 342, Critical Area Planting
- Standard 382, Fence - Standard has more significance than years ago. **AR: Pat** compare the National Standard 382 Fence to the Wisconsin 382. Is a minor revision or creation of tech notes all that is necessary?
 - Issues from the 2003 Standards Assessment – Industry high tensile wire is less than what standard requires, industry post spacing and 382 recommendations clash, how well does standard apply to permanent fences and uses other than grazing? No detail drawing, put some info in the EFH.

LOW Priority

- **Standard 645, Wildlife Upland Habitat Management and Standard 643, Rare and Declining Habitats** - May be minor revisions.
- **Standard 558, Roof Runoff Structure** - Revision was requested during the 2003 technical standards assessment. Reasons include – new gutter materials (plastic etc.), trench/ground gutters, ice problems, slopes, attachments to buildings, trouble with spreadsheet.
- **Animal mortality** - This concept may be dealt with sufficiently by state and local rules. During the 2003 assessment concern was expressed about mortality management and the handling of composted materials (not the act of composting). Concerns from the urban users about the use of compost as a soil amendment was also expressed.
- **Forestry** [490, Forest Site Preparation. 665, Forest Trails and Landings. 666, Forest Stand Improvement]
- **Odor Control** - Pending outcome of ATCP 51 legislation.
- **Stormwater Practices Near Airports** - Potential minor revision to existing standards.
- **Standard 635, Wastewater Treatment Strip** - Pending Buffer Council research. At the 2003 Fall DATCP-NRCS Engineering meeting the group thought more education was needed, not revision of the standard.
- NRCS Standard 393, Filter Strip - Pending Buffer Council research. 393 is a long term project.
- Standard 362, Diversion
- The standards related to Tilling are old and may warrant revision

AR: SOC next meeting report your agency/organization needs for technical standard revisions and creations.

AR: Gordon, Gail review DNR standards. Posted on webpage at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/nps/stormwater/techstds.htm>

AR: Pat put together a list of standards that have not been revised within the past five years. Status of Diversion standard. Determine extent of 645 and 643 revisions.

Agency Reports

- NRCS – Running the conservation programs is taking the bulk of their staff time. New software being implemented. Questions remain about long term funding.
- DNR – Progress is being made with DATCP on how to deal with winter liquid manure disposal, and the recent fish kills and well contamination. The NR 243 revision hearings begin in June. TRM grant dollars were zeroed out of the budget, but the DNR is shifting dollars internally to keep the projects funded until the legislature appropriates more money.
- WALCE – The new structure is now in place.
- WisDOT and the Dept. of Commerce should be at the table to provide input on the work plan.

Action Register

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