

The Watershed Academy Presents....

Introduction to Trading for Water Quality Protection

A Webcast Learning Session

Wednesday, December 14, 2005 Two-hour audio Web broadcast

Eastern: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm Central: 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm Mountain: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm Pacific: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm

Session Description:

In recent years there has been a lot of talk about water quality trading, also known as effluent trading or “cap and trade.” Have you ever wondered what water quality trading is and how it works? This Webcast will cover the basics of trading—where it’s happening around the country, why watershed stakeholders might be interested in adopting trading programs, and the rudiments of how such programs work. We’ll cover questions like: Who are likely credit buyers and sellers? How is the cap determined and how do trades ensure that the cap is met? How can one avoid hot spots? Why is trading most likely to be used for nutrient reduction? How can we determine whether trading is likely to meet the water quality goals of a particular watershed? We will also describe the Willamette Partnership, a case study example of a water quality trading program addressing temperature problems within a large river basin.

Instructors:

Lynda Hall, Chief, Wetlands Strategies and State Programs Branch, Wetlands Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds

Lynda Hall, co-author of EPA’s 2003 Water Quality Trading Policy and EPA’s trading coordinator for four years, will share an informative overview of trading and address your questions on this innovative water quality management approach.



Sonja Biorn-Hansen, Environmental Engineer
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Sonja Biorn-Hansen has been exploring opportunities for trading for the past three years. She was the lead staff person in the design and negotiation of a watershed-based permit which involves a temperature trade that is expected to result in 35 miles of streamside planting/restoration. This trade has led to the development of the Willamette Partnership, an effort intended to extend trading throughout the largest basin in Oregon. As a result of these and other efforts, Sonja has developed an appreciation for the strengths and limitations of trading.

The Watershed Academy

The Watershed Academy is a focal point in EPA’s Office of Water for providing training and information on implementing watershed approaches. The Academy sponsors live classroom training, online distance learning modules through the Watershed Academy Web at www.epa.gov/watertrain/, and most recently, Webcasts on various watershed planning and restoration topics. EPA plans to offer additional Webcasts in 2006. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/.

Registration

You must register in advance to participate in the Webcast. To register, visit www.clu-in.org/live. The Webcast will be a Web-based slide presentation with a companion audio portion. There are two options for accessing the audio portion of the Webcast: by phone OR streaming audio broadcast (not both). By selecting one registration option at the registration page, you will be registering to view the Web-based slides and the audio method of your choice. If you choose the streaming audio option, you will not be able to participate by telephone. However, you will be able to submit questions online for the presenters to answer during the Webcast. Closed-captioning is available. Upon registration you will receive complete participation instructions. **Please note that there are a limited number of toll-free phone lines available, so register early to guarantee your spot. Because of the growing popularity of these Webcasts and the limited number of available spaces, we strongly encourage you to reserve a conference room and invite your colleagues and other partners to participate.** If you register after that limit is reached, you will be added to a waiting list. After the Webcast is over, an audio version of the Webcast will be available—visit www.epa.gov/watershedwebcasts/ for more information.

Questions?

Visit www.clu-in.org/live or contact Ron Ohrel at ron.ohrel@tetrattech-ffx.com or 703-385-6000.

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