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M E M O R A N D U M

December 18, 1985

To: Dick Cunningham
From: John Bernhardt *JB*
Subject: Upper Methow River Basin Ground- and Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program--Status Report No. 2

The project is proceeding on schedule and we should reach preliminary agreement on the survey approach (surface water monitoring) by mid-January. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 16, 1986. The four parties involved are Ecology, USGS, Okanogan County, and the county's consultant, R.W. Beck and Associates.

I have considered a number of possibilities for conducting the survey, including all monitoring performed by either the county or Ecology, different forms of cooperative monitoring involving these two agencies, and varying degrees of involvement by USGS. Without attempting to outline all possibilities, one option appeared to be most advantageous for all parties. This would involve USGS performing all of the field work; flow and water quality monitoring. USGS estimates it would cost about \$12,000 per year to cover both aspects (Ed McGavock, personal communication). Flow would be monitored at five stations and rating curves developed for these sites (Figure 1). Field and laboratory water quality samples would be collected at up to 11 stations and delivered to Ecology at Twisp monthly. The cost is very reasonable considering the amount of work involved. The cost would be about \$7,500 if USGS performed only the flow monitoring.

USGS has not committed to the project as of this writing. Although they have provided the cost estimate, further evaluation will be required before a decision is made. Their involvement should be considered a potential option at this time.

I have told Okanogan County and R.W. Beck that the preferred approach is as described above. The \$12,000-per-year cost should be borne by Okanogan County. Laboratory support including transporting the samples from Twisp to Olympia would be provided by Ecology. The estimated cost for this aspect

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would be \$75/station/run X 5 stations X 12 runs per year = \$4,500 per year.
This amount would increase to \$9,900 per year if all 11 stations identified
in the R.W. Beck report were monitored. I believe five stations would be
sufficient to do the job.

Okanogan County is handling ground water monitoring and will be developing a
scope of work during spring 1986. For this reason, I have not addressed this
issue in my assessment.

JB:cp

cc: John Hodgson
Brad Hopkins
Brad Banner
Ed McGavock