

Meeting was organized and facilitated by Mr. Rich Williams and Mr. Doug Chamblin, GDOT. Meeting minutes were recorded and reproduced by Mr. Jordan Myers, ARCADIS.

Mr. Williams opened the meeting by announcing several internal hires at the Department. Mr. Chamblin was announced as the Ecology Section Chief, and Lisa Westberry was announced as the Mitigation Coordinator. Additionally, Mr. Williams announced a reduction in workload for Department ecologists. He recommended that consultants currently performing environmental work on Department projects pursue supplemental agreements to include ecology, if that is not already a part of their contract.

Several items were discussed in open session.

MS4 Permits – GAEPD is currently drafting the MS4 permit for the Department. It will be implemented in September 2011. Office of Design is working towards an implementation plan currently.

MBTA – language referencing “100-acre” threshold for forested areas is to no longer be included in reports. Mrs. Meg Hedeem will circulate new language to be used in the near future.

Special Provisions –

- The Department has struggled getting information on SP's to consultants. As they pertain to ecological resources, the Department wants the consultant completing the Ecology Report to prepare the Special Provisions for that project (during the preparation of the Ecology Assessment of Effects Report).
- They will be routed to Construction, Design, and Project Managers for a fatal flaw analysis. Once completed, they will be posted to the GDOT FTP site for the ecologist's review. Mr. Williams will send out a link to the FTP site.
- The Department would like to refine standard SP's and then distribute them to the community as a whole.

Training requirements for Pre-Qualification were discussed briefly. New training opportunities will be announced in the coming months.

Environmental Procedures Manual – questions arose about the EPM and when revisions would be made. Mrs. Hedeem is producing an addendum to the EPM. Guidance is being developed for several areas within the EPM. All comments pertaining to the EPM should be documented in written format, printed, and delivered to Mrs. Hedeem at the next GPTQ Sub-Committee meeting. No email submittals should be made.

Breakout Sessions: Breakout sessions were held to facilitate discussions on MBTA, Special Provisions on Aquatics, and Special Provisions for Woodstork and Indigo Snake. No minutes are available for the breakout sessions. Discussions on each topic were intended to assist the Department in its development of these topics.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 29, 2011.