



Smith River Algae Water Quality Planning Project

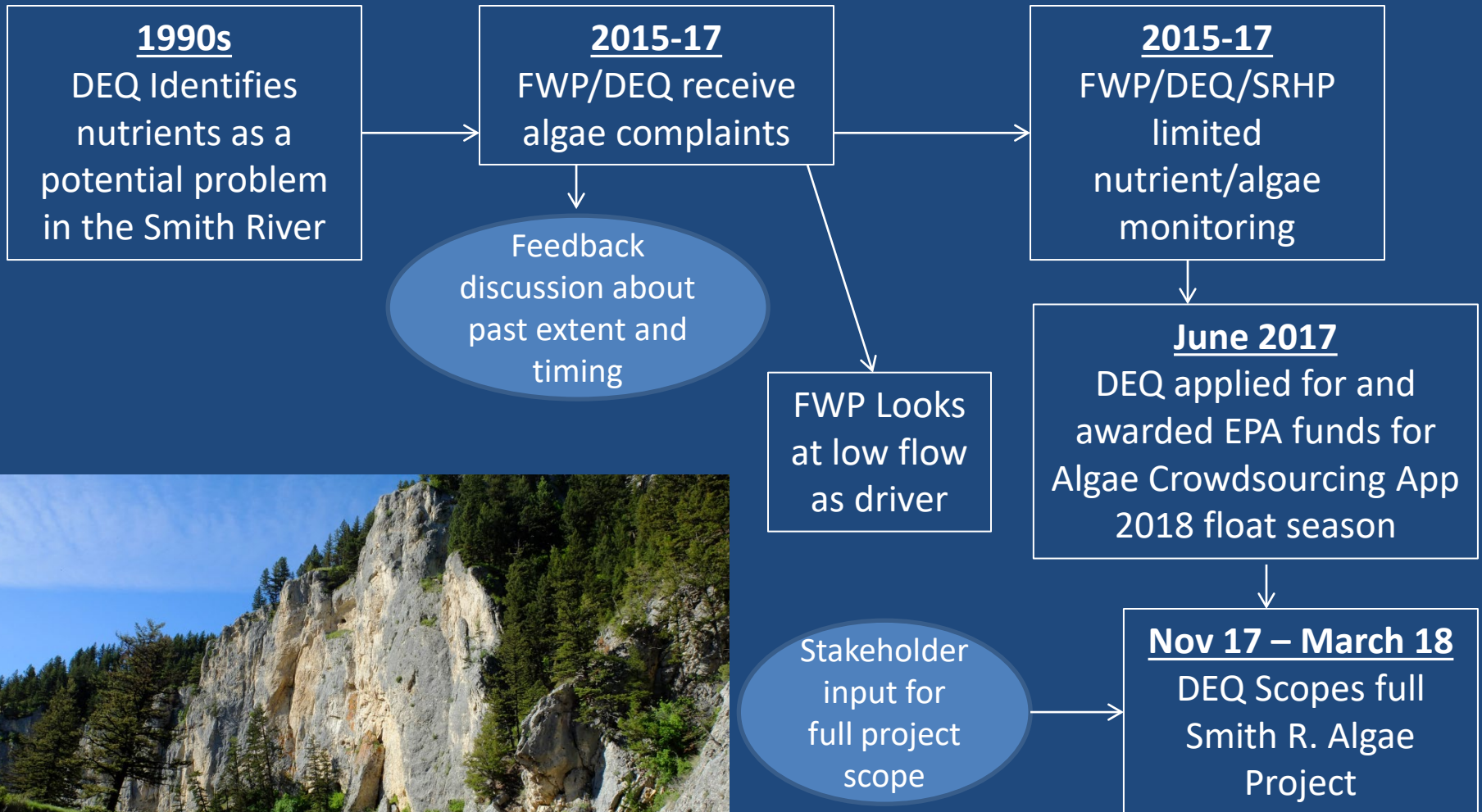
*Presentation to the
Smith River Advisory Council*

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DEQ Montana Department of
Environmental Quality

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DEQ Current Understanding and Background



Project Concepts

- Investigate algae, nutrient and triggering conditions
 - DEQ water quality and algae monitoring
 - Continue to support volunteer nutrient monitoring (SRHP)
 - Smith River app to fill in growth info between sites and sample dates. Engage/educate public.
 - Investigate and report about all triggers that grow algae:
Weather/Climate Conditions, Nutrients and Flow/Ice Scour
- If there are triggers that grow algae which can be controlled, provide information about how to reduce growth.



Project Concepts

- DEQ water quality and algae monitoring
 - Further understand timing and extent of algae and nutrient conditions along the Smith River
 - Synoptic monitoring to see where nutrients are entering the system along mainstem and tributary mouths
- Data analysis:
 - Correlation between: Algae Growth and Weather-Climate Conditions/ Nutrients/Flow/Ice Scour
 - Maps and charts of nutrient sampling results
 - Review land, soil, water practices in areas of nutrient inputs
 - Report on triggering conditions



Algae App Concepts

- Very simple use
- Permit holders take pictures at a reach scale and answer 1-2 questions each picture
- One question at end of float
- Guidance/Help button
- There may be a what is algae and picture taking guide video
- Map results after end of float season along with chl. a monitoring results from DEQ on our website
- Coordinated outreach during permit award letters with FWP
- Signs at put in/take out. Maybe a at put in.





Questions?

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