

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
December 15, 2005

Participants:

Phillip Cernera (Chair)	Anne Dailey
Rob Spafford	Terry Harwood
Paul Woods	Rog Hardy
Ron Roizen	Randy Connolly
Nick Zilka	Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)
Mike Beckwith	
Brian Spears (Vice Chair)	

This summary provides the salient issues. These notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not the nuances of the discussion.

Agenda Items: Schedule, Membership Changes, Accomplishment Report, TLG Meeting

Phillip Cernera informed everyone that the TLG roster was recently updated and sent out because of some changes to the membership. He then pointed out that the next TLG meeting would be January 31 and suggested that potential agenda topics be discussed on the call. Cernera mentioned that Terry Harwood is working on the annual accomplishment report; and that Anne Dailey and Nick Zilka are working on a new PFT to develop approaches for the cleanup work on Phase II of OU2 including groundwater.

Harwood indicated that February 3 is the deadline to get information to him for the board packets for the February 22 meeting. He mentioned that the BEIPC will need to elect a new secretary/treasurer as Commissioner Jim McCurdy has been replaced by Jay Manning; and that the Commission will need to review and approve the two sections of the 2006 one-year work plan that they requested be revised. In addition, Harwood said that he has scheduled presentations on the following topics:

- Lake study (Paul Woods, USGS);
- Blood lead and waterfowl report (Brian Spears, USFWS); and
- Mica Creek alternatives (Tom Bourque, TerraGraphics)
- Updates on Phase II of OU2 and water quality (Anne Dailey, EPA and Nick Zilka, IDEQ)
- Property cleanup (Mark Stromberg, IDEQ).

Cernera confirmed the date of February 3 as the deadline for the TLG to provide the revised language for the two sections of the work plan and any other information that needed to be included in the packets.

Regarding the Mica Creek project, Cernera said that there may not be enough funding to implement the project developed in the feasibility study in order to come up with a unified position. Harwood indicated that a few of the CWA projects are under budget, so there may be additional funding remaining that may be used. Cernera said that other possible options may be funding available from the lawsuit. He suggested making a recommendation to the BEIPC to advance the project and seek additional funding.

Zilka indicated that the budget for Mica Creek is appropriate, but inquired where additional funding may be found. Harwood suggested that he talk to Angela Chung as the grant is already funded. Cernera believes that it is good to probe into this issue and he will put it on the TLG meeting agenda.

Rog Hardy suggested that a summary of the water quality standards being proposed by the Tribe be presented at the next TLG meeting along with how they compare to the State's lake standards. Cernera said that he thinks he can put this together as the Tribe will be meeting with the State in the next few weeks. Randy Connolly asked about the water quality PFT's for Phase II. Anne Dailey indicated that the next water treatment PFT meeting would be January 30.

Hardy inquired about the DPEIS (draft programmatic environmental impact statement) that the Tribe is proposing for the Coeur d'Alene reservation and mentioned that the counties are confused as to how it will work and how much will be regulatory. Cernera said that he cannot comment on it because it is not under his department. He suggested that it would require a technical TLG discussion if people would like to discuss it; and that he could ask the coordinator, Tiffany Allgood to make a presentation. Hardy indicated that this would help educate people.

Cernera brought up the issue of revising the five-year plan every year and urged everyone to think about whether this was really needed. He suggested that if it says this in the MOA, then it should be modified or changed. Harwood said that he will look through the organizational documents to see what it says and then he will share this information with the TLG.

Upon further discussion, it was suggested that the TLG review this issue and discuss it at the next TLG meeting. If the group comes up with a recommendation, then it can be brought to the Basin Commission to let them vote on it. Harwood indicated that he believes the five-year work plan should be revised each year because it is used as a funding document.

Mike Beckwith mentioned that the EPA has a five-year cycle for its review of the Box and that it would be perfect to coordinate this with the five-year work plan for the BEIPC. Cernera suggested the concept of revising the plan after three years into it by deleting the front end and then planning for the out years. Otherwise, he indicated that the TLG would be writing plans all of the time and that he preferred the time be spent with the PFT's.

Round Table:

Cernera: Reported that there is nothing new on the mediation for the LMP; a mediator will be contacted next year to start. He gave an update about the monitoring PFT and how it fits into the

LMP planning. Cernera mentioned that the public comment period for water quality standards for the southern portion of Coeur d'Alene Lake runs through January 13. The differences between the State and Tribe's proposed standards include temperature criteria and interpretation of mixing zones with the main difference regarding temperature.

Beckwith: Mentioned that he spoke with Glen Rothrock about the State and Tribe formulating positions on the LMP and what it may look like. However, it is unclear as the details still need to be worked out.

Spafford: Nothing to report.

Woods: Reported that the lake sampling trip was successful and the next one is scheduled for early February. He is currently working on a preparatory report for benthic water quality monitoring with the EPA to characterize loads. After it has been reviewed, the first quarter 2006 data will be posted on the web.

Roizen: Commented about the ICP process and the human health PFT meeting. He indicated that Jerry Cobb (PHD) talked about the history of the ICP; and Rob Hanson (IDEQ) filled several sheets of paper with issues about the ICP. Roizen said he plans to continue the discussion over the internet.

Zilka: Mentioned that the Basin monitoring meeting was very productive.

Spears: Reported that he is working on the USFWS annual report for blood lead in waterfowl on Coeur d'Alene Lake, aquatic invertebrate sampling, and bullhead monitoring; and that the report should come out early next year.

Hardy: Inquired about who may have submitted comments on the Tribe's DPEIS.

Dailey: Indicated that she will distribute an electronic copy of the monitoring PFT meeting later today. She also reported that: 1) the water quality sampling stations at the Kellogg bridge and Canyon Creek are providing better loading information which will be helpful for the people working on these issues; 2) the EPA has discontinued turbidity reporting as it was too costly and other data is more informative; 3) there will be a PFT meeting for Phase II of OU2 in the future; and 4) Storet moved over to the new web server yesterday and everything went well.

Harwood: Reported that he is getting a good response from CWA proponents on their year-end reports. He then mentioned that in reviewing the conference call notes, he wanted to clear up a misunderstanding about the deadline for the November board packets as there was some confusion with the dates. The original deadline was October 22 and not the 27. This was correctly noted in the October 6 notes, but was later noted incorrectly as the 27. Because of this, there was additional confusion that there may have been a violation of the protocols and he wanted to set the record straight. Harwood also commented that because not everyone was available for the calls, there were some parties who believed they were left out of the process. He indicated that he would make every effort to get everyone's position so that the Basin Commission does not get a position at the last moment as this may lead to disruptions.

Connolly: Nothing to report.

DeLange: Nothing to report.

Dailey: Reported that copies of the final NAS report are available for purchase online from the National Academies Press at: www.nap.edu

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 1/5/06.

Thank you for your participation.