

**Lower Basin Collaborative  
Meeting Notes  
June 4, 2012  
Medimont Grange Hall**

**Participants:**

About 26 people attended the meeting and 8 were from the Basin Commission Staff and agencies.

**Purpose:**

Discussion of the environmental issues effecting the Lower Basin.

**Objectives:**

- Be part of the conversation – Wise decision-making needs local voices.
- Understand the human health risks and complex environmental issues in the lower CdA River Basin.
- Thoroughly discuss possibilities and impacts with neighbors, local businesses, community groups and agencies.
- Weigh in on the options for cleanup and natural resource restoration.

**1. Lower Basin Collaborative Introduction** Gordon Sanders

Welcome and brief introduction of Lower Basin Collaborative effort and the need to provide input to the process.

**2. Citizen View of Superfund cleanup** Bill Rust

**The Situation** – History summary related to Lower Basin and 2002 Interim ROD

**Available Information** – Lots available and Superfund review is good

**2001 Feasibility Study Alternatives** – Review of alternatives and potential actions

**Lower Basin Sediment Budget** – Lower Basin deposition, remobilization and source to lake

**What Can Be Done** – Streambank stabilization; armor river bottom; and stop remobilization

**Urgency** – Finite money; could all be spent upstream; and citizens need to convince EPA to get actual work done in Lower Basin

Questions

River capacity effects if adding a foot of bottom armor.

Floodwater controlled more by lake level?

Spokane River controls flows out of lake.

The need to dredge Dudley reach to cut down loadings.

Can gravels armor the bottom?

Lane Bridge excavation found cut stump 40 feet deep in sediments.  
River bank dynamics – is it like closing estuaries?

### **3. Lower Coeur d’Alene Basin Overview** Ed Moreen

**Where We Left Off** – Historic mining practices gave the lower basin extensive metals that are still moving through the system and complex problems continue.

**Water Under the Bridge (History)** – Past studies: remediation selection (Interim ROD); conceptual site model 2000; and enhanced conceptual model draft 2010.

**Water Currently Flowing Under the Bridge (Current Knowledge)** – Current environmental understanding; recent investigations; and current model development using new digital topographic and river bottom mapping information.

**Future Waters (Path Forward)** – Model development; data collection (sediment sampling and coring river bottom and banks); and model development and calibration. Also looking forward to identification of pilot projects.

Questions

On learning more about the models – possible Project Focus Team (PFT) meeting  
What about modeling Bill’s ideas – concerns on model uncertainty and pilot efforts  
Bank monitoring – EPA has several LIDAR survey monitoring site and DEQ has bank pin sites

### **4. Open Forum—Discussion** Tina Pinzotti

#### **Questions and Concerns:**

Would it be feasible for 33 mile no wake zone - problems with enforceability - politics - no motor possibilities

How far do the particles move - sediment transport and movement dynamics - the modeling efforts

What are the priorities on actions upstream

What can be done on the lower basin tributaries

Road system in lower basin - capping Evans Creek road

What are the potential pilot projects - will identify in next 6 months and evaluate for another year

What pilot road projects are going to be done - Doyle Rd resurface down into Rose Lake

Any signs on which roads done

Powerpoint presentation availability - paper copies at meeting

High flows and high energy concern with stone cap needs

What can be done now - bank stabilization - hardening banks can cause problems -

Possible Fish & Game strch by Soil Conservation District/DEQ grants

Bank stabilization and armoring concern about silting over

Forest Service studing road sediment and fisheries studies on watershed effects

North Fork sediment evaluation

**Card Suggestions:**

Depositional figures of dirt and metals.

Future meeting on identifying potential pilot projects under consideration and bank stabization.

Include citizens in hydrology meetings.

Have metting in Harrison - Same meeting with Ed.

View us at: [lowerbasincollaborative.wordpress.com](http://lowerbasincollaborative.wordpress.com)

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