

TLG MEETING MINUTES
Technical Leadership Group Meeting
April 8, 2010, 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Post Falls Library
821 N. Spokane St. Post Falls, ID

Rebecca Stevens, CDA Tribe (TLG Chair)
Sandra Raskell, CDA Tribe
Andy Mork, IDEQ
Terry Harwood, BEIPC
Bill Rust, Shoshone County TLG Rep.
Greg Clark, USGS
Steve Lipscomb, USGS
Anne Dailey, EPA
Bill Adams, EPA
Ed Moreen, EPA
Glen Rothrock, IDEQ

Kenny Hicks, Shoshone County TLG Rep.
(TLG Vice-Chair)
Toni Davidson, USFWS
Brian Spears, USFWS
Craig Sauer, CH2M Hill
Dale Chess, CDA Tribe
Mike Stevenson, BLM
Vera Williams, CCC Member
Julie Dalsaso, CCC Member
Jeri Delange, BEIPC (Note-Taker)

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.

Call to Order/Introductions: The TLG Chair, Ms. Rebecca Stevens, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Approval of TLG Draft Meeting Minutes for January 22, 2010 Conference Call: Ms. Stevens asked if there were any corrections or changes to the draft minutes from the January 22 conference call that was held in lieu of a face-to-face meeting. Mr. Kenny Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Andy Mork; and approved.

Update on CWA Funding and Projects: Mr. Terry Harwood (BEIPC) gave an update on the CWA grant funding. He indicated that the last CWA grant year will close on June 30, 2010 and that he is monitoring the funding closely to spend it by the end of the grant year. After he receives the final written report for the East Fork Pine Creek revegetation project, he will condense it into an executive summary and post it to the BEIPC website. Ms. Stevens inquired about the status of the South Fork sewer study. Mr. Harwood provided an update and said that the final report will be presented at the August BEIPC meeting.

Update on Flooding Issues and Remedy Protection: Mr. Harwood provided an update on flooding issues and remedy protection. He met with the Corps of Engineers (COE) about having a contractor do an inventory of the levees in the Basin from Shoshone Park to Cataldo as the COE is not in the business of certifying levees anymore. He will be meeting with the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security (IBHS) on April 20. However, he found out that there is no funding available for flooding issues. After he determines what needs to be done to evaluate the condition of the levees, he will talk to the congressional delegation about funding. The COE is checking the LIDAR data to see if there are differences in the flood maps and inundation. He is

also working with the Idaho Silver Jackets who deal with flooding issues. Members include the IBHS, Idaho Dept. of Water Resources (IDWR), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Weather Service (NW), US Geological Survey (USGS), and the COE.

He noted that the BEIPC can take the lead on this issue as it was established as a flood control district by state law. However, it will be a long process to get everything worked out as FEMA may not accept the certification of the levees if an independent engineering firm is hired to do the levee work. Mr. Hicks suggested bringing in the COE after the private sector work is done to delineate it because it's risky to spend money if FEMA is not going to recognize it. Mr. Harwood is checking into who he needs to work with as there is a lot of overlapping of different programs.

Update on Residual Sites Settlement: For informational purposes, Mr. Harwood provided an EPA handout on the Residual Sites Settlement regarding the ASARCO bankruptcy settlement agreement and Trust funding. He highlighted some of the items that are important to the BEIPC as he has received several questions about how the Trust is going to be implemented.

Basin Environmental Monitoring Plan (BEMP) Update: Mr. Bill Adams (EPA) provided an update on the development of the consolidated BEMP along with a handout. On page 3, he pointed out the activities completed to date regarding the stakeholder meetings. He then reviewed the proposed revisions at the bottom of the page and the respective media that are planned for inclusion into the consolidated BEMP for the following monitoring programs: 1) surface water; 2) sediment; 3) groundwater; and 4) biological. EPA's consultant, Mr. Craig Sauer (CH2M Hill), also provided information on some of the statistical analysis for the BEMP data. Mr. Adams indicated that it will be detailed in a draft plan that stakeholders will be able to comment on. They hope to have the revised or consolidated plan in place prior to fall sampling.

Mr. Greg Clark (USGS) made a powerpoint presentation on the BEMP surface water monitoring. They are currently monitoring 18 surface water stations in the CDA Basin. He explained the different sampling events that are conducted during the year; and then reported on the loading averages for zinc, lead, cadmium, nitrogen and phosphorus at various locations. Data included:

- Changes to surface water design;
- Conditions based on 2004-2009 water quality data; and
- Longer-term trends for 1990-2009.

Additional information is posted on EPA's website at:

[http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/fb6a4e3291f5d28388256d140051048b/503bcd6aa1bd60a288256cce00070286/\\$FILE/usgs_tlg_presentation%204-8-10.pdf](http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/fb6a4e3291f5d28388256d140051048b/503bcd6aa1bd60a288256cce00070286/$FILE/usgs_tlg_presentation%204-8-10.pdf)

Mr. Ed Moreen (EPA) gave an update on the BEMP sediment monitoring. Surveys are being done at various riverbank sites to look at bank erosion and erosion contribution on a yearly basis to determine how much sediment is sloughing off. In addition, submerged water level loggers are being placed at numerous locations to collect information as well as measurement stakes to look at scouring.

Ms. Toni Davidson and Mr. Brian Spears (USFWS) discussed the biological resource monitoring data. In 2009, waterfowl surveys were conducted in both OU-2 and OU-3, and included 23

wetlands in OU-3. The highest OU3 waterfowl count for the whole season occurred between February and April at Lane Marsh. Surveyors also counted the highest number of swans ever recorded, but observed only three swan mortalities during waterfowl surveys. Water levels within the river and wetland system were low which appeared to reduce waterfowl use of otherwise highly used wetlands. Waterfowl concentrated in a limited number of areas throughout the basin. The number of swan mortalities observed may have been due to a number of factors including limited use of contaminated areas. A songbird productivity and survivorship trend report analyzing five years of Monitoring Avian and Productivity and Survivorship (MAP) data will be completed in 2010.

Break

Upper Basin Repository Siting Selection Update: Mr. Andy Mork (IDEQ) gave an update on the results of the Upper Basin repository siting process. The two possible sites that were ranked the most suitable are the Osburn Tailings Pond and Star Tailings Pond. On March 25, he reported that the EPA and IDEQ held an open house in Wallace that was hosted by the BEIPC's Citizens Coordinating Council (CCC). There was a good turnout with about 40-45 people who attended. Public comment will be taken until April 26. The agencies are currently working on preliminary design work and site acquisition.

ROD Amendment Process Update: Ms. Anne Dailey (EPA) gave an update on the Upper Basin ROD amendment process and provided handouts to everyone. Next steps include the proposed plan going to EPA's national remedy review board. If there are no substantive comments from the review board, then a public comment period will begin in late May or early June. She indicated that the new EPA regional administrator, Mr. Dennis McLerran, will attend the BEIPC meeting on May 19.

ROD Amendment Implementation Planning: Mr. Bill Adams (EPA) said that EPA is starting to put together a schedule for the implementation plan. There are still some key questions related to issues such as funding as it will determine the amount and type of work that they can do. Stakeholder comments will also help to determine what is done, and there will be more Upper Basin PFT meetings to look at the data and respond to the whole approach (i.e. adaptive management). Ms. Dailey added that EPA appreciated the comments from everyone and they are making some improvements to the draft document.

Mr. Harwood said that an update will be provided at the May 19 BEIPC meeting. The Trustee, Mr. Dan Silver, will also be at the meeting and will speak for 30 minutes. Mr. Harwood mentioned that he put in two public comment periods for the meeting.

Communications PFT and Recreation Education Subcommittee (RES) Update: Ms. Jeri DeLange (BEIPC) made a powerpoint presentation on the Communications PFT and RES. The Communications PFT is working with the CCC on developing a survey to determine ways to increase participation, and what information the citizens would like to receive. Other activities include: revising the BEIPC/CCC brochure, and creating new outreach materials for open houses and the North Idaho Fair booth. The RES chaired by Ms. Tina Elayer (IDEQ) is working on ideas for updating the Panhandle Health District's (PHD) mascot, "Riley Raccoon." Riley will be used to provide information to children on safe recreation. The subcommittee will also work

as a clearing house for recreation education information and will develop an FTP site to list all of the information that it collects.

Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan (LMP) Update: Ms. Rebecca Stevens (CDA Tribe) provided an update on the LMP. The Tribe and State have been conducting water quality sampling in the St. Maries/St. Joe watersheds as well as continuing with the Lake monitoring. They are also working on the educational component for the LMP Education Outreach Program, and a consultant was hired by the State to perform a needs assessment and polling of the Lake basin community before moving forward. For the "Our Gem" Lake map, a new informational piece was added about protecting the Lake from quagga mussels, an invasive aquatic species. They are hoping to print 10,000 more copies of the map this month. Ms. Stevens and Mr. Glen Rothrock have also been making outreach presentations on the LMP for various groups such as the Spokane River Forum conference.

Last night, she attended a Harrison planning and zoning meeting regarding an annexation request, but no decision was made. She said that some misinformation was provided by a private individual about IDEQ cleaning up the mouth of the CDA River for the possibility of a development project. However, she clarified that maintenance of the sites falls upon the landowner.

Lower Basin Enhanced Conceptual Site Model (ECSM) Update: Mr. Ed Moreen (EPA) gave an update on the status of the ECSM for the Lower Basin. They are currently in the process to produce the document on CD.

TLG Officer Elections: Ms. Stevens opened the floor for nominations of new TLG officers. She explained that the terms of the chairperson and vice-chairperson are for one-year; and that only one vote may be cast by a TLG representative from each of the seven governmental entities involved in the BEIPC. Mr. Hicks made a motion to re-elect Ms. Stevens as the TLG Chair. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Stevenson; and approved. Ms. Sandra Raskell made a motion to re-elect Mr. Hicks as the TLG Vice-Chair. Mr. Hicks clarified that if elected, he would continue to serve in the position of TLG Vice-Chair as long as he is available. Ms. Dailey seconded the motion; and the motion was approved.

Adjourn: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned.