

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY

January 26, 2006

Participants:

Mike Beckwith	Rogers Hardy	Rob Spafford
Phillip Cernera (Chair)	Terry Harwood	Brian Spears
Randy Connolly	Mark Masarik	Paul Woods
Anne Dailey	Ron Roizen	Nick Zilka
David Fortier	Rusty Sheppard	Note taker: Holly LeBret

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: Upcoming TLG meeting in Coeur d'Alene and Harrison Bridge project.

Phillip Cernera said that at next week's TLG meeting we should be prepared to discuss the ICP. Terry Harwood commented that he hasn't gotten copy yet from the PFT and that they are meeting on Jan. 30th to prepare their report. He will bring with him whatever he receives. Ron Roizen suggested that they may be presenting two options to the Commissioners regarding their December 6, 2006 deadline: either keep it like the 'box' model or relinquish that deadline and say that the Basin ICP will be very different than the Box ICP. Harwood spoke with Sheri Krulitz about the complications surrounding the ICP and suggested that the Commissioners will need a special meeting for possible ICP resolution. He also said that he wants to keep the ICP in the 2006 Workplan. Cernera suggested the TLG write in the Workplan that the ICP is a 'work in progress'.

Cernera received from Harwood a draft Blood Lead screening document from the PFT and will forward it to the rest of the TLG.

Discussion was raised about the influence that can come to bear on an issue when it is circulated via email and someone responds who had not attended meetings and deliberations on the matter. Roizen called it a 'post mortem' process where something gets changed based on an email response and suggested that we stay aware of the influence and changes that occur at times without much participation. Rogers Hardy suggested that 'side meetings' and last minute meetings are also of concern. He requested that the PFT groups give a report of what's going on, including side meetings with agencies, maybe on a monthly basis.

Cernera asked if anyone had an update on the Harrison Bridge project. Anne Dailey responded, she had called ITD and learned that the contractor would like to use a temporary bridge piling as opposed to a barge for a work platform. She also got a letter from IDEQ that listed a number of conditions and forwarded that letter to John Olsen, with the EPA in Boise. Harwood said that this is just a proposed change order that the contractor is submitting. Brian Spears asked about where they are on the process for mitigation efforts. Dailey said that she thought that there would not be much need for mitigation because they are only impacting the river by placing a longer temporary bridge over it rather than docks from each river bank. Cernera asked what sort of monitoring they are planning. Dailey replied that there will be a silt curtain and monitoring

for turbidity (four times per each pier). Cernera suggested that the bridge should be a matter of discussion for a Basin Information Forum (BIF) meeting and would like to set one up soon that also includes the lower river project that Mark Addy is working on. He would also like to include a presentation from Paul Woods that speaks to the nearshore sampling. February 21st was agreed upon to be the date for the next BIF. Cernera will develop the agenda and contact speakers. The meeting will take place at the Forest Service, Caribou Room, in the morning.

Round Table

Brian Spears: The F & W Annual Report for last year is completed. They are busy now setting up their sprint/summer/fall survey work and working closely with the Environmental Quality group – they will also be looking at a wetlands/fowl survey.

Ron Roizen: He said that he has completed his position paper for the ICP. He explained that it is a statement about why Shoshone County needs a different kind of ICP, one not with definite boundaries, but more like Swiss cheese. He needs to present the paper to the county commissioners before he can email it out to the TLG. Rogers said that he is preparing a position paper using the same process for Benewah County. Harwood said that both of those documents, along with an agency position paper written by Rob Hanson, will be distributed at the next Commission meeting and he will advise the Commissioners not to discuss it at this meeting.

Anne Dailey: She said that she and Nick Zilka are finalizing the OU2 documents and has a revised monitoring plan. She will go over everything at the February 21st meeting (Forest Service building, Caribou Room, Coeur d'Alene, beginning at 1 p.m.)

Phillip Cernera: He has been busy trying to get the LMP draft out the door. The mediator, Mr. Harty, is scheduling to start mediation on February 6th, or later in the month.

Rogers Hardy: He asked Paul Woods for detail of how the USGS will transition when he retires. Paul said that it should be a smooth transition. The EPA funded BEMP program will be taken over by two USGS personnel located in Post Falls. They will also supervise the final year of data collection (lake work project) and he and Mike Beckwith are preparing that report. Laurie Balistera is working on the modeling with the Australians. Jim Kuwabara has phyto plankton assays nearly completed. Paul said that he will remain available as a volunteer during the transition. Hardy asked about the sediment transport models. Paul said that the work will continue and the project ends in September. Anne said that Paul has also been talking with Ed Moreen to work out the transition. All of the issues will be discussed further at TLG meetings.

Paul Woods: He has a lake sampling trip scheduled for next week. They plan on collecting throughout the lake and if there is no ice, at the southern end in Lake Chatcolet. The discharge hydrographs are showing a major recession so they will be able to do a low flow sampling. He said they hope to get a rain on snow event mid-winter. He is working on an annual report and will bring data to Mike Beckwith for their work on the Lake report.

Terry Harwood: He asked if Chief Allan was replacing Chuck Matheson on the BEIPC Board. Phillip told him that Chief will remain the alternate and Chuck is still on the Board. Terry said

that appreciation plaques are being prepared for Commissioners who have served in the past and are now gone.

He said that he reviewed the 2005 Workplan and found that the BEIPC and agencies completed what was planned. He plans on presenting at the BEIPC meeting the need to find a way to improve infrastructure projects in the basin. Getting funding will be easier if a District is formed, rather than each community presenting individual funding proposals. Rogers Hardy asked for more detail on what would be considered infrastructure and indicated that railroad lines should be included. Harwood responded that they would be included, along with culverts, bridges, and all kinds of engineered structures.

Randy Connolly: He said that the Spokane Tribe's fish sampling analysis is not out yet. The sampling is for organics and metals. Paul Woods spoke about some interesting results from a recent bioassay study, there is a reaction by a phytoplankton species that shows they can change the toxic effect of exposure to zinc by coating themselves with a protective layer.

David Fortier: BLM has a pilot aeration system (for water treatment) for iron removal. Also, they have worked with Fish & Game to update their GIS system (they have a layer for the lower Coeur d'Alene Lake) with a landownership layer to put over it. Dailey suggested uploading the information to the STORET data base.

Schedule

January 31st TLG face-to-face meeting at the Idaho Transportation Department, 600 W. Prairie, Coeur d'Alene, 8:30 A.M.

Thank you for your participation.