

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**February 19, 2009**

Kenny Hicks (Chair)  
Anne Dailey  
Bill Adams  
Dave George  
Terry Harwood  
Glen Rothrock

Rebecca Stevens (Vice Chair)  
Carrie Holtan  
Rusty Sheppard  
Randy Connolly  
Jeri DeLange (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.

**Agenda Items:** Eco-prioritization; ROD amendment; Status of LMP; Water Quality Standards from Tribe; and PFT Updates.

**Round Table:**

**Terry Harwood** – Indicated the LIDAR flight was not flown last year. As LIDAR cannot be flown during high water events, he suggested that we may not be able to do it this spring. However, it will be done when the weather permits. Harwood has been working on remedy protection issues for the ROD amendment and will provide an update at the BEIPC meeting on February 25. He will also be at the next SRNC (Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition) meeting where EPA will be making a presentation about the ROD amendment.

**Jeri DeLange** – Reminded everyone about the upcoming BEIPC meeting on February 25 at the Wallace Inn. She also mentioned that EPA will be providing another free training opportunity on “*Building Trust & Resolving Differences*” which the BEIPC Communications PFT is going to help sponsor again. The training will be held on March 26 and registration information will be provided later. The Communications PFT will also be holding its first meeting of the year tomorrow at the Idaho Transportation Dept. (i.e. basement conference room) in CDA.

**Terry Harwood** – Said that he’s been struggling with the stimulus package proposal on infrastructure. He is also working with the State to try to work on sewer issues and remedy protection. The State has funding, and will work on a prioritization process to complete the project proposals. He believes it will be a 40-45 day schedule. The State will then ask for funding from the federal government. (The federal government is no longer talking about doing projects in 90 days; now it’s within a year). The BLM and Forest Service will also get stimulus funding for programs. He noted that funding for the CWA revolving fund is different than what was thought previously when he first submitted projects for consideration.

Harwood will be attending an infrastructure summit tomorrow in CDA. He commented there is a lot going on right now and he needs to find out what’s going on. Yesterday, he met with Shoshone and Kootenai Counties, and he also had contact with IDEQ and the Tribe. The SNRC meeting will be on February 24 at noon at the Brook’s Hotel in Wallace.

**Bill Adams** – Said he is waiting for information from the Natural Resources Trustees on the prioritization model. He thinks it may be ready next week and then he will process and

incorporate the data. They will have a meeting in March to see what the new data looks like and how it may affect other data.

**Anne Dailey** – Continuing work on getting the ROD amendment information posted to the web, as well as presenting technical fact sheets. (The Big Creek pilot studies will provide a link to the BEIPC). She is hopeful the information will be posted by next week before the BEIPC meeting. Two OU-2 technical documents will also be shared at the meeting. She should have a fact sheet prepared on the ROD amendment soon. Next Tuesday, she and Bill Adams will visit the Shoshone Natural Resource Coalition and provide information on eco-prioritization and the ROD amendment work.

**Kenny Hicks** – Inquired if the fact sheet or other information will predominately be for the existing ROD, or a whole new ROD.

**Anne Dailey** – Responded that the ROD amendment (along with previous changes) provides funding that will modify cleanup efforts in the Upper Basin and Box from the South Fork upstream of the confluence of the North Fork of the CDA River; and provides a comprehensive look at mine and mill sites, infrastructure projects to protect the remedy, and will establish an implementation plan for how much gets done, or look at projects near each other for efficiencies. They will be looking at potential ground water treatments as well.

**Bill Adams** – Pointed out that it does not change cleanup actions that have been identified, but adds on such things as water treatment options. This results in more funding and will take more time. Dailey mentioned that work would continue on OU-3 with the focus on human health for yards and mine/mill sites where there may be risks of exposure.

TLG members continued discussion on the ROD amendment process, prioritization tool, feasibility studies, talk on alternatives, etc. Hicks asked if EPA will be taking a more holistic approach. Adams replied yes; and that for Canyon Creek and Ninemile, EPA will look at the sites more holistically and will address the source area on which comes first, but eventually work on all source areas. Dailey reiterated it will cost more funding and take more time to gain a comprehensive plan to achieve water quality in the river going downstream to the Lake, and the CDA River to Washington.

**Kenny Hicks** – Asked EPA if they recognize the direction they are going is a different process for the South Fork.

**Anne Dailey** - Indicated they are using water quality criteria for the South Fork as a goal and that Hicks could call her if he has any questions. She wants to make it clear to make sure there are no surprises. EPA is also trying to work with the Natural Resource Trustees, so they are part of the development. The concept is that the Natural Resource Trustees may come in and work on restoration efforts along with Superfund remedial activities to get a better bounce for the invested dollar.

**Dave George** – Nothing to report.

**Rebecca Stevens** – Gave an update about the presentation on Tuesday evening in Plummer. Dave Lamb, the aquatic weed specialist for the Tribe, made a preliminary report on the Plummer

Creek Nutrient Reduction CWA project to a full house of about 30-40 people. In addition, there was an update about the nutrient management plan and a presentation on the Mica Creek DVD. Regarding the LMP, the Tribe and State hope to complete the final plan by the end of February.

**Carrie Holtan** - Nothing to report.

**Glen Rothrock** – Echoed what Stevens said about the LMP. He mentioned that Holly LeBret (CDA Tribe) is working on the final edits and changes. They are hoping to have it completed by the end of February.

**Rusty Sheppard** – Mentioned that he had 2 or 3 meetings with the County Commissioners over the last two weeks. Yesterday, he had a meeting with Terry Harwood to brief him.

**Randy Connolly** – Asked if the State was matching the Tribe's cash input to the LMP.

**Glen Rothrock** – Said he cannot answer for the Tribe. The State gets its funding from the Legislature, specifically JFAC (Joint Finance & Appropriations Committee). He suggested the Legislature may delay decisions on the State's FY 2010 budget based on the national stimulus package input. However, he is not sure how it may come out.

**Kenny Hicks** – Brought up conversations he has had with people about possible stimulus funding, and that we may see an acceleration of the property remediation program. He emphasized that we have serious repository issues and that this may exacerbate the capacity of existing repositories. If possible, he would like an opportunity for the TLG to look at this issue. Just because there may be additional funding, he suggested it's not a reason to accelerate the program. This may cause problems with current waste storage as there is other work in the cleanup process. He noted that Shoshone County prefers to see the same schedule for the property remediation program to find repository solutions.

**Bill Adams** – From EPA's standpoint, they would like to see more effort on eco-projects. However, it's also their desire to do more of the established program along with the ecological work. Regarding repositories, increased cleanup activity, and how long it will take to reach capacity, Adams said they will continue to work with EPA headquarters on how much funding they are getting and where it's going for yard projects and potentially other work. Dailey added that she is waiting to hear, but is not sure how much and what restrictions there may be.

**Kenny Hicks** – Suggested there may be capacity at the Big Creek repository for yards, but he is not sure about storage for mine/mill and ecological waste. Adams said it may affect capacity, probably not for yards as the priority is on human health. Dailey mentioned that she knows Mark Stromberg (IDEQ) has been considering these issues, but may not be aware of all the details. Hicks hoped that Andy Mork (IDEQ) would be on today's call. On behalf of Shoshone County, Hicks commented he is excited to look at creative approaches to repositories and waste in Shoshone County. He would also like the opportunity for the TLG to look at other creative avenues.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 3/5/09.

Thank you for your participation.