

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
February 8, 2007

Participants:

Anne Dailey
Kenny Hicks
Rebecca Stevens
Rob Spafford
Lloyd Brewer
Rog Hardy
Rusty Sheppard
Bill Adams
Terry Harwood
Mike Beckwith (Vice Chair)
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: None

Terry Harwood led the conference call as the TLG Chair, Brian Spears, was unavailable. (The TLG Vice Chair, Mike Beckwith, joined the group later in the call).

Round Table:

Dailey: Indicated that the EPA would not be able to be at the BIF meeting on February 13 as they have very limited travel funds at this time. She reported that the EPA is continuing to move forward on work projects; and that the USFWS would be starting on a Basin wildfowl mortality study next week which is part of the monitoring plan for the Basin. Dailey also mentioned that she sent an email to the TLG with a link for the proposed new State of Idaho water quality standard for cadmium at: <http://id.water.usgs.gov/public/reports.html>

Connolly: Nothing to report.

Adams: Reminded everyone that a mine/mill PFT meeting was scheduled for February 15; and that a water PFT meeting would be held prior to the BEIPC meeting in March. For the Rex site, he informed everyone that the design work was almost finished and that the project would be implemented this summer. He also pointed out that work was continuing on the West Fork design; and that the Golconda project should be finished this summer.

Hicks: Indicated that he would like a copy of the assessment report (when it is available) on the LMP negotiation. Rog Hardy pointed out that it was available on EPA's website; and that he had also asked Harwood if it could be posted to the BEIPC website. Harwood replied that he was still checking into it. Rebecca Stevens mentioned that she believed the report was probably

posted on the U.S. Environmental Institute of Conflict Resolution (USEICR) website and possibly the EPA site.

Sheppard: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Mentioned that she would not be able to attend the contaminant management PFT meeting, but that Mike Beckwith or Rob Spafford would be there. She said that she has been working on the interviews for the lake assessment and that if anyone wanted information, to please send her an email. Stevens informed everyone that there would be a regional lake conference on Saturday, February 10 at Spokane Community College (Student Union Building) from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. She mentioned that the conference was free and that there would be some interesting presentations on lakes and watersheds.

Brewer: Reported that there was a low turnout at the recent WCAC meeting. However, he mentioned that the USFS and BLM made very good presentations. He said that he wanted to commend the two agencies for their effort and indicated that he received good feedback from people about all their work on metals impact.

Harwood: Gave an update on the status of the Basin ICP rulemaking. He reported that he and Jerry Mason (PHD Attorney) had made a presentation on the proposed rulemaking to the full Senate House Health & Welfare committee in Boise (the week before) and that it had been approved with only one negative vote. Then they presented it to the House subcommittee where it was approved to move forward to the full House Health & Welfare committee with no recommendation to pass; or not pass.

Harwood said that he and Mason were contacted to come back to Boise the following week in order to present it to the full House committee. However, Harwood was unable to do so because he required an emergency root canal. He indicated that Toni Hardesty (BEIPC Commissioner for the State of Idaho) testified on his behalf (along with Mason) in support of the rulemaking with a letter that he provided with comments from his previous testimony. It was approved with only one negative vote. Harwood explained that the rulemaking only required approval from one side of the House or Senate to pass, but that it was good to be approved by both.

He said that now the State and EPA will need to finalize funding, maintenance, repository issues, etc. One of the biggest issues is how to deal with excess waste from sites in the Lower Basin. He suggested that it may be good to see if an agreement could be worked out with ITD for transfer stations in their maintenance yards so that people would not have to haul contaminated material a long distance. Harwood pointed out that the Big Creek repository may also be used for ICP waste in the Upper Basin. He also indicated that Big Creek capacity was increased by moving the power lines.

In March, Harwood said that he was planning to hold a workshop on the infrastructure revitalization and flood control project with Terragraphics; city, county, and other elected officials; utilities; etc. to prioritize areas of concern and seek grant funding. He suggested that it may be easier to obtain funding on regional projects than on an individual basis. Harwood indicated that the EPA has funded \$34,000 for the flood control study to help protect the remedy

from flooding impacts. According to a map of remediated properties that may be subject to damage from a 100-year flood, the total area is approximately 19 million square feet. Harwood said that he checked with Mark Stromberg (IDEQ) on the cost to remediate which is \$4.50 per sq. ft., so an estimate of the total cost would exceed \$80 million.

Harwood brought up that he had talked to Nick Zilka (IDEQ) about some proposals on how to deal with Pine Creek flooding concerns. He mentioned that the main creek for Little Pine Creek is forced into a channel where it would be almost impossible to do a project that would help to alleviate sediment. Harwood suggested that a project may be done on Big Pine Creek and the main channel in which revegetation and other work could be done. The City of Pinehurst has a project to remove bedload material from Pine Creek at its mouth upstream to the Main Street bridge. He indicated that Zanetti has agreed to take the material to use for other projects.

Announcements: There will be a CCC meeting at the Post Falls Library on February 22 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The Contaminant Management PFT meeting has been rescheduled to February 21 at the USFS Panhandle Office (Grizzly Caribou Room), 3815 Schreiber Way, CDA, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Harwood mentioned that he has asked the various organizations to give their positions on contaminant management for Coeur d'Alene Lake and the Spokane River.

The next BEIPC meeting will be held on March 14 at the Idaho Dept. of Health & Welfare, 35 Wildcat Way, Kellogg, ID. Harwood indicated that information to be included in the BEIPC board packets is due to him by February 23.

Other Discussion: Harwood informed everyone that he had completed the BEIPC annual report and would have copies at the BEIPC meeting. He is working on sending a CD copy to the webmaster to post to the BEIPC website as the file is too large to email.

Harwood reviewed the draft agenda for the upcoming BEIPC meeting on March 14. He also reminded everyone that there will be an election of officers for the BEIPC as the two-year terms are up for re-election. He commented that the INL would be making a presentation on the East Fork of Ninemile Creek, Success mine, and Canyon Creek projects. Harwood also mentioned that the LMP section had been removed from the one-year 2007 work plan at the last BEIPC meeting, but that now the counties would like to put the language back in.

Harwood brought up that he had been asked by the University of Idaho School of Law to help on a workshop dealing with CERCLA along with Federal, State, and Tribal attorneys.

Stevens: Inquired when she would be giving her Powerpoint presentation on the LMP audit for the BEIPC meeting. Harwood answered that he would check into it and get back to her.

Hardy: Asked about comments for the annual accomplishment report. Harwood replied that the report had been sent out for comments to the CWA grantees, associated agencies, commissioners and alternates, but that he only received comments back from one source.

Hardy also inquired about the status of the Trail Management Plan. Beckwith answered that it was still in the hands of the attorneys.

Harwood: Commented on the flood control and infrastructure inventory maps. He said that they cost \$38K to produce which he paid out of BEIPC funding. He added that the maps turned out quite well and that he is pleased with the results. They contain information for all of the remediated areas that can be compared with FEMA's 100-year flood lines. Hardy asked Harwood if he was satisfied with FEMA's 100-year lines. Harwood answered that it required some interpretation. Hardy suggested that it would be good to take different looks at flooding from catastrophic rises from rain or snow and how the infrastructure would behave. Harwood replied that he is not sure of the next step at this time until he gets everyone's interest at the workshop on the possible impacts from flooding.

Beckwith: Indicated that the Harty report regarding the LMP negotiation is a product of the U.S. Environmental Institute of Conflict Resolution (USEICR), and as such, should not be posted to the BEIPC website. He recommended that a link be placed on the BEIPC website directing interested parties to the USEICR to obtain a copy of the report.

Beckwith mentioned that he and Glen Rothrock (IDEQ) are finishing up the lake monitoring plan in order to go to the EPA next week for lab support. He said that monitoring would probably start in April or May. Brewer suggested that if flood monitoring was done (to capture high lake flow events) as well as lake monitoring, whether it would provide any real information that would be useful. Beckwith responded that the priority for lake monitoring was to check for oxygen deficits in lake bottom waters and for any release of contaminants.

Harwood: Brought up that the USGS would be making a presentation at the BEIPC meeting on May 23. He informed everyone that the other BEIPC meetings were scheduled for August 15 and November 14.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 2/22/07.

Thank you for your participation.