

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
March 5, 2009

Kenny Hicks (Chair)
Brian Spears
Dave George
Bill Adams
Nick Zilka
Rog Hardy

Rebecca Stevens (Vice Chair)
Terry Harwood
Carrie Holtan
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: ROD Amendment; Eco-prioritization Tool; Water Quality Standards; PFT Updates; LMP; and Next TLG Meeting.

Announcements: The TLG Chair, Kenny Hicks, mentioned that EPA put out a request for submissions to the CDA Basin Bulletin, and they are due on March 16. The next ROD amendment meeting will be held on April 1. (Jeri DeLange is working on finding a location). EPA will provide additional details and a draft agenda once the location is confirmed.

Round Table:

Brian Spears – Nothing to report.

Dave George – Nothing to report. However, he mentioned the State of Washington's budget for agency travel has been cut, and he will not be able to come to Idaho as travel is restricted outside the State.

Jeri DeLange – Indicated she has been busy working on last week's Basin Commission meeting and getting the annual accomplishment report published for Terry Harwood. She will focus on getting the TLG notes up to date next. For the Communications PFT, she reported they held their first meeting of the year on February 20. The next meeting will be scheduled sometime in April at Liberty Lake. Training will be provided by Cathy Cochrane (WA Dept. of Ecology) on risk communications for PFT members only. DeLange also reminded everyone to register for the free EPA training session on "*Building Trust and Resolving Differences*" if they were unable to attend last year. It will be held March 26 at the Coeur d'Alene Inn from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and the BEIPC Communications PFT is helping to sponsor it again. Registration is capped at 38 people and it's filling up fast. Contact Debra Sherbina at EPA to register.

Rebecca Stevens – Suggested to Dave George that she could look into getting a conference line set up for the upcoming Upper Basin PFT meeting. He appreciated the offer, but will be out of town.

Bill Adams – Brought up the ROD Amendment meeting on April 1. He informed everyone they are combining the work of a number of activities for the Upper Basin. This includes the Mine and Mill PFT, OU-2 PFT, Water PFT, and Upper Basin PFT. All of the activities will be merged into one as the Upper Basin PFT. There will be discussion at the meeting on OU-2 work, review of modeling efforts, review and comment on various technical documents, Basin monitoring, etc., as

they are trying to meld everything into one plan across the Basin. There will also be updates on prioritization setting and the ROD amendment. He will send an email out to everyone to summarize the information. (Documents regarding past data studies will be available for download and presentation documents will be put up on the website). Adams is also waiting for information from the Natural Resource Trustees for priority setting on habitat acreage that will go into the model.

Rebecca Stevens – Mentioned that Dave Lamb (CDA Tribe) will be back in two months; and that September 1 is his official retirement date.

Kenny Hicks – Wanted to bring up the repository issue for the Upper Basin. Adams pointed out that all of the PFTs for the Upper Basin (i.e. mine/mill, water, repository, etc.) are basically merging their information together as a lot of the issues are the same and it makes sense to combine them. Hicks thinks this will be more efficient.

Nick Zilka - Brought up the NAS (National Academy of Sciences) report and said that it also encouraged people to look at sites more holistically.

Rog Hardy – Nothing to report. Mentioned that he is working on oil contracts, but staying involved with the TLG by email.

Carrie Holtan - Nothing to report.

Rebecca Stevens – Reported on the following: 1) the Lower Basin PFT has not met again as they are waiting for memos on the ECSM model; 2) the Tribe's water quality standards are still in EPA's hands, but she will keep people updated; 3) the State and Tribe are finishing the LMP and then it will move forward for signature by Governor Otter and Tribal Chairman Allan (Note: the LMP will be at the printers for approx. two weeks); and 4) the Stormwater Erosion Education Program (SEEP) is gearing up again. Stevens will send an email to DeLange to send out to the TLG about the various classes - 2 Kootenai, 1 Benewah, 1 Boundary, 1 Shoshone, 1 Bonner. She will also send brochures to Nick Zilka.

Rog Hardy – Said he was glad that EPA is putting out a memo for the Lower Basin. He brought up that Bill Rust wrote a document about the CDA River, and asked whether there had been any comments or feedback from him. Adams replied he did not know. Stevens indicated she will get it out once it is released. Hardy asked Stevens if the LMP is final. Stevens noted the LMP response to comments had been released and was available on the web, but they do not have the final LMP yet. Hardy inquired if there was any word on funding. Harwood mentioned that the IDEQ Director, Toni Hardesty, had submitted a budget request to JFAC (Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee). He explained that she requested additional funding for managing of the Lake, but with the State cutbacks, he is not sure when the Legislature will vote on it.

Terry Harwood – Busy working on the stimulus package as the Governor asked for ideas for additional work on infrastructure and protection of the remedy. Since he is working on the DCIRP (drainage control infrastructure revitalization plan), he put together a list and talked to Shoshone County Commissioner Jon Cantamessa. Commissioner Cantamessa said to include I/I (inflow and infiltration) on sewer systems as a priority. Two weeks ago, Harwood received a call requesting additional paperwork on the potential projects. So he put together the requested information using his contractor's help, and had to hurry to get signatures from all of the mayors and Shoshone County Commissioners. The projects he turned in include: 1) local drainage projects for Mullan,

Wallace, Kellogg, and Smeltonville with a cost of about \$17.5 million; 2) Sewer I/I problems in a number of communities was combined into one big project with the South Fork sewer district; 3) Smeltonville sewer lagoons; and 4) Kingston-Cataldo sewer district had requests for new grinder pumps as the old ones were about 30-40 years old. The estimated cost for this project was about \$15 million. The forms were sent in to the IDEQ clearing house.

Regarding the levee system, Harwood indicated it was a separate project and you need to do modeling to get the levees certified. He has the paperwork done and will get it out next week. The work on the levees will take funding, but no federal agencies will fund it. Harwood said he prepared a paper to present to the Upper Basin communities. For CWA funding, he made some changes to the second grant year funding and shuffled some of the remaining funding around to other projects (in the same grant year) in order to zero it out.

Harwood recently attended the SRNC (Shoshone Natural Resource Coalition) meeting where EPA made a presentation on the ROD amendment. He noted that people are really interested in the economic stimulus package as well. The DCIRP will be done in April after a three-year effort, and it looks like it will cost about \$100 million to do all the needed work. He suggested that repository issues will need a lot of work; and when the LMP is out, the TLG needs to get together and write a section on the Lake Management for the one and five year work plans. Harwood will work on a draft to send out for final approval by the BEIPC at the May meeting.

Nick Zilka – Mentioned that IDEQ Director, Toni Hardesty, requested about \$370,000 for the implementation of the LMP in FY 2010.

Kenny Hicks – Brought up the Funding PFT as he mentioned it previously on the January 22 TLG conference call. He is interested in being a Funding PFT member, and asked if any other TLG members would like to be involved. Harwood said he is thinking about scheduling a Funding PFT meeting in the near future, and asked DeLange to send out an email inviting anyone on the TLG to be a member of the Funding PFT.

Hicks also noted that Shoshone County's comments at the last BEIPC meeting were loud and clear on the repository locating process. He has a meeting today for working on creative approaches for siting repositories, and pulled up locations to look at ownership on behalf of Shoshone County. Hicks commented there is a lot of waste dirt to deal with and emphasized the County is not interested in a big repository in the I-90 corridor. Since he has been working on the repository issue, he has not been as focused on the LMP as Bill Rust has been working on that issue. However, he plans to get more involved as things get going on the DCIRP.

Rog Hardy - Mentioned that Bill Rust has been working with Benewah County on the LMP also.

Randy Connolly – Nothing to report.

TLG Meeting Discussion: The TLG discussed possible dates for the next TLG meeting. It was decided that April 16 would work best for everyone and would also take the place of the April 16 conference call. Hicks asked DeLange to set up the arrangements for the meeting.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 3/19/09.

Thank you for your participation.