

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**April 30, 2009**

Rebecca Stevens (Chair)  
Mark Masarik  
Dave George  
Terry Harwood

Kenny Hicks (Vice Chair)  
Rog Hardy  
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

The TLG Chair, Rebecca Stevens, led the group into a round table discussion. *(Editor's Note: At the TLG meeting on April 16, election of TLG officers was conducted. Rebecca Stevens was elected as TLG Chair and Kenny Hicks volunteered to serve as interim Vice Chair until a new Vice Chair is elected).*

**Round Table:**

**Kenny Hicks** - Mentioned he was not able to attend the Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition (SNRC) meeting on April 28, but that Andy Mork (IDEQ) was on the agenda and gave a presentation on Upper Basin repository siting. Hicks said he has discussed repository locations with others to try and come up with creative approaches for alternatives. He feels this will be a huge burden in the Upper Basin due to the volume of contaminated waste material that will be generated from yard and ecological cleanup actions. Shoshone County is interested in looking at smaller and more sites, rather than one large site. The County has an idea about a possible site that could be filled with about 20,000 to 50,000 cubic yards of waste material and then it could be capped and put into land use. However, this would depend upon feasibility. There is a site in East Osburn that may be a good candidate for a pilot project. They will need to look into what type of waste material can go in, but it may be a win/win for the Counties and IDEQ. Hicks suggested that it will take cooperation from the agencies and they need help in working in that direction.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Asked Hicks if there was any talk of brownfields with IDEQ staff.

**Kenny Hicks** - Replied there was no talk of brownfields, but noted there will be a community workshop on May 14 on waste repositories. He feels this will be a great opportunity for collaboration and emphasized the County cannot give up any more land. There have been several proposals over the years for alternatives such as a previous suggestion for land use on top of the CIA (central impoundment area). Hicks commented that it's a shame it cannot be used as it's the largest flat piece of ground; and spoke about the need to create alternative approaches where we can comply with cleanup standards and also meet viable healthy opportunities. He met with Andy Mork yesterday, and is excited we're looking at ideas and will have more discussion in the future. He also brought up the amount of remedy protection done in the Silver Valley and the huge potential for recontamination due to drainage problems and stressed this issue is just common sense.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Suggested to Hicks that he may want to look into Brownsfields. Hicks said it was a good idea and that he may look at it online. Stevens also mentioned that EPA put out a recent document on the Page repository expansion. Hicks said he thinks the sides of the repository were not revegetated enough and encouraged people to offer suggestions.

**Mark Masarik** - Said that he is finalizing an agreement with the COE to do some comprehensive sampling on Gene Day Pond in Osburn. Stevens noted it will be good to see what comes of that. Hicks pointed out that it's a great place for young kids to learn how to fish and safer than fishing on the banks of the CDA River.

**Dave George** - Mentioned that he received partial approval for travel outside the state, but still needs to go through one more. He will keep everyone updated. Regarding Blackwell Island, he talked to Carl Washburn (IDL) and gave him some additional data on disk. The permit application is moving through the process and there will be two weeks for public comment. Stevens indicated the government meeting will be with the permitting agencies.

**Jeri DeLange** - Gave an update on the Communications PFT. She indicated the PFT held a meeting on April 17 in Liberty Lake and that PFT members received 3 hours of risk communications training by Cathy Cochrane (Washington Dept. of Ecology). The training session was excellent and very informative. DeLange expressed thanks and appreciation to Cathy Cochrane and the Dept. of Ecology and asked Dave George to forward this information. After the training, PFT members held a discussion about CCC revitalization with the new CCC Chair, Jerry Boyd.

**Terry Harwood** - Completed the analysis on levee certification. The document identifies what needs to be done to bring the levees up to FEMA certification. Regarding the LIDAR flight, he will call Homeland Security to find out the status as it needs to be flown by June 30, or funding will not be available. For the DCIRP (drainage control infrastructure revitalization plan), he indicated it contains a section on infrastructure needs, but local communities still need to find funding. Some of the stimulus funding went to the CSCWD (Central Shoshone County Water District) with a \$6 million grant and a \$6 million loan at a low interest rate. He has been contacted by some of the staff from the Idaho congressional delegation who asked about the number one priority for stimulus funding, so there may be another opportunity for possible funding (i.e. none of the previous requests received stimulus funding). In addition, some of the stimulus funding requests included protection of the remedy projects.

Regarding repositories, he noted there are huge obstacles with the possibility of doing a suggestion proposed by Shoshone County for "filling in the holes" in Osburn. Some of the issues include: 1) the agencies cannot sort waste material (i.e. except tree stumps) from property cleanup; 2) the waste material generated from property cleanup consists of scraped off top soil which is not structural fill; 3) EPA has to meet ARARs (applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements); and 4) mine waste material from cleanup in canyons that could make structural fill will probably be disposed of on site, rather than hauled to a repository.

**Kenny Hicks** - Pointed out that's why mine tailings may be good fill.

**Terry Harwood** - Suggested that people not get their hopes up, especially as EPA has to meet ARARs. He also thinks the biggest problem may be that some people will be very concerned about filling holes and human health issues. Harwood reiterated this is a huge challenge that some people think makes sense, but that it will be difficult to legally get done under CERCLA regulations. He

recommended that people keep all of these issues in mind as it will not be easy.

**Kenny Hicks** - Said he realizes there are challenges here that may be more expensive, but asked if there would be enough capacity for the yard cleanup portion if it was coordinated correctly. He commented that Shoshone County citizens have the right to build communities, but they are running out of ground for residential uses. If there is a possibility of using land for future economic development, then the ICP should not be a compromising barrier (i.e. he suggested that everyone who has had their yard remediated is maintaining a repository). Then people do not feel it's punitive.

**Terry Harwood** - Pointed out that it can cost a half million dollars for EPA to site a repository if it meets all of the ARARS. We cannot justify spending that kind of money to dispose of a small amount of material in a filling the holes approach. Some shortcut process must be developed to make it work. He also suggested that EPA may get another repository IG investigation if they do not follow the ARARs.

**Kenny Hicks** - Hopes that his efforts will help find middle ground with the EPA, PHD, State, County, etc., as he feels it's worth pursuing. If we're able to create usable land, then the value will be worth more than half a million dollars.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Thinks people are on the right track, but that it will be an extensive process.

**Kenny Hicks** - Brought up the CSC water district and the stimulus funding they received for improvements. He knows they needed to take action and it's good for future economic development. However, he feels that pumping uphill does not make good sense and that it's not good for long term planning. He is not involved in the CSC water district, but indicated that all the work at the Enaville well does not increase capacity for the water system.

**Rog Hardy** - Inquired if Ed Moreen had presented any new information on the ECSM (enhanced conceptual site model) for the Lower Basin.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Said that Moreen made a presentation at last night's CCC meeting. She reported that EPA decided to issue a summary at the end, rather than a series of technical memos. She also informed everyone that she will be scheduling a Lower Basin PFT meeting on May 27, and asked PFT members for input on the agenda. There will also be additional information presented on the ECSM then.

**Rog Hardy** - Asked how many citizens were at the CCC meeting. Stevens replied there were four citizens as well as other agency people. Hardy mentioned that he saw 12-15 swans recently and 4 dead swans in the rice pond portion of the remediated NRDA project (i.e. Schlepp property) between Lane and Medimont. He said that it's hard to tell when or where the birds get sick. He also noted the sign was gone at the Schlepp wetland. Stevens said the sign was put up for public outreach and that she will check with Brian Spears (USFWS).

**Randy Connolly** - Nothing to report.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Indicated she will be working on setting up a bank stabilization permitting panel for the Lower Basin PFT meeting on May 27, and checking with the EPA about a request for updates on the ECSM. On May 7, there will be a Funding PFT at the Tribe's office in CDA at 9:00

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a.m. She noted that the property owner who participated in the CWA Mica Creek project has put in for one project in 2010 (both upstream and downstream) and would like letters of support. She also mentioned that Carrie Holtan is no longer working for the Tribe as she is now working for the City of Spokane.

**Jeri DeLange** - Informed everyone the next BEIPC meeting will be held on May 20 at the Coeur d'Alene Inn.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 5/14/09.

Thank you for your participation.