

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
June 12, 2008

Rebecca Stevens (Vice Chair)
Dave George
Mark Masarik
Rog Hardy

Carrie Holtan
Mark Stromberg
Randy Connelly
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

Rebecca Stevens led the call as the TLG Chair (Kenny Hicks) was unavailable. Before going into a round table discussion, she mentioned that Phillip Cerner (CDA Tribe) and Glen Rothrock (IDEQ) made a presentation about the draft Lake Management Plan (LMP) at the Coeur d'Alene Chamber's Upbeat Breakfast on June 10. Stevens indicated that the breakfast meeting was very well attended, and that Cerner and Rothrock both did a great job. The draft LMP is scheduled to be released on June 24.

Round Table:

Hardy: Brought up the recent news article in the CDA Press about the draft LMP presentation at the Upbeat Breakfast and remarked that the article was misleading about the EPA staying out of the process. He said that it sounded like the State was taking over and suggested that this may be a communications challenge for the new PFT.

Stromberg: Reported on the results of the sediment sampling that he conducted after the May 2008 flood event near Cataldo. The results are as follows:

1. **Downstream of the Rose Lake boat ramp:**
 - Lead 5,620 mg/kg
 - Arsenic 67.9 mg/kg
2. **Upriver of the Pinehurst Trailhead for the Trail of the CDA's bike trail:**
 - Lead 2,800 mg/kg
 - Arsenic 48.5 mg/kg
3. **Riverview Road west of State Hwy. 9:**
 - Lead 1,630 mg/kg
 - Arsenic 52.3 mg/kg
4. **East of the Cataldo campground and south of I-90 on LaTour Road:**
 - Lead 1,650 mg/kg
 - Arsenic 44.1 mg/kg

Stevens: Inquired about the funding for the sediment sampling.

Stromberg: Replied that it was done by IDEQ as there were some concerns with the flooding and the EMF repository. He emphasized that he looked closely at the EMF area during the flooding.

Stevens: Mentioned that she saw TerraGraphics doing some water sampling and asked if anyone knew what it was for. Stromberg replied that he was not sure what they did, but would be curious if there was enough water to filter and get concentrated metals. Stevens also mentioned that IDEQ took seven water quality samples on June 6. Stromberg suggested that she check with Andy Mork of IDEQ for the results.

Other Discussion: TLG members discussed additional aspects of sedimentation and levels of contamination in bed load and other areas along the CDA River from the recent flooding events in the Lower Basin including: sediment grain size, solid metals content, sediment versus overbank sedimentation, etc. Hardy then suggested looking at maps to see where the most concentrated areas are to determine whether the contamination is wall-to-wall or in proximity to the River channel. It was noted that this information could already be found in published literature or in the EPA's database program (Storet).

Masarik: Gave an update for Bill Adams as he was unavailable for the call. He reported that Adams was leading the update process for the hydrology model for the Basin. The priority ranking is for the risk of contamination and will be used to schedule work in the future. Work will also include additional monitoring and modeling. Hardy suggested that he would like to see the results discussed with the TLG and CCC. Masarik replied that they will be, but they are just beginning the project.

Hardy: Commented that there are a lot of projects the EPA is currently involved in and suggested that the data be entered into the Storet database. He indicated that the NRCS soil study is underway and the Schlepp wetland project is also going on. Hardy suggested that some of the previous sampling may not be relevant anymore in some areas, but that it's good to keep and look at changes.

Stromberg: Brought up that there may be a data gap in the 3 flood elevations reported at Cataldo for this year's flood event. He pointed out that the highest elevation reported was 3-4 feet higher than the 1996 flood event, but that the water was not going over the bridge (i.e. the water did flow over in 1996). Stromberg also commented that this year's high flow was the ninth highest reported.

Stevens: Asked Stromberg to keep in touch about sampling results for people wanting to gather information.

George: Nothing to report.

Masarik: Reported on the Recreation PFT and indicated that the work was going slow. He said

that Dave White was working on a recreation inventory and that all of the information collected to date was put in a matrix. However, they are light on getting information from the Washington side. He also noted that Dave Fortier (BLM) had loaded all of the Avista data into the BLM mapping system. Masarik suggested that the Recreation PFT may get back to the subgroup for the next session on the draft inventory, if warranted, or that they may do it in a stage approach as Dave White is involved with the Trail now.

Stevens: Asked Masarik if the Avista data would suffice for Washington. Masarik replied that he had put calls out to Spokane County, Spokane Valley, Washington Department of Natural Resources and Washington Fish & Game. He indicated that he had received all of the BLM's information, but was still receiving info from the CDA Tribe, Idaho Fish & Game, Idaho Dept. of Lands, Idaho Parks & Recreation, Kootenai County, and Post Falls. Masarik also noted that the Forest Service information was complete, but not Benewah or Shoshone Counties. Stevens offered to contact people to help gather data.

DeLange: Gave an update about the Communications PFT. She mentioned that the group had a meeting on June 9 and were working on an informational brochure for the BEIPC. DeLange also expressed her appreciation and thanks to Carrie Holtan (CDA Tribe) for taking the Communications PFT meeting minutes, PFT conference call notes, and her help on the draft brochure.

Holtan: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Asked DeLange if Terry Harwood still needed ideas for the remaining CWA funding, and suggested that it may be a good idea to request an extension for public outreach, or something along those lines. DeLange indicated that she would check with Harwood.

Hardy: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Reported on the Lower Basin PFT meeting. She said that they are looking at doing more sampling, but that it would require additional funding. Stevens mentioned that IDEQ collected samples around CDA Lake, Sanders Beach, Harrison, etc. The results are not back yet, but she will keep the group informed. Regarding the Lake Management Plan (LMP), Stevens recapped that Phil Cerner and Glen Rothrock gave a joint presentation on June 10 at the CDA Chamber's Upbeat Breakfast. On June 24, the background briefing for the draft LMP will be held at the CDA public library at 7:30 p.m. and the document will be released. The draft LMP will also be listed on the CDA Tribe and IDEQ's web sites. She pointed out that there will be an initial 30-day public comment period. In addition, all of the stakeholders and partnering agencies (i.e. State, Federal, and Counties) involved over the years received a letter.

Stevens also reported that people involved with the management of the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes have been busy. In the Upper Basin, she noted that the contractor for the Trail had been out every day for the last few weeks doing an inventory of damage and cost estimates. She indicated that there was no barrier repair, and no State or Tribal funding going forward for repair. Stevens noted that the Trail is highly used by people. In the Lower Basin, the Trail is closed for repairs from Medimont to Harrison due to the damage from last month's flooding events. She

indicated that she did not go out and look at the Trail, but that there is a lot of concern about people getting on the closed portions of the Trail. Stevens brought up the photo document that Rog Hardy sent out about some of the damage done and suggested that people be careful.

Hardy: Commented that the Trail is an “unenforceable” area. Brian Spears and Kenny Hicks suggested that this issue would be a good topic for a meeting.

Stevens: Added that the UP inspector is moving forward on the breaches along the Trail from Kingston to Black Rock ranch, and repairs are underway. Hardy pointed out that this is supposed to happen under the consent degree as the UP is responsible for all costs.

Other Discussion: TLG members discussed various issues of flooding effects on the Trail. Hardy remarked that he sees a shift with the TLG and agency people in looking at this as a Basin issue. He feels that the State has done a disservice to advertise the Trail as is, and that it was no surprise the damage happened. Hardy suggested that there is a potential anytime for damage (whether from high water or not); and that there was also a lack of communications with this issue.

Stevens: Emphasized that the Trail is utilized by people all over the world, and that people base their travel information on the Trail. She asked folks to pay attention to the Trail signs and reiterated that it was closed for a reason.

Connelly: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Before concluding the call, she asked if there needed to be a face-to-face TLG meeting this summer. TLG members agreed that a meeting was not necessary at this time.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 6/26/08.

Thank you for your participation.