

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
July 10, 2008

Kenny Hicks (Chair)
Anne Dailey
Nick Zilka
Greg Clark
Brian Spears
Terry Harwood

Rebecca Stevens (Vice Chair)
Dave George
Rog Hardy
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: Results of USGS Surface Water Sampling, BEIPC Field Trip

Before the conference call began, Dave George asked Brian Spears about the climate change workshop. Spears said that he is hoping to get suggestions to deal with this issue locally as experts show global and regional information, but nothing locally. He mentioned that it will be a huge issue and that it will be good to get ideas on what to do.

Anne Dailey mentioned that she had asked Greg Clark of the USGS to be on the call to report the findings of the surface water sampling to the TLG. Clark then gave a report on the results. The TLG Chair, Kenny Hicks, said that he appreciated Clark being on the call and thanked him for the information. Spears told Clark that the snowpack and discharge data was good information.

Other Discussion: Hicks asked if TLG members had received a fact sheet on the Page repository and suggested that they provide comments. He indicated that he is glad they are doing work on erosion and sediment control as well as work on gully and rill erosion. He hopes that it will help alleviate some of the problems and that the work will be completed this year.

Terry Harwood brought up the spring 2008 report on sediment deposition results that he sent to the TLG and pointed out that Mark Stromberg took the samples and that he took the photographs. Hicks commented that the results correlate the high levels of deposition for work. Harwood made a suggestion that we may need to dredge at Dudley downstream because that part of the CDA River is heavily loaded. Dailey remarked that the curve in the River has lots of sediment deposited there, and not at the Hwy. 3 crossing. Nick Zilka disagreed and indicated that there is a lot of deposited material at the Hwy. 3 crossing.

Rog Hardy commented that it was a good discussion and suggested the need to do a comprehensive sampling of particle size, content, etc. Hicks proposed that with the riverbanks, to go about it in a systemic way and create a priority list based on need.

Clark commented on a report by Charles Berenbrock on the simulation of flow sediment transport and sediment mobility of the lower CDA River and noted that it addresses the issue of sediments moving through remedial action areas on the streambed. Harwood said that he had read the report and asked if the model was out now. Clark replied that it was and that he had

talked to Berenbrock in D.C., and that Berenbrock may be potentially spearheading another project with the model to simulate sediment deposition. Dailey pointed out that a lot of data is needed to do the modeling, or it may not be enough to be valuable. Clark said that it was a lot of topography data.

Clark then mentioned that the USGS is going to purchase an echo beam sounder to do a 3-D map of the bottom of the river channel as it will be helpful to look at the thickness of deposits. Hardy suggested that it may be good to use the equipment at the mouth of the River at the Lake. Clark added that the river channel precision and accuracy of the echo beam sounder is incredible. Hardy inquired about penetration. Clark replied that it was not good. Hardy suggested that it should be a priority. Clark responded that it was difficult to get through aquatic weeds.

Dailey indicated that the results of the bulk samples should be back soon and that she would check with the lab. Clark commented that the results should be interesting, especially cadmium and zinc for high flows. He mentioned that usually with dissolved contaminants, 90% become attached to particulates during high flow. In addition, the high flow transport was carrying lots more that were suspended. Clark mentioned that zinc seemed to be leaching through groundwater in the stream and that graphs showed this dramatically at 30,000 cfs at the curve in the River when levels shot up as it picked up large particles. He also indicated that there was a lot of lead going into the River (about 15 tons per day) and into the Lake (about 22 tons per day). TLG members discussed how these results equated with the last large flood event,

Hicks inquired about whether there was any trace of sewer plant trace metals. Clark answered that you see that more with low flows. At Canyon Creek, he said that there was lots of zinc loading (i.e. the most we ever measured and that it was not an easy task). Lead was 300 kg. per day with the highest flows at Canyon Creek and the mouth of Ninemile. Clark commented that it may behoove us to do grain size analysis sampling. Before moving on to the next topic, TLG members then discussed sampling, cost, different ways to model, etc.

For the upcoming BEIPC field trip, Hicks asked if the TLG had looked at the draft agenda. Harwood mentioned that he had received commitment from the BEIPC Commissioners at the last meeting. He said that the BEIPC will have two buses for the tour, and that there may be a third bus if there are enough people. He noted that the BEIPC is working with Andrea Lindsay of the EPA for the possibility of the third bus. Harwood said that he will send out a public announcement for people to RSVP, so that we know how many people will be attending.

Round Table:

Zilka: Mentioned that he spent a day in the Lower Basin and that the bank stabilization work was in good shape for the last two flood events. He indicated that the conclusions still hold true and that he presented this information at the BEIPC meeting. Zilka noted that the plank wake break is not doing the job and there is poor durability on the brush boxes, but the rock bank stabilization features are doing well. Beyond that, he said that there are lots of trees ripped out from damage to velocity (i.e. rock volumes).

Dailey: Said that they are continuing to do groundwater sampling in OU-2; work with the

geoprobe is ongoing and they will be collecting additional samples.

Spears: Indicated that they are conducting BEMP sampling for biological monitoring. This includes sampling of Basin waterfowl for blood lead at Smeltonville Flats and the Schlepp property. They are also doing BEMP sampling at Springsteen and Pine Creek. Spears noted that the sampling is the second round for OU-2.

Dailey: Pointed out that BEMP information is available on the EPA website and there is also a link on the BEIPC's website.

Spears: Gave an update on the restoration work for the Schlepp property. He said that most of the damage was caused by wind action (about 40 miles per hour) and wave erosion from high water that damaged the levee and caused a small breach along Highway 3. They will continue restoration efforts in the fields and spray for weeds before it floods this winter. Spears indicated that they had planned to start pumping out the water around April 15, but were late doing it. They will modify the restoration plan and do work this fall. He thinks that it is looking good.

Hardy: Commented about the erosion to the levees on the Schlepp property. He agreed about the wind, but also pointed out that the damage was due to flooding because the water was so high and the sides steep. Hardy stressed that it looks like the causeway damage will be continued as the levee sides are too straight, too steep, and the bottom is too flat. He brought up Potter's slough and noted that the Schlepp property does not look like it. He mentioned that it is hydrologically isolated from the flood plain and he does not think this is good, but needs more data. Hardy inquired if the water in the creek was metals free and the sediment clean.

Dailey: Responded that it is clean water and runs pretty clear.

TLG members then discussed related issues such as land use planning, watershed and restoration issues, Lane Marsh, modeling, overall Basin strategy, etc.

Harwood: Brought up the Page repository. He said that he had visited with the Shoshone County Commissioners and they provided input which he gave to IDEQ and EPA. In regards to dragging the slope back on Page, he thinks that a 3-to-1 slope will be stable. He also noted that Shoshone County's preference is to extend the sides out, rather than continue to build it higher.

Harwood reported that he awarded the infrastructure revitalization plan (IRP) contract for Phase 4 to TerraGraphics to finish the assessment. The final plan will be referred to as DCRIP (i.e. drainage control revitalization infrastructure plan). When the assessment gets close to the end, he plans to have a Funding PFT meeting to look at all sources of funding. This week, he said that he drove 300 miles on the St. Joe River to look at tributaries and if there was any damage from snow melt. It was his observation that there was no scouring in the main stem and tributaries. However, there was scouring below Avery on private property and subdivided land on the St. Joe. Some property owners have planted lawn down to the water's edge, so there is a potential for nutrient loading coming down from Avery to the Lake. Harwood indicated that he did some erosion control on the St. Joe using riprap in 1970 and 1974 when he was working for the Forest Service. He suggested that it was good to use angular rock to protect the shoreline of

the St. Joe as it flows faster than the CDA River. He noted that the riprap has lasted over 30 years.

Clark: Inquired about the slide at Red Ives. Harwood replied that it was fixed and all passable now. Clark indicated that he had a gauge there, but could not get up there to sample for about eight months due to the slide.

Harwood: Commented that he took photographs of the watershed tributaries on his St. Joe trip.

Stevens: Mentioned that the State did a press release about extending the public comment period for the draft LMP to August 25. She informed everyone that comments may be sent electronically to her (CDA Tribe) or Glen Rothrock (IDEQ). Then there will be a face-to-face meeting to respond to the comments.

Harwood: Asked about what the PFTs are doing.

Stevens: Replied that the Lower Basin PFT was not currently working on anything. For the Recreation PFT, she said that Mark Masarik was still working on the recreation site inventory.

Hardy: Suggested that it may be good for the PFTs to meet after the results of the high water sampling. Stevens proposed September or October.

Hicks: Indicated that it could be discussed on the next TLG call and asked everyone to check their calendars.

Hardy: Asked Stevens how many LMP comments had been received so far. Stevens answered that they had received 3-4 comments on the Tribe's web page, and that Harwood had also shared his comments to IDEQ and the Tribe. Hardy mentioned that the Counties were getting together to communicate before turning in their comments. He then asked if any testing had been done to certify that the Harrison beach was clean.

Zilka: Replied that testing on Harrison beach had not been done yet. Hardy suggested that it should be done as the City was getting busy for the summer. Zilka indicated that it will be done and he will check into it.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 7/24/08.

Thank you for your participation.