

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**July 24, 2008**

Kenny Hicks (Chair)  
Terry Harwood  
Rog Hardy  
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

At the beginning of the call, Terry Harwood and Rog Hardy discussed the sampling results on Harrison Beach and the level of contaminated sediments. While the results showed that lead levels were low and the beach certified clean, Hardy raised concerns about the actual testing and where the samples were taken as he did not believe the samples were realistic for the whole beach. He suggested that the samples may have been taken from areas with clean fill barrier.

Kenny Hicks asked if other samples were taken after the high flows as it was a good opportunity for sampling. Harwood noted that boat launch ramps, beaches, etc. in the Lower Basin were covered again with contaminated sediment deposition after the last high flow event. He commented that the State was concerned and would like IDEQ and the Recreation PFT to work on this issue. They would also like the BEIPC, Forest Service, BLM, and other agencies to be involved.

Hardy commented that he feels there was a big disconnect as the Panhandle Health District (PHD) put out a news article about the beach being safe. He emphasized his concerns about the way the samples were collected. He also brought up that they left the contractor to decide that the barrier looked good, but that miles of the barrier are gone or damaged.

Harwood suggested that these are issues for the Recreation PFT to focus on. He said that he spoke to Nick Zilka, and that Zilka is also concerned as he put crushed rock down at Medimont, but now it's covered with deposition. Since the area is not paved, the contaminated sediments can not be washed off. Harwood indicated that he took photographs of the deposition at Rainy Hill which had to be cleaned off twice. This is why he took samples of the East Rose Lake boat ramp last year as he was concerned about the sediment deposition and that the results were over 3,500 ppm lead.

Hardy thanked Harwood for the sediment deposition report. Harwood said that he will include a copy in the August board packets for the BEIPC. He indicated that Mark Stromberg did a part of it and he did a part. He explained that he took Stromberg's results and put them in the report, and then took the photographs a few days ago.

Harwood commented that Zilka said the deposition on the beach and gravel is diluted, but that the deposition on the asphalt is pretty concentrated. He mentioned that sampling results also showed contamination at Q'elimn Park and the Blackwell Island BLM boat ramp.

### **Round Table:**

**Harwood:** Mentioned that he is working on the BEIPC field trip. He also said that he recently was involved on a Spokane River trip and participated in discussion at Q'elimm Park at Post Falls. Harwood said that Speed Fitzhugh from Avista also talked on the reauthorization of the Post Falls dam. He indicated that the River trip went all the way to Long Lake and was covered by a series of newspaper articles. Harwood reminded everyone about the East Mission Flats (EMF) 60% design open house next Thursday (August 31) at the Canyon School in Cataldo. The open house is not a formal process, but there will be various stations and pictures for people to see. He said that he reviewed the 60% design package that the State sent to him and that he is pretty well in agreement with it. He gave a recommendation about riprap for protection. For the Page repository, he mentioned that the UMG (Upstream Mining Group) is working on dragging the slope back 3-to-1. He also said that the Shoshone County Commissioners do not want the Page repository built any higher. They would prefer having the sides extended.

Harwood said that he was called by Senator Broadsword (State of Idaho) about a tour of the Silver Valley that U.S. Senator Crapo asked to do in August. He mentioned that the tour was by invitation only, and that it may help to carry the federal budget earmark for funding levee work. Harwood reported that he awarded the final phase of the drainage control revitalization infrastructure plan (DCRIP) and will be meeting with the communities next. Work will include completing the map of existing facilities, project needs, cost estimates, and a list of potential funding sources. He also plans to call a Funding PFT meeting this fall to discuss other ideas for funding sources, and then the final report will be produced.

Last week, Harwood said that he attended the Governor's Transportation Infrastructure meeting in Coeur d'Alene. He remarked that the meeting was very interesting with lots of good comments on design, funding issues, taxes, etc., and that one of Idaho's problems is that it does not have enough funding for a state match of federal funds. Harwood commented that there is a lot going on with transportation issues in Congress and infrastructure has not been properly maintained for the last 30-40 years.

**Hicks:** Agreed that there is lots going on and that smaller communities can not keep up with infrastructure needs.

**Hardy:** Commented that there was a County meeting with the State and that he met the new CDA Regional Administrator for IDEQ, Dan Redline. He called him and talked to Rob Hanson and Glen Rothrock of IDEQ about sampling issues and contaminated sediment deposition. Hardy said that it sounded like the State is going to be more proactive with these issues. He then brought up that there has been a lot of good work on sediment transport by the USGS and said that it may be good to have a meeting with various people like Geoff Harvey, Frank Frutchey, etc. to brainstorm and come up with ideas. Hardy talked to Ed Moreen who suggested that he propose a meeting to brainstorm. Harwood recommended that the Lower Basin PFT do this; and suggested that Hardy send an email to Rebecca Stevens.

**Harwood:** Said that he spent a day on the St. Joe River to see if the snow melt had caused any blowups. However, he saw only a few just below Avery to St. Maries. He noted that there was

lots of bank erosion along the River and it appeared that farm animals had also caved in the bank.

**Hardy:** Brought up Hepton Lake and suggested that it was a big contributor for nutrients. Hicks asked whether Hepton Lake was eutrophic. Hardy answered that he would not say that, but that it was not getting much circulation. Hardy then asked about the map in the draft Communications PFT brochure. He said that Jeri DeLange mentioned that she was going to be making some changes to the final map, but that it appeared to be the same map. DeLange clarified that there were a few changes made such as the overall color and that the boundary of Montana was now listed at the top of the map along with Washington and Idaho. She noted that the map is the actual one from the Record of Decision (ROD) for OU-3, courtesy of the EPA. Hardy commented that he feels the map is not a good depiction of the Superfund area as it contains other features that are not in the ROD such as the St. Joe River. DeLange explained that it was taken directly from the OU-3 ROD and that it was run through the Communications PFT process. *(Editor's Note: The brochure states that the map is from the Basin ROD and shows the study area that EPA evaluated at that time for the 2002 ROD. The map generally depicts the area that EPA studied when evaluating possible cleanup actions in the Basin in the late 1990's).*

**DeLange:** Reported that the Communications PFT was working on finalizing the draft brochure to get copies printed in time for the EMF 60% design open house. She mentioned that there will be a table for the BEIPC and CCC for public outreach at the open house. DeLange also noted that she was busy working on arrangements for the BEIPC field trip.

Before the call ended, Harwood and Hicks briefly discussed levee issues and that potential flooding may damage the remedy.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 8/7/08.

Thank you for your participation.