

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**July 28, 2005**

**Participants:**

Brian Spears (Vice Chair)	Randy Connolly
John Perfect	Mike Beckwith
Rob Spafford	Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)
Rebecca Stevens	
Rog Hardy	
Paul Woods	
Ron Roizen	
Terry Harwood	

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 Vice Chair, Brian Spears led the call in Phillip Cerner's absence.

**Other Discussion:**

Ron Roizen mentioned that the Science Committee met last night and that they support universal blood testing along the lines of the NAS report. He also reported that there will be a trail head dedication for the Pulaski Trail on Wednesday, August 20 at 1:00 p.m. at the Huckleberry Heritage Festival in Wallace and the public is invited. Senator Craig, USDA Under Secretary Mark Rey and the Forest Service Honor Guard will be in attendance. As a point of clarification, Roizen mentioned that his phone number in the book is incorrect. His correct number is: 208-556-0288.

**Lake Map:** Rebecca Stevens reported that a meeting was held to review the lake map and make final changes. She said that 500 copies will be printed and distributed to start with. Rog Hardy pointed out that he believes there are still problems with the map and that Terry Harwood is not taking further input. Hardy suggested that the three county commissioners be contacted about unresolved issues.

**St Maries Creosote Site Plan:** Spears advised everyone that final comments for the St. Maries creosote site plan are due by August 22. There will be a public hearing on Thursday, August 11 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in St. Maries to review the proposed plan. Hardy commented that the City of St. Maries is one of the PRP's and this is a significant issue for St. Maries and the Basin. He mentioned that the proposed plan is on the EPA's website. For anyone interested, the St. Maries Creosote Site Plan information may be found under Views, Idaho, St. Maries Creosote at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/5c8919bc41f032578825685f006fd670/cabb84db584c955f8825697f00049bee!OpenDocument>.

Spears remarked that this issue is worth discussing before the comment period is closed. He will ask Phillip to put it on the agenda. Spears said that he had a little difficulty downloading the plan from the web, so he offered to email a copy if any of the TLG members would like one. Hardy added that it is believed the contaminants are moving through the ground in St. Maries although there are no data points to define.

**Lower Basin Recreational Survey:** Hardy inquired if anyone had an update on the survey that is being conducted by Ducks Unlimited in the Lower Basin recreational areas, in particular at Bull Run. Spears answered that he was currently unsure of the status. He reported that the project will develop a list of landowners in high priority areas who are willing participants for wetland enhancement or restoration. Spears will check into this and keep everyone updated.

Hardy then asked if anyone knew the objectives for a wildlife management area. Spears replied that it is difficult to obtain, but that he will gather the information on how it relates to other activities. Hardy replied that he believes this issue may come up with Bull Run.

### **Round Table:**

**Spears:** Reported on the aquatic invertebrate sampling that is being conducted at several different sites for metal analysis and the completion of the yearly avian MAPS stations. He also mentioned that the USFWS will be giving a tour of the Upper and Lower Basin areas to a small group of people between Fish and Wildlife to bring attention to issues as they relate to EPA.

**Roizen:** Inquired how to relate wildlife issues to the NAS study and the EPA plan. The ecological side relates to the work of the agency.

**Spears:** Responded that he agrees with the findings. He discussed the bioavailability of metals with Dan Audet. Multiple studies corroborated results including site-specific field studies. The NAS report did not include discussion on all studies on waterfowl metals exposure in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

**Hardy:** Remarked that EPA used ESA minimal.

**Spears:** Mentioned that the EPA risk assessment came up with lower number than 530 for safe waterfowl exposure, but the 530 mg/kg lead clean up number for waterfowl habitat was decided on based on management decisions and FWS studies. Agrees with the NAS report and conclusions.

**Roizen:** Responded that it was unfortunate not to have a meeting before the Basin Commission meeting and that it would be good to do so while the NAS information is still fresh. He suggested the TLG start discussing to make use of the findings and how to incorporate the implications of revised science management practices.

**Beckwith:** Agreed. The TLG provides technical leadership and advice. The role of the TLG should be to translate the information to the Basin Commission and others. Beckwith believes

the NAS report needs to be used, however it would be premature before the Basin Commission meeting as the information is still being reviewed.

**Spafford:** Agreed. He mentioned that he is still also reviewing the EPA Five-Year report.

**Roizen:** Indicated that he wanted the conference call notes to reflect a request that Terry Harwood and Phillip Cerner come up with a date for a meeting.

**Harwood:** Agreed that it would be beneficial to discuss.

**Spears:** Responded this should be a major topic for the next TLG meeting.

**Woods:** Reported that he is in Coeur d'Alene working on data and that the last sampling was conducted on July 20 & 21. He mentioned that the warm weather has stratified lake conditions. The thermocline has developed and there is good phytoplankton growth going on. Woods mentioned that he has reviewed the NAS report and looked at the data gaps. He offered to provide additional science and data if needed to the EPA. In addition, he indicated that he was interviewed yesterday by Idaho Public TV.

**Spears:** Inquired how deep the thermocline was.

**Woods:** Responded that it was 12 meters deep in Coeur d'Alene Lake and 6 meters for Chatcolet Lake.

**Stevens:** Nothing to report.

**Spafford:** Nothing to report.

**Hardy:** Nothing to report.

**Perfect:** Nothing to report.

**Beckwith:** Mentioned that the Tribe conducted sampling at 12 near-shore sites. The Killarney Lake results are spiking higher than expected. He said the Tribe may look at sampling phytoplankton more frequently.

**Roizen:** Inquired if this was important to report to the public.

**Beckwith:** Replied that it was not. He said this was just part of the natural dynamics of the lake at this season with classic phytoplankton algae growths that you normally expect to see in the lake. Beckwith also mentioned that near-shore sampling of rail beds had been conducted in the water as close as possible to the rail beds.

**Hardy:** Inquired when the sampling results would be available.

**Beckwith:** Responded that the results for metals would be back in about a month.

**Harwood:** Mentioned that the next Basin Commission meeting would be held on August 10 in Spokane at Gonzaga Law School (Barbieri-Moot Court Room). The agenda and map for the meeting has been posted to the Basin web site. Harwood also reported that all of the 2004 CWA agreements have been signed and that he has been working with Tamara Langton of the EPA on the QAPP's (Quality Assurance Project Plan) for the projects. He also mentioned that he may take a few days of vacation next week.

**Connolly:** Reported that the Spokane Tribe has just about finished with the sampling analysis for the Little Falls and below the Little Falls of the Spokane River.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 8/4/05

Thank you for your participation.