

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**August 4, 2005**

**Participants:**

Phillip Cernera (Chair)	Bill Adams
Nick Zilka	Ron Roizen
Mark Stromberg	Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)
Rob Spafford	
Lloyd Brewer	
John Perfect	
Rog Hardy	

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:** Five-Year Work Plan Wrap-Up, Upcoming BEIPC Meeting, NAS Report Open Discussion

**Five-Year Work Plan:** Phillip Cernera mentioned that he will be presenting the five-year work plan to the Basin Commission on August 10. He believes there will be no minority position presented unless there is one from the general public on some aspects of the plan that he is not aware of. Terry Harwood will also be speaking on the plan.

**BEIPC Meeting:** The upcoming Basin Commission meeting is: Wednesday, August 10 at the Gonzaga University Law School (Barbieri-Moot Court Room), 721 N. Cincinnati St., Spokane, Washington starting at 9:30 a.m.

**NAS Report:** Cernera said that in regards to the NAS report as laid out in the five-year plan, the commission can deal with this as appropriate. He will start the process next week with some sort of recommendation on how to deal with the report by reviewing it and developing a list of what project focus team (PFT) each study recommendation should move into and the PFT can make recommendations for the 2006 work plan for the commission. He indicated that preliminary recommendations could be made as the report has only been available for a short time. Cernera also mentioned that there is no current funding available. If sources were found, then it could be noted into the plan and those issues addressed.

Bill Adams commented that it would take time in order to evaluate the studies appropriately. Ron Roizen asked how much revision would be required once the draft report is final. Cernera replied that he has not heard of any changes to the conclusions in the pre-publication report. The only changes may be errors in fact. Adams asked how this would relate to work. Rob Spafford commented that some TLG members on last week's conference call suggested a meeting to approach this issue. Cernera proposed that the PFT's form broad categories around large issues, then compile the recommendations by category and give them to the TLG as a start. He suggested the PFT's meet first before the meeting.

Cernera also mentioned that Anne Dailey (EPA) would be making a presentation on the NAS report at the basin commission meeting. Roizen asked how much time was allowed for the report. Hardy said that according to the agenda, Dailey had 15 minutes scheduled for the briefing and an additional 15 minutes for public comment. Cernera mentioned that it would be good to hear the public comment on how to approach the NAS report.

Roizen pointed out that the NAS report recommended universal blood lead testing for children between the ages of 1-4. He also indicated that it would require legislation from the State for other venues that were important on the NAS report. Cernera mentioned that he received a call from the Benewah Clinic about people who requested that Benewah Clinic conduct blood lead surveys.

Cernera said that he received a phone call about a potential lawsuit involving Medicaid and an order on consent. The people involved did not feel the order for lead testing followed the decree. He worked with them on facilitating the issues to follow the order. Roizen pointed out that children on Medicaid are supposed to be tested annually.

**Announcements:** Cernera announced the schedule for the following meetings:

- **August 9** – Golconda meeting at 1:00 p.m. (Adams mentioned that a number of sites would be visited along with the Golconda including the Sisters mine).
- **August 10** – BEIPC meeting at 9:30 (Gonzaga University Law School).
- **August 11** – Water PFT meeting at 11:00 a.m. at the Forest Service on Schreiber.
- **August 18** - BLM meeting on the Rex site.
- **September 14** – Tentative BIF (Basin Information Forum) meeting.

**Other Discussion:** Roizen asked if an agenda had been circulated for the BIF meeting. Cernera replied that an agenda had not yet been developed, but he believed the focus would be on water. Roizen suggested the agenda include a discussion on human health. Cernera said that if anyone has ideas for human health topics, to please let him know. Roizen mentioned that during last week's conference call, there was a suggestion to discuss findings of the NAS report such as groundwater, etc. Cernera answered that anything could be discussed. If there is a scientific debate on any information, then it could be determined who should make presentations.

Cernera then asked for recommendations on when to schedule the next TLG meeting; late August or to wait until later. Lloyd Brewer commented that he believed it would be good to have the meeting in late August. Adams mentioned that the EPA would not be prepared to give recommendations yet; however, they could add input later on. After discussion, it was agreed to tentatively schedule the date for Tuesday, August 23. Cernera will work up a draft agenda to discuss at next week's conference call.

Roizen suggested that everyone review the NAS report from their perspectives to give their concerns. Cernera indicated that issues should be broken into categories: Upper and Lower Basin; human health and ecological. Roizen suggested that the categories be developed as set out in the NAS report: Upper; Mid; and Lower. Mark Stromberg mentioned that he feels there is

not enough time to review the information. Cernera replied that this is just a starting point to shape the discussion in the future.

**Round Table:**

**Zilka** – Mentioned that the Sisters project is underway and should be completed next week.

**Stromberg** – Reported that he has 3 contractors in the field. They have experienced some difficulties in finding enough laborers, equipment, etc. Stromberg said that 104 properties have been remediated so far. The UMG has completed 70. Spafford inquired if they are back on track. Stromberg replied that they are still another 3-4 weeks behind schedule.

**Brewer** – Indicated that there may be a WCAC meeting on September 14. He will have more information next week.

**Perfect** – Nothing to report.

**Hardy** – Mentioned that there will be another meeting on August 11 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Maries on the preferred alternative for Carney Pole. Roizen asked if Carney Pole was listed as part of the Superfund site. Adams remarked that it is separate. The site may be in the general boundary, but it is a distinct issue and being handled outside of the Superfund site. Stromberg added that creosote is not a chemical of concern in the ROD for OU3, so it is not part of it. However, it is an issue of contamination. Hardy pointed out two items to consider: 1) the behavior of creosote; and 2) what level is a concern.

Rog Hardy then brought up the recreational PFT and mentioned that he would like to talk with Anne Dailey next week. He believes this issue should be more closely controlled. Hardy mentioned that at the Rose Lake public meeting on recreational sites, the meeting was contentious with the public not preferring more sites. Although the agencies put a stop towards some of the proposals, the Bull Run project is moving forward. Stromberg answered that the Bull Run site is getting paved because it floods. The issue of the public using private property access for recreational areas was also raised by Hardy. He mentioned that the five-year plan calls for monitoring unauthorized access. Cernera said that he would contact Dailey and this may possibly be a small agenda item at the TLG meeting.

**Adams** – Reported on design drawings for the Golconda and access agreements for the Constitution and Golconda. He is hopeful that work can be started soon before the weather conditions change.

On water treatment, Adams mentioned that they are currently working with one of the mining companies on access in order to start a pilot study. This will be discussed at the PFT meeting next Thursday.

**Roizen** – Mentioned that at the last TLG meeting, he pointed out that there was one sentence in the EPA five-year review about a new study on soil, dust, and blood lead. He indicated that he still has not heard anything about a new study and he has concerns about not being able to find

out any further information on this issue. Roizen also mentioned that a newspaper reporter (Mike McClean) spent a whole evening interviewing people about the NAS report. He suggested that everyone look for the article and if there were any questions, to please check with him.

**Cernera** – Reported on the Natural Resource Damage (NRD) Trustees. They would like to do some work at St. Joe, Sherlock Creek, and additional work on Benewah Creek. A restoration plan needs to be developed for public comment. The Trustees have a few sources for funding and the plan will help mitigate losses to fisheries and waterfowl. A draft interim 3-year plan should be completed in the next few months. The Tribe also owns some land on Hepton Lake and is working on a management plan for removal of garbage and habitat creation for waterfowl. Hardy inquired who the trustees are. Cernera replied that they are the Forest Service, BLM, Tribe, and Fish & Wildlife. He also mentioned that the work would be done by consensus and that the issue of funding is open for discussion.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 8/11/05

Thank you for your participation.