

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
September 7, 2006

Participants:

Brian Spears (Chair)
Terry Harwood
Mike Beckwith
Lloyd Brewer
Bill Adams
Mark Masarik
Rog Hardy
Rebecca Stevens
Rob Spafford
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: 1) 2007 One-Year Work Plan; 2) 2007-2011 Five-Year Work Plan; and 3) Recap of new Contaminant Management PFT.

The TLG Chair, Brian Spears, indicated that there were three agenda items to be discussed on the call. He began the discussion with the 2007 one-year work plan and said that the draft would need to be presented at the next BEIPC meeting on November 29. He asked Terry Harwood to explain the timeframe required for the board packet information.

Harwood replied that he would need everything by November 10. He mentioned that he was working on a skeleton for the document, and should have the draft ready for the TLG's review by the first week in October. He suggested that the draft 2007 one-year work plan be presented to the TLG by October 23 in order to provide an opportunity for the CCC to review it in time.

Harwood brought up that the 2007-2011 five-year work plan would not need to be presented to the BEIPC until the February meeting. He commented that he sent letters to all of the CWA proponents requesting their 2007 CY reports by September 22. He also proposed that it would be good to talk to the mine/mill people about their next projects.

Regarding a recent news article about Avista, Harwood reported that they plan to provide one million in funding for recreational programs through an agreement with the Forest Service on the relicensing project for the Post Falls dam. In addition, Avista agreed to share funding for maintenance and improvements at the Medimont and Rainy Hill recreational areas and the campground at Bell's Bay.

Harwood then brought up the infrastructure project and indicated that he is hoping to have the report soon. He said that once the TLG reviews it, he will need to talk to the cities and work on funding.

Spears remarked that he attended the “new” ICP (Contaminant Management) PFT meeting on August 25. He said that he was surprised at how close people were on the focus and that most felt that regulations were needed in order to manage the contaminated areas along the lake and Spokane River. He also mentioned that June Bergquist (IDEQ) did a review before the meeting for the regulations on the deposition of dredge material to provide information for the process.

Harwood said that he sent out the first draft contaminant management rule based on conversations with the PFT members. Rog Hardy inquired when another PFT meeting would be held. Harwood answered that he did not have one scheduled yet because he was waiting for comments from everyone in order to send out another draft. He indicated that he took the dredging guidelines that June Bergquist provided and incorporated them into the first draft.

Spears asked Harwood about forwarding the documents to other parties. Harwood replied that it would be ok to do so, but to make sure that everyone understood that the document was only a “rough” draft. He suggested that people send their comments to both him and Spears.

Round Table:

Beckwith: Reported that Rebecca Stevens was working on the LMP audit.

Spears: Mentioned that Anne Dailey had inquired about the CWA grants on the last TLG call, as well as an update on Mica Creek. In response, he said that Glen Rothrock (IDEQ) was coordinating with Terry Harwood to revise the Mica Creek grant so that it may be used upstream. Harwood responded that they were also working on a new proposal for the Mica Creek project.

Brewer: Announced that the next WCAC meeting would be held on September 20, and that he appreciated the State and Tribe agreeing to give an update on the LMP. He added that the Washington Dept. of Ecology would also be making a presentation on the draft Spokane River PCB's TMDL water quality improvement report and updated draft dissolved oxygen TMDL; and that the Lands Council would be speaking about an updated survey of ethnic community perspectives and practices related to Spokane River quality.

Adams: Gave an update on water treatment for Canyon Creek and mentioned that an aquifer test would be done starting next week. He informed everyone that a water treatment PFT meeting may be scheduled later in September. In regards to mine/mill work, he reported that construction at the Constitution site should be completed by mid-October. For the Rex, he indicated that the BLM's work on the toe dam is proceeding well. At the Golconda, he said that they are hoping the weather holds for the contractor to start work in the next few weeks.

Harwood: Mentioned that Rebecca Stevens took pictures on the tour of Mica Creek of where the erosion was bad. In regards to the Pinehurst flood project, he reported that there are some changes that he is currently working on with Nick Zilka and the City of Pinehurst. He said that he would talk to the TLG about the project after it is developed. The proposal would include a catch basin system on the main street (Division Street) to capture oil, grease, etc., and a facility built to treat the stormwater discharge to improve water quality.

Harwood also gave a brief update of the CWA projects and mentioned that he had received the reports on all of the completed projects except Woodland Park and two INL projects in Nine Mile and Canyon Creek. Adams inquired whether Harwood had talked with the INL people. Harwood answered that he had, and that the manager for INL said that she would make sure the final reports are completed. Harwood added that he knows the people working on Canyon Creek would like to have the information. Adams agreed that the information would be helpful.

Harwood then informed everyone that he would be out of the office for a few weeks from September 18-29.

Brewer: Brought up that at a WCAC board meeting, there was concern expressed in regards to permitting for the Upriver Dam and Donkey Island cleanup projects. He indicated that the permitting may not be done in time to coordinate and complete the cleanup work during the low flows. Harwood asked what the work included. Brewer answered that the PCB contaminated sediment deposits behind the dam would be capped; however, the sediment deposits at Donkey Island would be removed and replaced.

Masarik: Nothing to report.

Hardy: Nothing to report.

Stevens: Nothing to report.

Harwood: Mentioned that all of the sections for the draft 2007 one-year work plan had been completed except for the blood lead section. He reminded everyone that the NAS report recommended universal blood lead testing of children. Harwood indicated that Rob Hanson (IDEQ) and the Human Health PFT were working on the blood lead section for the work plan.

He also mentioned that he was going to have a report presented at the next BEIPC meeting on the results of this year's blood lead testing. He said that Jerry Cobb informed him that there were only 60 children who participated in the program and that the number should be higher. However, it's extremely difficult to get parents to bring their children in for testing.

Spears: Indicated that he would get back to everyone about potential topics for the TLG meeting.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 9/21/06.

Thank you for your participation.