

**TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY**  
**Revised - September 17, 2009**

Rebecca Stevens (Chair)  
Rog Hardy  
Anne Dailey  
Terry Harwood

Kenny Hicks (Vice-Chair)  
Vera Williams  
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.

As there were no agenda items, the TLG Chair, Rebecca Stevens, led the group into a round table discussion.

**Round Table:**

**Rog Hardy** - Inquired about the Lower Basin PFT meeting tomorrow; and the best way to submit his comments on the enhanced conceptual site model (ECSM) as he will not be able to attend. He then provided some brief recommendations for PFT members to consider about the main stem channel (i.e. CDA River), data gathering, and floodplain issues for tomorrow's ECSM discussion and will email his other comments to EPA later.

**Kenny Hicks** - Commented that he learned a lot at the Upper Basin PFT meetings last week (September 9-10), and that he appreciated the information (i.e. handouts).

**Anne Dailey** - Mentioned that she loaded the information from the September 9 meeting to the web, but that it's not up yet. She also noted that some of the September 10 information was not correct, so it will be corrected before it's put on the web. Dailey will call EPA's web team as she hopes to have the information up today.

In follow-up to discussion at the September 10th Upper Basin PFT regarding changes to Idaho Water Quality Standards, Dailey mentioned that Idaho is proposing to make the following changes to the cadmium aquatic life and arsenic human health criteria:

- Cadmium - IDEQ proposes to reduce the "low-end hardness cap" used in calculating the water quality standard from 25 to 10 mg/l CaCO<sub>3</sub>. The high-end hardness cap would remain unchanged at 400 mg/l.
- Arsenic - IDEQ proposes to lower the arsenic human health criteria for all waters of the State from 50 ug/l to 10 ug/l.

There was a public comment for this that closed in early June 2009. IDEQ is proposing to make these changes to forestall litigation against the EPA. These changes would likely be adopted by the Idaho Legislature in April 2010 and be effective once EPA approves them.

Regarding a question that was raised about obtaining information on the Ridolfi analysis of repository caps (which was discussed at the September 9 meeting), Dailey indicated that the document is comprised of several large files. She will work with Ed Moreen to get those out and suggested that the best method may be to put it on the web page as part of the September 9 meeting. Dailey would also like to coordinate this with the repository team. She appreciates everyone attending the September 9-10 meetings and providing input as there was lots of good discussion. Upcoming events where she will be speaking on the ROD amendment include the following:

- October 1 - Kootenai Environmental Alliance
- October 7 - Coeur d'Alene Chamber of Commerce; Natural Resource Committee Breakfast

The next Upper Basin PFT meeting will be the latter part of October, but Dailey does not have it scheduled at this time. She mentioned that they will be looking at data on road costs as it was made clear at the September 9 meeting that the estimated road costs were preliminary values that were subject to change and revision.

**Kenny Hicks** - Said that he met with Bill Rust and they upgraded the Ninemile road costs to present to Shoshone County as the cost estimates prepared by EPA seemed high and they wanted to use their information for comparison.

**Anne Dailey** - Explained that EPA's cost estimates were prepared by their consultant and that they are required to meet certain standards. They did ask about contacting the Shoshone County road person.

**Terry Harwood** - Brought up that he built roads for over 20 years with the Forest Service. He thinks that local people have more expertise on steep slopes road construction and that some of the consultants do not have that experience, especially as the cost estimates were significantly high. He suggested that we need to get on top of this issue. If he can be of help, he said to let him know as he ran road construction for 20 years. He noted that there is also a lot of expertise in the BLM and Forest Service.

**Anne Dailey** - Explained that they are aware of this issue and are looking into additional information for more grounding to numbers. She mentioned that Bill Adams was not on today's call as he was working on monitoring revisions. They will follow-up from the July 28 meeting and Craig Sauer will send out revisions. Hard copies will be sent to some and others will receive an electronic file. Dailey noted that the Schlepp (i.e. wetland project) remediation work is continuing and that they have been lucky not to have bad weather so far.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Indicated that she may have some comments on the monitoring plan. She will take a look and see if the comments (i.e. that she plans to make) have already been incorporated. Dailey advised Stevens to contact Bill Adams if her comments are not shared.

**Jeri DeLange** - Informed everyone that she will be rescheduling the Communications PFT meeting from September 23 to either October 21 or 28 due to scheduling conflicts. She sent an

email to PFT members to notify them of the change and ask which date works best.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Mentioned that she was looking at having a Basin Information Forum (BIF) meeting on October 21. After discussion by the TLG group, it was decided to combine the next TLG meeting along with the BIF and schedule it for October 16. Stevens will send out an email to let everyone know, and will send out a draft agenda later.

**Jeri DeLange** - Announced that the next BEIPC meeting for November 18 will be held at the Gonzaga Law School in the Barbieri-Moot Court Room.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Brought up some possible agenda items for the TLG meeting: 1) Lake monitoring update; 2) Lake Management Plan (LMP) activities; 3) Stormwater Erosion Education Program (SEEP); 4) LIDAR update, and 5) Avista 4E process.

**Terry Harwood** - Said that he will need to send out the BEIPC board packets on November 4. He suggested an EMF update for the TLG meeting and an overview of other Basin related issues.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Reminded everyone about the Lower Basin PFT meeting tomorrow from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There will be an update on the Gene Day pond fishery by Mark Masarik (EPA) from Boise, and Dave White will provide an update on the recreational inventory. (She noted that the Lower Basin PFT has combined with other PFTs, so that some of the groups do not dissolve). The Lower Basin PFT meeting will also include updates on the ECSM technical memos, Natural Resource Damage Trustees, water quality sampling and fish populations studies.

**Terry Harwood** - Reported that: 1) he may have the stringers set on the EMF bridge by the TLG meeting on October 16; 2) Sather Field is completed and the football team has played a few games on the new field; and 3) the drainage control and infrastructure revitalization plan (DCIRP) is now out. The first document consists of a loose leaf binder that contains infrastructure evaluation and project identification, planning and financial information while the second section pertains to flooding (i.e. flood inundation maps, condition of utilities and infrastructure, and all remediated properties as of 2008). He will be distributing copies of the full report to all of the various mayors and utility managers. Electronic copies are also available on CD for anyone interested. Harwood indicated that Shoshone County has already used the information for a grant request for remedy protection in Silverton for two of the five drainage zones (i.e. including work to protect Sather field). He stressed that this is especially important as \$2 million was invested in the work and the area is subject to flooding from stormwater, thunderstorms, etc.

Harwood stated that he will be making a presentation tomorrow to the Kootenai Environmental Alliance (KEA) on CERCLA issues, funding, Basin Commission, etc., but he thinks they may also want to discuss other topics such as Blackwell Island and storage of waste material in general. For the 2010 BEIPC one-year work plan, he will put together a draft and send it to the TLG for review. He then brought up ecological funding (i.e. that was discussed by some people at the EPA meeting in CDA), and raised the question of how will we get any eco-funding once the human health remedy is done. Harwood mentioned that there is appropriated funding for the human health remedy, but that we may not be able to do any eco-remedy if we do not get any

settlement funding. He indicated that the EPA has a limited budget as well as a hard time competing for other funding as the priority is for human health.

**Anne Dailey** - Said that EPA is aware of this issue here. Harwood clarified that he is not putting down Region 10. Dailey responded that it will be a problem to have funds to do all of the ecological cleanup work that needs to be done because it's difficult to compete for other funding besides human health risks. Harwood said that is why he brought it up. He suggested that the community needs to support EPA Region 10. He cautioned people about being negative as this may have a negative influence on the region's efforts for funding streams and suggested that people think before they say and do things if they want the eco-remedy done.

**Terry Harwood** - Provided an EMF construction update. The pilings are all driven. The concrete caps for the pier have been cast in Spokane. They will be placing about 15,000 cubic yards of waste material for Phase II. Once the footprint for the wash facility is full, it will be allowed to settle until next March, so the concrete in the wash facility does not crack. He mentioned that the construction for the crane pad extended about 5 feet down into the mine waste (i.e. tailings) on the site and never hit any water in the hole, so he thinks that the tailings material must be pretty dense. Harwood also built a back door (double lane) haul road from the ICP entrance off the Canyon Road. He commented that the Eastside Highway District did not want any dump trucks on the road, but then they would not be able to haul waste (during construction of the bridge) without the haul road. There are currently 200 trucks per day going to the Big Creek repository and about 120-130 trucks per day to EMF.

**Anne Dailey** - Said that she emailed the call-in numbers for the TLG calls through April 2010.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Asked Harwood if he will have enough time to get back the information on the work plan prior to the TLG meeting on October 16. Harwood answered that he will as long as people get their responses back to him within two weeks.

**Terry Harwood** - Noted that there are no more CWA projects. He will send out last year's work plan section for people to update it.

**Rebecca Stevens** - Suggested that the time period may be close for people working out in the field, but that it should be enough time for them to get it done.

**Anne Dailey** - Offered to check with the Forest Service about reserving their conference room for the TLG meeting. She will let people know if it's available. (*Note: The room was not available, so DeLange is looking for an alternate location.*)

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call is scheduled for 10/1/09.

Thank you for your participation.