

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
March 1, 2012

Rebecca Stevens (Chair)
Bill Adams
Dave George
Terry Harwood

Jan Olsen
Bonnie Douglas
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: None.

Round Table:

Bill Adams: Gave updates on the following: 1) February 29th Upper Basin PFT meeting. EPA discussed with the PFT the removal of some of the mine/mill sites from the proposed cleanup list. The next PFT meeting will be held in mid-March and there will be another opportunity to comment on the list; 2) EPA is meeting with Hecla today per the consent decree. They will be discussing coordination of Hecla's exploration and mining work at the Star complex along with EPA's cleanup activities; 3) the CDA Trust is developing the waste consolidation area design in the Ninemile drainage, moving forward with design work for the Interstate Callahan site, and starting work for the OU-2 groundwater collection upgrades to the CTP; 4) EPA will work on the proposed community fill policy after the ROD Amendment is completed in June or July; and 5) work is moving forward on the new Lower Burke Canyon repository (i.e. Hecla Star tailings impoundment) in Canyon Creek.

Terry Harwood: Provided an update on remedy protection projects in the ROD Amendment and the roads program (paved and unpaved). There will need to be agreements in place with the local jurisdictions before any road work can be done. IDEQ approved segments of unpaved roads in the Upper Basin for a pilot project. Sampling of unpaved roads will not be completed until mid-summer. In most cases, work will consist of scraping off contaminated surfaces and replacing with clean material. For paved roads, Harwood indicated that they have been working on developing a policy and listing of paved roads and surface life. Road surface life will be the dependent factor for remediation. He has also been working on the Basin property remediation program for how to declare the BPRP in an area completed, what needs to be accomplished, and what to do with those who refuse to have their property sampled or remediated.

For the cap on repositories, he indicated that he thinks the way to do this is to construct it on the sides as the repository is being built, rather than at the end. He did this at EMF to prevent material from sliding down the face during rain or snowmelt events. Harwood commented that the PFT meeting was good and that as soon as the ROD Amendment is signed, we can get moving on work.

Jeri DeLange: Said that she is currently working on publishing the BEIPC's annual report.

Dave George: Gave an update on some of the Spokane River beach cleanup work. The Department of Ecology (Ecology) is currently reviewing draft remedial designs and will be submitting applications for JARPA and SEPA shortly. Construction is planned for this summer. Ecology has been and will continue to monitor the remediated beach sites for re-deposition of metals-contaminated sediment.

Bonnie Douglas: Brought up the Lower Basin Collaborative meetings next week on March 6th. The meetings are open to the public. For informational purposes, she will send info about an event being sponsored by the League of Women Voters on May 5th regarding the Columbia River Treaty. Stevens agreed to forward the information to the TLG for anyone interested.

Jan Olsen: Provided a brief update on some of the work that Bruce Schuld is doing at the Page repository. This includes grinding wood waste from Pinehurst as Shoshone County is clearing the levees of vegetation. It will be used for composting materials along with bio-solids from the CDA wastewater treatment plant.

Rebecca Stevens: Updated the TLG on the Natural Resource Restoration Team (NRRT) that is comprised of appointed Trustees from the: Dept. of Agriculture (Forest Service); Dept. of Interior (Fish & Wildlife Service and BLM); CDA Tribe; and the IDEQ and Fish & Game (State of Idaho). There is a NRRT meeting later today and they will be working on charters, policies and procedures for the framework of the restoration program. Restoration work in 2012 includes continued work in the Pine Creek drainage with the BLM, O & M at the Schlepp wetland project, and discussing potential land acquisition for a potential wetland project. On March 7, there will be a workshop with the Silver Jackets re: Shared Vision Planning for the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River levee system. If anyone is interested in attending, please let her know as there is a waiting list.

Announcements: Stevens informed everyone that Phillip Cerner will be out of the office for a month, but that she can help people if they need anything. The Lower Basin PFT meeting will be held on March 14 at the Shoshone Room (Silver Mountain) in Kellogg. For the next TLG meeting, she will be sending out an email to the TLG to schedule a tentative date.

DeLange announced that the BEIPC/CCC survey has been converted to a new survey tool through "SurveyMonkey." *(Note: There will be an article in EPA's Basin Bulletin about the change and it will also be posted on the BEIPC's website. The survey is more user friendly as the goal is to get more citizen participation).*

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be 4/5/12.