## TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY August 7, 2008

Kenny Hicks (Chair) Anne Dailey Bill Adams Rebecca Stevens Terry Harwood Rog Hardy Brian Spears Randy Connolly 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: Upcoming BEIPC Field Trip

TLG members discussed the upcoming BEIPC field trip for August 13. There will be 3 buses for transportation with the BEIPC providing two, and the third by EPA. Each bus will have someone on board (i.e. Terry Harwood, Mark Stromberg, and Ed Moreen) to speak about the various stops and provide information along the way. The revised field trip agenda includes visits to the following:

- East Mission Flats (EMF) repository site in Cataldo;
- Silver Crescent mine/mill site at Moon Gulch;
- Big Creek repository;
- Lunch at Gene Day Park in Osburn;
- Rex and Success mine sites up Ninemile; and
- Residential property cleanup in Wallace.

It was noted that Idaho State legislators, Senator Joyce Broadsword, Representative Mary Lou Shepherd, and Representative Dick Harwood from District 5 will be attending the tour. Staff from the Congressional delegation will also be in attendance – U.S. Senator Mike Crapo's office, Ms. Karen Roetter; and from U.S. Congressman Bill Sali's office, Ms. Tina Jacobson.

Harwood mentioned that color handouts will be provided at a few of the tour sites along with a copy of the sediment deposition report.

## **Round Table:**

**Anne Dailey** – Working on sampling in OU-2, and also OU-3 in Osburn. EPA is taking borings with the geoprobe and temporary monitoring wells have also been installed.

Kenny Hicks – USGS took low flow samples this week upstream and downstream on the River.

**Other Discussion** - TLG members discussed the Communications PFT brochure and BEIPC Lake maps; and difficulties related to printing additional copies and issues regarding the maps.

Bill Adams - Working on Upper Basin sampling. Reported the purchase option by Azteca on

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the Bunker Hill mine was not renewed, so Azteca terminated negotiations with the EPA for operating the central treatment plant (CTP).

**Rebecca Stevens** – Recreation PFT inventory subgroup met. They are now working on compiling data for dispersed recreational sites. Regarding the LMP public comment period, comments are coming in slowly. She indicated that Harwood submitted his comments promptly. The State and Tribe have met with various groups and hope to run a series of news articles the week of August 18. Former CDA Press reporter, Mark Stewart, is now with the Tribe as their spokesman.

**Other Discussion** – TLG members discussed when to schedule a meeting. Harwood noted the BEIPC will be voting on the amended protocols and annual work plans at the November 19 meeting, and he will need board packet information by October 31. The TLG will work on scheduling a meeting in late September or early to mid-October.

**Rog Hardy** – Suggested some people may not have heard about the work the USGS did in the 1990's, and to see if Steve Box (USGS) could speak about this at a meeting. Then people will have an opportunity to better characterize contamination results in the Basin with the last flood effects.

**Terry Harwood** – Proposed the Lower Basin PFT and Recreation PFT review the ROD about ecological remedies and put together priorities to deal with the ROD in the Lower Basin if ecological funding becomes available. He suggested that what to do in respect to the agencies may be difficult, but feels the River has been studied enough. Also suggested CWA reports may be used as a reference.

**Bill Adams** – Looking at mine/mill site work, and timing of actions. With recent flooding, it's very complex; need to be careful not to recontaminate with actions. EPA will be looking ahead for projects in the Upper and Lower Basin.

**Terry Harwood** – Commented about getting the BEIPC involved. Concerned that EPA will do all planning internally and want ok for work, but may not get the BEIPC's. He suggested EPA meet with technical people and share info as you get buy-in when you do. It may also be possible to get other funding when people are involved.

**Bill Adams** – Suggested scheduling PFT meetings all prior to the BEIPC meeting in November. Meet with folks, then present information to the BEIPC in November.

**Terry Harwood** – Agreed it will be helpful to work with people before the BEIPC meeting and that it will go a long way towards helping resolve various issues such as some people disagree with making wetlands out of clean farmland. Other issues needing to be dealt with include: sediment and nutrient loading; recontamination of recreation sites during flooding; streambank stabilization; dredging the River, etc. He brought up the 2009 COE budget earmark of \$360,000 for a flood control analysis of the levees as flooding may damage the remedy. Said it looks dim as earmarks may be in jeopardy. Funding may be possible with a continuing resolution, but COE will not fund the work unless they do the preliminary analysis. For U.S. Senator Crapo's tour on

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Saturday, he has handouts prepared. Harwood expounded about the BEIPC not being involved in some of the processes. Agencies are willing to send people to the TLG to be involved in decisions, but don't necessarily want the BEIPC and TLG involved in decisions that affect their agency. He commented that no agency wants the BEIPC to come up with a project that requires funding and the BEIPC has no CWA funding left.

**Kenny Hicks** – Asked Harwood for access to look at the drainage control infrastructure revitalization plan (DCIRP). Harwood said that he could come into the office and see everything.

Brian Spears – Provided update on the Schlepp property and restoration work.

Jeri DeLange - Working on final arrangements for the BEIPC field trip.

**Randy Connolly** – Nothing to report.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 8/21/08.

Thank you for your participation.