## TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY May 5, 2011

Rebecca Stevens (Chair)

Anne Dailey

Terry Harwood

Bill Adams

Sandra Raskell

Don Carpenter

Brian Spears

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.

## **Round Table:**

**Anne Dailey -** Provided a brief update on yesterday's Upper Basin PFT conference call. She noted that there was a good discussion on mine and mill site characterization and sampling. The next call will be May 24th. EPA is working on updating aquatic benchmarks for fisheries from the 2002 ROD and they have developed draft sampling procedures for the site characterization work that will commence this summer.

**Bill Adams -** Gave an update on the CDA Work Trust. The Trustee has a \$12 million budget for work this season. They will be selecting several contractors. Request for proposals (RFPs) have been issued in local papers and responses are due by May 16th. They have contracts with the Wallace Mining Museum for historical research work and the CDA Tribe for cultural resources. Adams does not think they will be in the field until early July for work in Ninemile Creek due to the amount of snowpack.

**Sandra Raskell -** Nothing to report.

**Don Carpenter - Nothing to report.** 

**Terry Harwood -** Said that he gave a presentation on CERCLA versus NEPA and related issues at the CCC meeting on April 20th. The public was very interested, and Shawn Blocker (EPA) thought that it went well. Harwood presented the information to the CCC as there were a lot of people who believed that CERCLA was used for emergency cleanup actions, and that remaining cleanup activities should be taken under NEPA. He added that there was a good turnout at the meeting.

**Jeri DeLange -** Reported on the April 20th CCC meeting at the Wallace Inn. There were a total of 26 people in attendance (i.e. 16 citizens and 10 agency/governmental/elected representatives). DeLange noted that this number included a few citizens who did not formally sign in. She attributed the increased participation to additional publicity such as flyers posted from Rose Lake to Mullan at various locations, radio spots, local public TV, etc., as well as the special presentation made by Terry Harwood that was well received.

**Rebecca Stevens -** Suggested that DeLange update the Basin Commission on the increased attendance at the CCC meeting. DeLange replied that she would do so. Stevens then provided an update on the success of the community workshop that the Tribe and IDEQ sponsored on Coeur

d'Alene Lake water quality. It was held on May 4th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the CDA Library and 59 people signed in. The public enjoyed the use of the hands-on science instruments and exhibits (i.e. masks, gloves, chemical solutions, milfoil, phytoplankton, microscopes, etc.). She and Glen Rothrock (IDEQ) will be planning to hopefully do additional community workshops in Harrison, Plummer/Worley, and St. Maries.

**Terry Harwood -** Gave an update on the extra work that he is doing for the State of Idaho. One issue concerns road surfaces and maintenance as some of the roads help serve as a barrier for areas contaminated with waste materials. This work is not part of the ROD Amendment, but was included in the OU-3 ROD. Harwood is working with Bill Ryan (EPA) on this issue; and is receiving condition reports on the roads from Eastside Highway District and Shoshone County. The remedy protection team is evaluating projects with \$34 million set aside in the ROD Amendment. At EMF, the repository is open for operation and ready to accept contaminated waste. They are currently just working on warranty work and gravel surfaces in the Lower Basin as the soil is too wet for property remediation work. At the Big Creek repository, they are working on building the haul road for the north expansion.

Harwood said that he met with the Lower Basin Collaborative on Tuesday including folks from IDEQ and EPA. He is looking into how to incorporate the group into the CCC as it must operate within the Basin Commission through the CCC because of the commitment made by the State and EPA. He then brought up the Upper Basin PFT conference call and said that he appreciates all the work on this (there was a good turnout of people on the call). Levee and flood issues were discussed and there is a hurry to get the Basin Commission going on this work in case of flooding. He spoke to Idaho Senator Joyce Broadsword as she has been involved in these issues, and sent her a Basin Commission board packet as she expressed interest in making a presentation to the BEIPC. He thinks that he will be receiving marching orders. Regarding the yard program, Harwood noted that there is not enough funding this season to operate both repositories at the same time, so they will start hauling contaminated waste first to EMF, then to Big Creek, and then back to EMF.

**Rebecca Stevens -** Mentioned that the Lower Basin PFT had a meeting last month. She made a suggestion to TLG members that it may be good to schedule a Basin Information Forum (BIF) this summer and asked everyone to send her ideas. She also brought up the possibility of doing a tour of some sort.

**Terry Harwood -** Said that there is a Repository PFT meeting on May 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Idaho Fish & Game office in CDA.

**Rebecca Stevens -** For informational purposes: 1) There is a Coeur d'Alene Tributaries Watershed Advisory Group (WAG) meeting tomorrow, and to contact Kristin Keith for more information. 2) On May 23rd and 24th, the Spokane River Forum will be holding its annual conference. She will send an email out with information. 3) On April 28th, Kootenai County amended its site disturbance ordinance to allow some repairs on banks within 25 feet of the shoreline within the County.

**Brian Spears -** Provided an update about yesterday's call with Anne Dailey on Upper Basin mine site characterization sampling. The multi-increment sampling approach will be used. It's applicable for all exposures (human and wildlife) with a 95% confidence interval. For incremental sampling, the 95% confidence limit is for achieving a mean concentration and guidance for this sampling

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method doesn't specify the type of receptor. It provides a method to obtain quality and defensible data.

Last week, Spears attended a bio-engineering and native plant revegetation workshop in Coeur d'Alene which was hosted by the USFS. He commented that it was excellent. In the future, he suggested that they will need some soil scientists and expertise to help with remediation and restoration projects.

**Other TLG Discussion:** TLG members briefly discussed some of the issues brought up by Spears regarding bio-remediation and revegetation.

**Rebecca Stevens -** Thanked Spears for sharing his information.

**Schedule:** The next TLG conference call is scheduled for 6/2/11.