

BEIPC- Technical Leadership Group (TLG) Meeting
November 2, 2023 1:00 -4:00 p.m.
Coeur d'Alene Wastewater Treatment Plant
765 W. Hubbard Ave. Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
Meeting Summary Notes

(These summary notes are intended to capture key topics, conclusions, and next steps and not every detail of the presentations or discussions.)

Welcome/Introductions - List of those in attendance:

Andy Helkey (IDEQ, TLG Chair)
Rebecca Stevens (CDA Tribe, TLG Vice-Chair)
Sharon Bosley (BEIPC Executive Director)
Gail Yost (BEIPC – note taker)
Mary Rehnborg (PHD)
Rod Zion (USACE)
David Leptich (IDFG)
Tyler Chatriand (EPA)
Jeri DeLange (Kootenai County)

Those in attendance via Zoom:

Erin Murray (USGS)
Jade Clinkenbeard (IDEQ)
Scott Fields (CDA Tribe)
Dana Swift (IDEQ)
Wade Jerome (USFS)
Eric Nicolai (EPA)
Jamie Brunner (IDEQ)
Val Wade (CDA Tribe)
Jocelyn Carver (EPA)
Ed Hagan (EPA)
Lauren Zinsser (USGS)
Keri St. John (IDEQ)
Craig Cooper (IDEQ)

Update on SFK CDA River BEMP monitoring data collection efforts update (Erin Murray, USGS)

Erin's presentation today will not cover the Basin Environmental Monitoring Program (BEMP) as a whole, but on a seepage study they conducted on the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River (SFCDA) after remediation at the Bunker Hill Superfund Site (BHSS). The Groundwater Remediation took place from 2017 until 2022 with the installation of the soil bentonite cut-off wall, nine groundwater collection system extraction wells, and upgrades to the Central Treatment Plant (CTP) which included a new Sludge Impoundment Area (SIA). The effluent is discharged directly into the SFCDA, which after remediation helped with groundwater contamination reaching the river from underneath the CIA. In 2017, Lauren Zinsser led a seepage study to look at trace metals and nutrient loads from groundwater seepage, then repeated this study in 2022 to look at differences after the remediation was completed. Erin explained how they were able to measure flows at different points along the river to access not only discharge but also loads (in this study - zinc, cadmium, and phosphorus). The study area included four river sites on

the SFCDA, three seeps between point 2 and 3, input from two tributaries – Government Gulch and Bunker Creek, and the effluent input from the CTP. At all these sites, they measured discharge and took a water sample to get concentration levels, calculate loads, and to determine the groundwater gain or loss at each section. Information was also shared by IDEQ on the effluent data from the CTP. Sampling was conducted at the same time of year during baseflows when conditions were stable. Erin explained her slides of streamflow results in the Upstream Reach (from the CTP effluent to just above the three seeps in the Middle), the Middle Reach (through Seep 1, 2, and 3 to just above Bunker Creek), and the Downstream Reach (Bunker Creek and Government Gulch to the bridge at Smelerville).

USGS compared the data from 2017 and 2022 with the following results on the contaminants of concern:

- Zinc showed an 86% reduction level in the Middle reach with both the Upstream and Downstream reaches not measuring much difference.
- Cadmium showed the same story with the Middle reach showing an 81% reduction, and no measurable difference in the Upstream and Downstream reaches.
- Phosphorus showed the same pattern in the Middle reach with an 88% reduction and no measurable difference in the Upstream and Downstream reaches.

There have been a number of seepage studies in this reach dating back as early as 1999 by both USGS and CH2M Hill. In this history and their comparison to 2017, they have measured the lowest groundwater accruals for all three of these contaminants of concern. Field observations that support this data – in 2022, there was a lot less algae in the stream which correlates with the reduced phosphorus loading. Also in 2022, the left riverbank near the seeps were noticeably drier than in 2017 which supports the bentonite wall is cutting off groundwater to this area. All of this is considered a success with lower trace metals and nutrient loads reaching the CDA River and eventually CDA Lake. An updated report should be ready to be released by December 31, 2023.

Sharon Bosley asked if they would share this report with the group when it is published, and Erin said absolutely. Rebecca noticed there was a huge data gap between 2009 and 2016 and wanted to know if there was a reason for that. Lauren replied they are just presenting seepage studies in particular here, the USGS still had their ongoing BEMP monitoring happening during this time. This was a very focused sampling done periodically as well as CH2M Hill periodically, so no seepage studies were done during this gap. Rebecca also noted that EPA's 5-year review is due in 2024, will this data be included in that review – and the answer was yes. Tyler Chatriand commented on the USGS results showing 80-88% reduction in loading, the Jacobs groundwater flow model for the cut-off wall is indicating about the same range for percent capture of groundwater from the CIA.

Updates on the 2023 BHSS construction activity (Tyler Chatriand & Eric Nicolai (EPA), Andy Helkey, IDEQ) Tyler and Eric will provide an overview of 2023 Remedial Action Construction projects in the Upper and Lower Basin and touch on some things planned for 2024.

Tyler started his presentation covering Upper Basin projects. He provided a slide showing an overview map of the RODA source sites in OU-3 excluding Nine Mile and Canyon Creek (which will be covered in subsequent slides), OU-2 in the Box and the Douglas Mine up Pinecreek – and noted percentages for each project and what phase they are currently in - Investigation, Design and Construction Phase.

Collection and Treatment of Mine Water - the CTP and Groundwater Collection System (GCS) are owned and maintained by IDEQ who are doing a great job as they continue to find ways to optimize treatment processes. Sludge disposal has been initiated at the new Sludge Impoundment Area (SIA), and the old Sludge Pond has been taken offline with a 100% design for closure to be completed in 2025. This is the last remaining area on the CIA that is not capped.

The Bunker Hill Mine is gearing up for a re-start of mining activities by this time next year. Through some of their rehab work, there have been some positive impacts at the CTP with mine water collection and conveyance. Improvements have been made to the Reed and Russell Adits as mine water drains from the Russell Adit up Wardner; is collected in a sump with a pumping system in the Reed Adit; and then pumped back underground back into the mine pool, where it is eventually conveyed out the Kellogg Tunnel and treated at the CTP. There is always a risk for pump failure, even with a generator backup, and the possibility of discharge to Milo Gulch; but they have pushed this portal back and regraded the ramp and so far, no water has been discharged. Avista has also brought line power all the way up to Reed landing and is going to extend power down into the mine. Tyler showed a time-lapse video of the work completed - more information can be found on the Bunker Hill website.

Next on the horizon will be the Predesign Investigation for Government Gulch which will start in 2024.

In Ninemile Creek – the Interstate-Callahan Mine/Rock Dumps, Interstate Millsite, and Success Complex have all been completed. The Tamarack and Dayrock Complexes are in active construction. Tyler showed a before and after picture of the Dayrock Complex and Lower EFNM Creek Riparian Area and showed a time-lapse video as well. This is the second year of a three-year project - some highlights include: buildings demolished; waste rock pile graded and capped; 147,000 yds mine wastes removed and hauled to EFNM WCA; and reconstruction of about 2,500 linear feet of stream and riparian areas. Dave Leptich asked what kind of revegetation efforts were being made and Tyler stated amended topsoil has been put down, seeding and hydro mulch put in, and willows planted. Next year construction will move upstream, and they will finish off the lower EFNM Riparian area.

Jeri Delange asked if the new owners of Bunker Hill were helping to pay the cost for mine water treatment – and Andy answered yes. Tyler added that Bunker Hill was paying \$3,000 a year in past cost recovery payments through a settlement agreement, as well as direct payments monthly to IDEQ for water treatment.

Tamarack Complex - is in its second year of cleanup of over a three-year project. In 2023, 155,000 yds of mine wastes were removed, which brings the total to 304,000 yds to date; and about 300 linear feet of tributary stream channel was rebuilt. In 2024, another 80,000 yds of waste will be removed, and they will reconstruct the whole stream channel and riparian area. Tyler showed another time-lapse video of the Tamarack site.

Canyon Creek Basin – most of the projects are in active Investigation and/or Design phase. The Hecla Star project kicked off this year, but most are scheduled for 2025 and beyond. The Star project this year consisted of consolidating, re-grading, and capping some smaller waste rock piles to reduce human health exposure. There were also 16 shallow groundwater dewatering wells installed to facilitate construction activities for the next several years and worked with power companies to re-locate a couple of power lines. Rebecca asked if the rock piles were lined, and Tyler said he does not believe that had liners.

Douglas Mine in the Pine Creek Basin – there is a remedial design already in place, construction is not slated until 2025 and will be a one-year project. They anticipate excavating 25,000 cu.yds of mine waste and placing it in an existing onsite repository. This year, access controls were installed – jersey barriers and an access gate – to minimize human health exposure.

Eric started his presentation covering Lower Basin projects – they have now completed their second construction year at Gray’s Meadow Remedial Action and Restoration project. Gray’s Meadow consists of two flood plains that were former agricultural fields – Cave Lake and Lamb Peak Wetlands. The plan is to remediate approximately 700 acres of contaminated soil and restore it to a clean, diverse, and productive wetland habitat. In 2023, the tilling activity has been completed – 218 acres total of the lower lead concentration soils; hauled 375,000 cu.yd. of the higher concentration soils – excavated, stockpiled, and used for various features on-site and capped with clean soil; constructed 3.5 miles of embankments - built to help manage water within the wetlands and provide access roads for future operation and maintenance activities; constructed habitat features including 12 loafing islands and 8 ponds – essential for waterfowl and other wildlife habitat; and started constructing 2 water control structures in the Cave Lake Wetland – used for controlling surface water elevations and conveying water from the wetlands to CDA River. For next year in 2024, they will construct 8 more water control structures; complete all embankments, access roads, and habitat features; perform site seeding and hydro mulch; and expect project completion in late fall where we will then begin O&M. Eric showed before and current slides of both Cave Lake and Lamb Peak Wetlands showing the progress that has been completed.

Tyler asked for clarification on the Lamb Peak Wetland photo – and Eric explained that is where the BEIPC August tour bus had stopped to let people oversee the construction and is the wetland closest to Black Lake. Dave Leptich also clarified it was the smallest cell, the picture also shows the bigger cell.

Andy started his presentation on the Box remediations for 2023 – in addition to the OU-3 construction work that is ongoing, there have been some areas in the Box that have been identified for further remedial actions; whether it was a change of use with the property and needed a more durable barrier, or they identified a number of spots they thought had been remediated and either weren’t fully remediated or portions were left untouched. The Airport Riverwalk is owned by IDEQ and is one of those properties that has had a change of use. This area is used a lot for public access and some of the trails are starting to wear through to the barrier. A 4-inch compacted gravel trail system will be put down, taper in topsoil on the sides and will be re-seeded to help keep the cap in place. Another property on East Smeltonville Flats, owned by the City of Kellogg, was designated as a city park in 2018 and is open to the public. Sampling was conducted in 2019 and found that it was not properly capped by one of the original PRP’s (Potentially Responsible Party) who were in charge of this remediation. There was no barrier fabric and most of the area tested above the lead cleanup level of 1,000 ppm. There was also an area in the far east end that wasn’t remediated, and in some areas, the soil has tested up to 25,000 ppm lead. The City will fence off their portion of the property to control access and will have barrier fabric put in place with 12 inches of clean soil cap; the park will also have barrier fabric placed and 12 inches of clean soil cap; the road will be re-done and regraded. The road is especially muddy in the springtime and the vehicles are tracking the material back out – so a portion will be fenced off and a walk-in feature will be added. The size of this project is 16 acres total and has been broken into two pieces. Depending on time, they may have to remediate over two construction seasons. Phase 1 – removing the high piles, installing the fence, capping the road, and putting access controls in place; Phase 2 – soil removals and installing the cap. The south side of this property requires a 12-inch

removal, 12-inch cap back in – the north side does not require the 12-inch removal, so the vegetative layer will be removed, barrier fabric installed, and a 12-inch cap put on that. This saves the removal of over 10,000 cu yds of material that does not need to be hauled off.

Another project slated for uptown Kellogg, in the old portion of town, will be for barrier ROW enhancements. Many of the sidewalks were installed before there were any sidewalk standards in the city and have been rated in poor condition with contaminated material showing. The sampling conducted shows this material on average coming in at 8,000 to 10,000 ppm lead, coming up directly through the sidewalks, right next to people's yards. Other barrier enhancement ROWs are locations where they are seeing increased traffic and more public use, where people are parking and tracking material to other areas. A more durable barrier will be installed in some of these, and remediation completed on those ROWs that have not been done. One popular spot is a pull-out going up to Galena Ridge that has not been cleaned-up, so they will do a 12-inch removal, then re-cap and re-grade, and put a vegetative cap on top.

Early investigation and design work is taking place at the Pinehurst Elementary School. A portion of the playground was remedied but did not take into consideration any drainage, so every winter the water ponds up and creates a sheet of ice. The asphalt remedy has failed, so a portion of it they would like to go back in and grade and reshape with proper stormwater control. The School District and IDEQ are working to determine what kind of caps they want put in place, they would prefer not to see all asphalt, but other play areas use wood chips, etc.

Rebecca asked if some of these projects fell under the recreational sites group, like Theater Bridge – Andy answered they no longer are considered rec sites. They were moved under East Smeltonville Flats as some of them should have been properly remediated and weren't. Through their research of old records, they are finding that the PRPs responsible did not complete the remedy as they should have. Rebecca asked if this was before ICP – and the answer was yes. She also asked if he thought the City of Kellogg would turn the Theater Bridge area into RV parks, and Andy said they were holding off in case there were any interests in a residential area as it is not in the flood plain. If the FEMA flood map revisions come through before construction happens, it will save costs on the south side remediation.

Jeri Delange asked what area at Pinehurst Elementary School needs redone – and Andy answered the whole backside of the playground. Because in the original remediation they just laid asphalt, so with a portion of the playground being elevated, the water runs towards the building. The asphalt has degraded and freezing in the winter has caused problems.

Andy spoke of another area where they are doing some investigation work, on a piece of private property between Dave Smith and Silver Mountain, located behind PHD's office, that was never remediated. Sampling is taking place to determine how big of an area it is so that it can be properly capped. This piece is a drainage ditch area right where PHD's landscaping and Silver Mountain's parking area ends. Kids have been noticed riding bikes and playing here, which makes it a priority. Every year they seem to determine areas within the ICP that need to be addressed. Tyler asked if Silver Mountain allows overnight camping in their parking lot and Mary answered yes. Andy added that a portion is also next to the Trail of the CDA.

Coeur d'Alene Lake Advisory Committee (CLAC) Project Status/Updates (Jamie Brunner, DEQ)

Jamie presented an update on Leading Idaho for CDA Lake. Back in November 2019, Governor Little announced, because of CDA Lake water quality trends, to initiate a third-party review of lake water quality data using the National Academy of Science (NAS). In 2020, the contract with NAS and work began on this study. In the meantime, the Governor's office heard the community's outcry that yet another study was not the solution we needed and wanted to see action. This prompted the Governor to initiate Leading Idaho for CDA Lake, which was the action steps taken while they were waiting for the NAS third-party review. In 2021, the Governor directed \$2million of state tax-payer dollars towards Leading Idaho, for the purpose of implementing projects that would reduce phosphorus loading to CDA Lake and throughout the Basin. The next year, he directed another \$31million towards the same efforts through ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding – for a total of \$33million. In the beginning, the focus was on reducing phosphorus loads to the lake, and then after the NAS review came out and the two programs combined, the \$33million ending up going towards projects that both reduced phosphorus and addressed follow-up recommendations from the NAS. The Coeur d'Alene Lake Advisory Committee (CLAC) was established in 2021 to oversee the rankings of projects to determine where this money would best be spent. The CLAC final rankings in March of 2023 included: nonpoint source improvements; stormwater treatment projects; wastewater treatment upgrades; and other NAS recommendations. Jamie showed the overall summary of the projects selected.

The NAS recommendations consist of selecting a science coordination team; more extensive watershed monitoring (incoming rivers and streams); monitoring in bays and shallower areas; human health risks associated within recreational areas; and wastewater treatment upgrades.

The Science Coordination Team were encouraged to provide a mechanism to make data available to a wider community of stakeholders, agencies, and scientists. This team also needed a structure for carrying out data synthesis coordinated among jurisdictions and interest groups as needed. Current representation includes personnel from IDEQ, CDA Tribe, USEPA, USGS, and the University of Idaho. Alta Science and Engineering has been selected to facilitate this group for the first three years.

St. Joe Watershed Nutrient Assessment (monitoring) – they have a project with the CDA Tribe in place to fill some of the data gaps in their basin-wide nutrient inventory in the St. Joe Watershed. This will be a two-year study with a final report expected in 2025.

Risk-based Evaluation of Recreational Areas – It was not only a NAS recommendation, but several members of the community also questioned the condition of the beaches around CDA Lake and the Spokane River. Nothing formal has been done since the risk assessment was completed in the late 1990's. They are working with Alta Science and Engineering and Norka Paden from IDEQ for some risk-based evaluations of recreational areas (specifically CDA Lake and Spokane River). This year they started the planning with stakeholder involvement activities, and a public survey on the internet questioning where and how people were recreating and the frequency of their activities. The next steps will include field sampling in 2024 with a final report expected by 2026.

The complete list of projects and information is available on the Leading Idaho and CDA Lake website at: www.deq.idaho.gov/leading-idaho-and-the-coeur-dalene-lake. In the next week or so, the most recent information should be updated. She showed a snapshot on percentages of completion for each project.

Jamie read an update from Craig Cooper at IDEQ – “The science team is working on setting an integrated set of long-term and short-term priorities for scientific work being done in the Basin. We are building on the NAS recommendations in subsequent discussions between IDEQ and the CDA Tribe and integrating in perspective from all team members. We are looking at a number of different topics, timelines, and projects and our current goal is to have this document produced by next spring”.

Restoration Partnership (RP) Updates (Rebecca Stevens, CDA Tribe and RP)

Rebecca’s presentation today is an update from the last BEIPC meeting where she discussed the RP project idea solicitations, to where those have gone and where the RP is at now. The RP is a collaboration of the US Department of the Interior, US Department of Agriculture, CDA Tribe and State of Idaho represented by IDEQ and Fish & Game. Restoration is different from remediation, the project restores, replaces, and/or acquires the equivalent of natural resources or associated services that they provide - cultural services, human services, recreation, and economic benefits – that were also injured by the release of hazardous substances. After almost 30 years of proving up injury and settling with Asarco and finally Hecla, they followed the National Environmental Policy Act and put together their restoration plan which was finalized in 2018. In 2019, they solicited for their first public project ideas in which they are now implementing 22 restoration projects to date. The RP decided in 2023 to go again and asked the public for more project ideas. These ideas needed to fall within the restoration partnership basin area, which is a little different than the Superfund boundary as it includes the North Fork of the CDA River and the St. Joe. The current solicitation asked for more focused project ideas based on the following top five criteria:

1. Critical habitat for bull trout
2. Stream connectivity
3. Lake water quality improvement
4. Wetland enhancement
5. Compliment other Natural Resource Restoration projects

Rebecca explained the timeline that they followed from April 2023 up until November 2023. Sixteen ideas were submitted, three did not meet the eligibility criteria and two withdrew. The eligibility criteria consist of:

1. The project occurs within the planning area.
2. The project does not expend funds on physical structures.
3. No additional injury to natural resources or services.
4. The project avoids or mitigates human health risks.
5. The project is consistent with applicable laws.
6. No infrastructure projects.
7. Services: human use, culturally significant, community support, etc.
8. Will not replicate cleanup and not cause negative effects to cleanup already completed or underway.
9. Will not replace other obligated funds.

The trustees ranked the ideas through the eligibility criteria and project proponents were asked to submit full applications. The technical staff then ranked the applications through their full criteria matrix. The trustees will meet on November 6th to make decisions on which projects to fund.

Tyler asked if O&M were typically covered under these projects, Dave Leptich answered that it depended on the nature of the project. They have had some bank stabilizations where O&M went to the landowner, Gray's Meadow Fish & Game decided to take that on, and some private land conservation projects are on a year-to-year basis – they take it case by case. There is a proposal coming up at their next meeting where they are going to discuss this, so they have a more consistent approach. Rebecca said that this was a great question and a very important piece. A lot of the restoration projects fall on the landowner but others do not, so they are navigating through this.

Rebecca went through the criteria matrix which is a tool for them to be able to rank all these projects. Dave added that it helps them stay consistent from project to project, and as they have staff turnover, it helps them to stay consistent through time. All this information is available on their website, so if you are turning in a proposal, you can see the matrix and guidelines used – it is all very transparent. The criteria matrix explains these key points:

- Ecological benefits – must benefit injured natural resources
- Technical feasibility – have low or controllable risks from contamination or re-contamination
- Cost effectiveness – cost share funds
- Local economies and social values - provide for human uses derived from natural resource restoration
- Human Use Project considerations – reach diverse groups
- Supplemental considerations – demonstration and pilot projects

Dave mentioned that the project idea is a two-page form people submit before they ask for full application – saves everyone work and gives them the opportunity to offer technical assistance. This allows them to find out more about projects and help if they can. They have learned some things along the way – last time they had 40 projects and only funded half, this time they had 16 project ideas and are recommending funding 11 – fewer but better projects this time around. The RP will be putting out a schedule so everyone can anticipate when the funding cycle will be to align other projects if needed. Wade Jerome added they are getting wiser about the process; it will be great to solicit projects every other year to get on a schedule, so they don't have a giant workload at one time then disappear for five years and then come back, be more streamlined.

Jeri Delange asked if any of the projects submitted would involve placing rip rap. Rebecca said they have seen that, and it is a tool for restoration work, but they would rather use something that has more vegetative components. Jeri wanted to know what types of vegetation, and Rebecca answered localized material, whatever is growing nearby is usually the best type of vegetation. At the willow nursery down on the reservation they have 7 different species of willows, and they all require different habitat types. They have been able to identify which willows can grow better in different areas. Jeri thought that the rip rap would be a more stable method and less costly than other methods. Dave answered it is more stable, but it may not be ecologically friendly, and our job is to restore natural resources. If you use something more like an unsorted rip rap that is vegetated with gaps you can plant into, create shade over the stream, and create a leaf drop which fuels the food chain in the stream or river. Some places have very hard structures and it's appropriate, sometimes it's the easy and fast way to do it but not ecologically the best way to do it. Wade also commented that if you are putting rip rap around sandy or silty areas and there is no other big rock there, you are probably using the wrong application to do any good ecological benefit. Rip rap also creates habitat for non-native species that affect the native species and is linked to warming water which is one of the biggest things they are fighting through with climate

change and trying to keep the water cool. It may be appropriate in some areas and completely not appropriate in others. Rebecca added that they are trying to help areas recover and restore that connection to the flood plain and functionality. Jeri's understanding then that rip rap would not be ruled out, it would just depend on the type of situation – will rip rap be used as part of the restoration efforts? Dave answered there is no rule against it, some of the outfall structures have rip rap on them to store the energy as the water comes through them – It could be considered but discouraged if not the right treatment for the site. Jeri did say that it is a proven method by the NCRS, so in some cases recommend this be looked at thoroughly before doing an alternative. Rebecca added sometimes it does have its application.

Recreation Sites updates (Andy Helkey, IDEQ)

Andy provided an update – currently in the Box, they are developing a Rec Site Strategy, which will guide and prioritize which sites will be cleaned up. Unfortunately, right now, we are seeing a huge increase in recreational related activities in the Box. OU-1 and OU-2 ROD's never addressed recreation so to complete a remedial action that is recreation based, we have to tie it back to the ROD. One thing EPA will be working on for the next year is the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) which will allow us to cleanup some of these sites. We have continued to develop new health signs and signs which relate to the history of the area and incorporate health messaging as well. A sign application has been created so they can track where the signs are located, what message appears and the date of installation. This also helps if the signs are vandalized or taken down, so they can be replaced.

One project they have been able to complete is the beach augmentation along Highway 3. This site allowed people to park along Hwy 3 and walk down to access the beach and had boating activity. The contaminate removal was completed along with the placement of rip rap, willows planted, revegetation barriers throughout and hard surfaces installed to avoid further erosion.

Sampling is taking place, so as soon as the Rec Sites ESD is out they will know what sites will need to be addressed. The CDA Trust is also out in the Basin conducting investigation and characterization work. Vegetative barrier enhancements have also been completed on quite a few Lower Basin rec sites to discourage usage and reduce exposure risk. Rebecca said this explains why they didn't see as much information on East Smelerville Flats or the Theater Bridge from the Rec Sites group because the ESD is not in place yet. She also commented on a parcel of land the Tribe owns located by the Cataldo Bridge, the CDA Trust had reached out with EPA and asked for access to conduct some site characterization there. This area gets used a lot by people jumping off the bridge, kayakers, and drift boats – they are planting some willows, but the area is rocky and hard surface to get through. A sign has been placed and they are going to add some hostile vegetation along the trail where people are accessing it. There are some real challenges along some of these rec sites – even though the Tribe owns it, there are no current plans for it, there aren't any no trespassing signs, the pipeline goes through there – they are working with what they have and trying their best.

Andy stated the Jennifer Crawford will be reaching out to a lot of the entities involved in this TLG group to set up Recreation Work group, which will be different than the Rec Sites group. This group will help coordinate the rec sites work that all the agencies are working on and assist with the private groups that are wanting to develop RV Parks and boat ramps along the river.

Tyler asked if there could be a project that generates revenue, are there protocols for something like that? Rebecca said if it provides an economic benefit – Dave answered they do want to generate benefit

to the community, we do not want to build a business for an individual. Rebecca added they are proud of the Medimont Boat Launch where they restored and stabilized the bank, placed vegetation and some rip rap – looks good, gets widely used, and probably benefits the local store and surrounding area. Wade added that it has been mostly maintenance free since 2013.

Tyler asked who from the EPA is working on the ESD – and Andy answered Tamara Langton and probably Jennifer Crawford. IDEQ is currently working to put together a Rec Sites strategy and should have a draft back to EPA by mid-November. This will help EPA with the ESD.

Rebecca asked Tyler if they could work on updating the list of RPM's working on the site and Tyler answered yes.

Open Discussion on whether to hold a Basin Information Forum meeting (Rebecca and others)

Rebecca opened the discussion on the Basin Information Forum, which started over 20 years ago and is outside the Basin Commission umbrella that allows for others to come together and share what they are doing. One thing that comes to mind, the Tribe just issued the Tribe's Climate Inventory and Assessment Adaptation Plan for the reservation which is a huge deal. It will be used to guide where they manage restoration. Does anyone feel there is a need out there for other parties not involved in the TLG, and enough going on in the Basin to warrant this Forum? Jeri asked when the last meeting was held, and Rebecca said it's probably been since 2016. Jeri thought this was a good idea - when she was working for the BEIPC they used to be held and were valuable and beneficial for the public. Rebecca asked if she could think of ideas for items going on that some of us know about, but others do not. Sharon Bosley brought up the Chamber and Natural Resource Committee as possible presenters. Jocelyn Carver asked if the public was welcome or agency only and Rebecca said usually agency only. She does have an old distribution list she will look at and see – if they open it up to the public it may get out of hand as far as size. Jeri asked if it would be helpful to do a presentation on the successes and highlights of the past several years of cleanup work – Rebecca answered if the audience was outside this group, it would be a good idea. She will look at previous agendas and see what was presented and follow-up with everyone. Jeri wanted to know if this should be addressed to the BEIPC Commissioners - Rebecca said it hasn't, but these meetings have been offered to them. This is a task in her cooperative agreement scope of work with EPA, it is above and beyond the CIC, CCC and TLG – just because someone does not come to the BEIPC meetings does not mean they might not have something to share.

Other updates/New BEIPC E.D. (Sharon Bosley) and updates on other governmental staff changes (all) Sharon Bosley is the new Executive Director of the Basin Commission. She thanked Andy and Rebecca for holding this meeting and appreciates this group as they provide a lot of information for the BEIPC. The draft agenda has been sent out for the BEIPC meeting in November with time to add anything additional if needed. The main topics will be the Annual and Five-Year Work Plans, an update from the Restoration Partnership and CLAC update for CDA Lake. The Accomplishment Report for this year will be the focus at the March meeting and she will be reaching out to everyone for their sections. Planning is taking place to celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the baghouse fire and looks like this will tie into the May meeting for the BEIPC. Ideally it would be nice to address all the accomplishments that have been made over the last 50 years and would like everyone's participation so that all the progress can be highlighted. Andy added that there is a timeline that EPA put together on the history of Superfund that she may be interested in. Rebecca asked if anyone survived the baghouse fire – Mary said there are some, one of her contacts was a professor at Gonzaga and was two years old at the time and was hospitalized along with her brother. It would be nice to get some of the older perspectives. Rebecca

wondered if they would be interested in this commemorative event – Andy thought they might. Sharon said they might need to rebrand this from celebrating the baghouse fire to highlighting the first blood lead screening and more positive notes and successes. This idea would probably have a better appeal for a lot of people.

Gail asked for any comments on either of the Work Plans to be sent to her no later than next week (November 10th), so that she can post the meeting packets prior to the BEIPC meeting on the 29th. Sharon is going to present the Work Plans in a PowerPoint presentation and be able to highlight what has changed since last year's report, instead of going through each page. There was an online question about next year's BEIPC meeting dates – Gail said the proposed dates are March 13th, May 15th, August 14th, and November 20th. The NI Fair dates were also discussed – and anyone who would like to volunteer is asked to get ahold of Mary.

Schedule future TLG mtgs, other

Andy asked the group if the TLG meeting once a year was enough or should we hold one in the Spring for any updates. Rebecca stated they used to have one before every Basin Commission meeting, four times a year – we do not need to do that anymore. If there is a need at the technical level, that warrants a meeting. Mary said November is a good time to meet as it is at the end of the year and project summaries can be discussed. Andy said he could send out an email in the Spring to see if there is any interest, but all agreed November works. There was discussion on the TLG Chair and Vice Chair positions and agreed to leave as it is for now. This may be re-visited next November if Andy decides he no longer wants the Chair position.

The meeting was adjourned.