

Citizens Coordinating Council (BEIPC)

Meeting Summary Notes
April 3rd, 2024, 5:00-6:30pm
Coeur d'Alene Public Library
702 E Front Ave., Coeur d'Alene 83814

Attendees in Person: (See Attached List of Attendees in Person and On-Line)

Jerry Boyd, CCC Chair
Sharon Bosley, BEIPC Executive Director
Gail Yost, BEIPC Assistant – Notetaker

Call to Order and Introductions – Jerry Boyd, Chair

Jerry called the meeting to order. He is the current Chair of the CCC (Citizens Coordinating Council) which is one of the two standing committees of the Basin Commission (BEIPC), and the conduit between the citizens that are affected by the BEIPC and the cleanup in the area. We are open to any discussions that the public would like to talk about as they relate to topics of interest. Introductions were made around the room.

CDA Lake Management Presentation – Jamie Brunner, IDEQ & Rebecca Stevens, CDA Tribe

Topics: Leading Idaho, human health study, and Science Coordination Team

Jamie and Rebecca will give a recap today, and reminder of why we are here when we talk about CDA Lake. The CDA Tribe was part of authoring the 2002, 2004, and 2009 Lake Management Plans (LMP). In 2009, an LMP was adopted jointly between IDEQ and the CDA Tribe and they have been implementing it up until 2019 with the Tribe involved. She will talk about the activities they are still involved with. The watershed that drains through CDA Lake is about 3700 square miles or 2.5 million acres in total. The two major rivers are the CDA River and the St. Joe River, and the lake flows mainly north to the Spokane River. Other things aside from mining have taken place in the Silver Valley that have contributed nutrients to CDA Lake and surrounding watersheds. Gold and Silver were discovered in the 1880's near Prichard, Idaho, as well as logging activities that surrounded the hillsides to build communities, and railroads so they could haul the ore out. From 1886 – 1992 the UPRR hauled ore down river, across the Lake and along the lakeshore. With the mining activities that took place in the Silver Valley, a lot of the mine tailings were discharged directly into the floodplain and our waterways which we continue to address every day. Mining is still active at the Lucky Friday Mine, and the Galena, but several mines have closed over the years due to numerous reasons. We look at the historic mine waste contamination as the issues we are dealing with today before MSHA came on board and things changed with techniques that were utilized. Rebecca showed pictures of tailings that are still out in the landscape and up some of the drainages, and further explained the Cataldo Dredge and plumes that come out at Harrison from the CDA River. The plume is just an indicator of how visible you can see suspended sediment from mine waste contamination – lead, cadmium, arsenic and zinc – mostly suspended zinc and particulate lead. Some of the grab samples taken of that water tested about 20,000 parts per million (ppm) lead, we cleanup for ecology at 530 ppm.

The Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Complex was listed as a Superfund Site in 1983. It is called Superfund for a reason – it was an actual fund set up by the federal government led by EPA to tax potential polluters i.e. mining companies, petroleum industries, that might have caused a potential release of hazardous substances into the environment. These companies were taxed every year, and a portion went to DC into a fund which is managed under the Comprehensive Environmental Compensation Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA). CERCLA has Superfund and Natural Resource Damage Assessment programs underneath it –

both very different but work in tandem. EPA does cleanup under Superfund with the State, and Natural Resource Damages looks at natural resources that were injured and restores those habitats. She showed a map of the lead concentration data that was collected by USGS (United States Geologic Survey) where they did core sampling along the lower CDA River and the entire lakebed in the early 90's. We utilized this data and the Natural Resource Damage Assessment claim to help prove up injury; EPA also utilized this data when they were developing their Remedial Investigation Feasibility Studies to make decisions and to prove up what they were seeing in the landscape was indeed true. Some of the lead concentrations in the soil are greater than 1500 ppm or more.

Metals are still flowing into the lake. Under CERCLA and EPA decisions through their three Interim Records of Decision (ROD) documents, they decided they would not issue a decision on how to address CDA Lake and deferred the remedy authority to the State of Idaho and CDA Tribe. We have tried to do something, that is why there are three different iterations of the LMP. When we adopted the 2009 LMP we were hopeful that we would be able to use our collective efforts under the Clean Water Act to manage and work with people that live around the lake and help manage the nutrients that are pouring into the lake, because nutrients do amazing things – they make things grow. So, when you put fertilizer like nitrogen and phosphorus on the landscape or storm water drains around water bodies those nutrients will eventually end up into a lake. Those plants grow and die, and when they senescence (die and deteriorate), they eat up oxygen from the bottom of the lake. Oxygen is our saving grace right now – it's the only thing that is keeping metals bound to sediment at the bottom of CDA Lake. The Tribe has issued a moratorium on dredging on the southern end, but she doesn't think the State has issued a decision on the northern part. We are trying to avoid dredging because it would be very harmful with the size of this water body being 28 miles long. We are also trying to work with the community and address these nutrients to be better stewards by not having green lawns next to the lake and things of that nature, and a lot of other things we are working with the community to address.

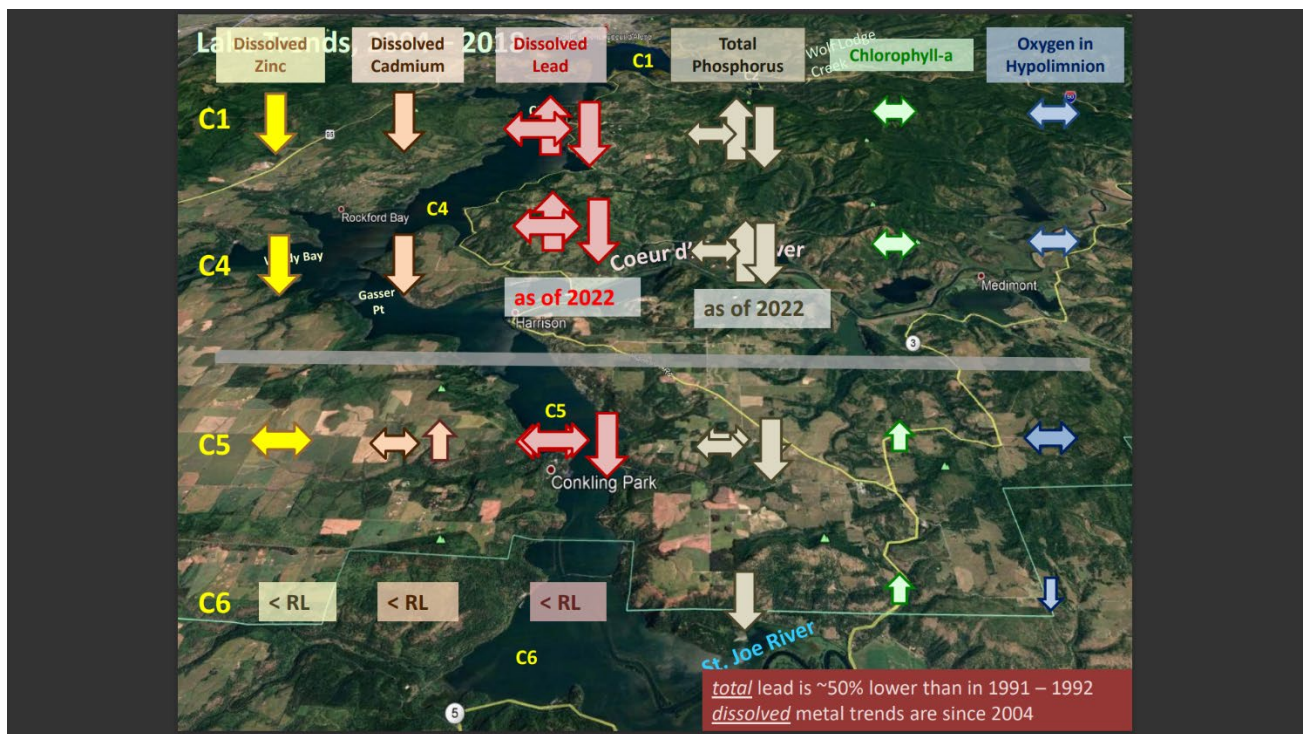
Eutrophication is a natural process as lakes nutrify, but it is the speed at which it happens we call it cultural eutrophication. The plan we worked on collectively for many years came to some main objectives, most of these we are addressing.

- Improve scientific understanding of lake conditions through monitoring, modeling, and special studies.
- Establish and strengthen partnerships to maximize benefits of actions under existing regulatory frameworks.
- Develop and implement a Nutrient Reduction Action Plan.
- Increase public awareness of lake conditions and influences on water quality.
- Establish funding mechanisms to support the LMP goal, objective, and strategies.

Jamie stated that was a good overview of decades of history that got us to where we are today and why we have an LMP. As part of the LMP in 2009, we had a list of water quality triggers that served as early warning signs if things started going in a direction we didn't want to see, then we needed to pay closer attention. These triggers included: phosphorus and nitrogen (nutrients), dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll *a* (as an indicator of growth in the lake), heavy metals (primary focus), and pH – and is what we're keeping an eye on with the science and when out collecting data on the lake.

Craig Cooper spoke on lake monitoring. Most of us see the lake in the northern part where it is cold, deep, and blue and do not see the southern part where the Tribal jurisdictional waters are where it is warm, green, and it's productive. It is a very different lake, and they've got some real oxygen problems down there because it's warmer and shallower. The waters primarily flow from the St. Joe in the far south to CDA Lake and north to the Spokane River but can flow partly south during the runoff, that is part of why the metals get down there. We account for how different parts of the lake function and the different pieces we monitor. Those primary sites are called C1, C2, C3 in the north; C4 central; and C5, C6 in the south. We conduct long-term trend monitoring, look for metals, pH, and what the core levels are – just a big picture of everything we need to know like the heartbeat of the lake, and understand its core health. We see how high the metal levels are and how the oxygen might be in any given year, and get the trends – is the lake changing, is it getting better or worse, or is it staying the same. The southern lake is warmer, shallower, higher productivity, which is called mesotrophic, has more nutrients and less metals. The northern lake is deeper, colder, lower productivity, more oligotrophic, has less nutrients, more metals and higher oxygen – two very different systems that interact together in a complex way.

Craig shared the attached slide – they have about 25 years of data now for these four core monitoring stations. The line is drawn at the CDA River as this is where the lake changes from shallow to deep. It also illustrates the triggers they are looking at and changes that are taking place. This was the data from 2018, but when the NAS gave their independent study in 2022 two big changes were noted – lead started going down or staying constant as well as phosphorus. Now they will figure out why this is happening and continue to monitor.



Jamie fast forwarded 10 years since the 2009 LMP to 2019 - where the trends were starting to go in a direction we didn't want to see and some of those undesirable trends were surfacing. At this time, the Tribe felt that the LMP was not sufficient in and of itself to protect the lake moving forward as they looked at the data and trends. The State looked at the LMP to see what should be done if some of the triggers were

surfacing and she quoted from the LMP “In the event that monitoring data reveals trends that approach a trigger level for one or more constituents, this will prompt a comprehensive review to identify the causes of the trend and guide development of a corrective management response”. At the 2019 Our Gem Symposium, Governor Little announced that the State of Idaho was calling for a third-party review of our data to determine if the trends were real and how to best move forward which was the states approach to the more comprehensive review. Bonnie Douglas commented that in 2008 CDA Lake flooded all the way up past the beach to the seawall. Some people may not have been here during that period and the flood may have contributed to what happened in 2009. Jamie said the one photo on the earlier slide was from EPA in 2008 showing the sediment plume coming into the lake.

The National Academy of Science (NAS) third-party review in 2020 was the State’s initial response to these triggers being approached or exceeded, and in tandem as they were performing their review, the Leading Idaho Initiative was launched. Part of this initiative focused specifically on CDA Lake, and the Coeur d’Alene Lake Advisory Committee (CLAC) was formed (2021) to help oversee some of the projects aimed at reducing phosphorus in the CDA Basin. The NAS review was sponsored by IDEQ, Kootenai County, and EPA, with support from the CDA Tribe. The scope was to essentially look at our current water quality, the impacts of low dissolved oxygen and zinc levels on algal growth, future implications, and the relevance of metals release. The final report came out in September 2022 and the Our Gem Collaborative hosted part of the NAS expert panel and a couple of staff members in November 2022 as they presented their findings to the public. The NAS reported that metal and nutrient concentrations from major inputs (i.e. river, big inflows) declined over the last decade, which was the data set they looked at, whereas our data set is much larger with many years contained in it. They recognized that the Lower Basin contains very large amounts of contaminated sediments that are slowly being delivered into the lake and beyond, but the data showed that the in-lake metals are declining. Craig commented that across almost all the lake the metals are declining, but not at the bottom 2 to 3 meters, and not in the Tribal waters in the southern part of the lake. Jamie stated the NAS had limited amount of time to put all of this together and put it into a report, so there are a lot of nuances that could be another presentation on its own. The NAS did also report that the total in-lake phosphorus in the last ten years shifted from a long-term increase to flat or no trend, but it’s still double the level we saw in the 1990s. Future water quality considerations they stressed were the potential impacts of climate change and the population influx that we have seen, and will likely continue to see in this area, is likely to slow or reverse any desirable trends that we are starting to see. The NAS had a lot of good recommendations for improving our monitoring program. More specific recommendations include:

- Science coordination team – coordination with all entities working throughout the Basin to be better at transparency with the data from these efforts and report them out to the public.
- Watershed monitoring – to figure out where the phosphorus loads are coming from throughout the Basin. We will continue to fill in data gaps for incoming rivers and streams.
- Pursue bays and shallower area monitoring – these areas will point out if stratification starts increasing, it will happen in these areas first.
- Human health risks – update older recreation data to make sure areas are safe.
- Wastewater treatment upgrades – good idea to update as many wastewater treatment facilities as possible.

A copy of their report is available at www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/the-future-of-water-quality-in-coeur-dalene-lake. The NAS said what we are doing is worthwhile, keep up our monitoring and on the ground efforts, but there is still a lot of work ahead of us.

The second part of the State's effort is Leading Idaho. Governor Little allocated \$2 million back in 2021 to start phosphorus reduction efforts throughout the Basin. Applications were solicited from anyone who had ideas and projects that were ready to go to reduce phosphorus loading into CDA Lake. Then in 2022, he offered up another \$31 million in ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding for this same initiative. The CLAC that was appointed earlier was tasked with prioritizing all the proposed projects and selecting ones that would receive this funding. A variety of projects that are currently underway include stormwater treatment, wastewater upgrades, and a few of the recommendations from the NAS report. In the first \$2 million, they funded several stormwater projects – three in the City of Coeur d'Alene. The City of Kellogg had a handful of outfalls that are all getting upgrades – where the stormwater runoff from urban areas into the river and lake are now receiving treatment. And East Side Highway District received money to improve their stormwater drainage and filtration before it enters its tributaries. We also have a nonpoint source project on Mica Creek stabilizing eroding creek banks to reduce the phosphorus loading from the soil coming out of the banks. From the Leading Idaho ARPA funds, bigger projects were selected – Page wastewater treatment plant on the SFCDA River, the Santa-Fernwood wastewater treatment upgrades down in the southern end of the Basin, more stormwater projects for both the cities of Coeur d'Alene and Kellogg, and more road runoff/erosion improvements, plus a handful of other nonpoint source soil erosion type projects - North Fork of the CDA River, Schlagel Draw in Cataldo, Mica Creek, and Wolf Lodge Creek to reduce soil erosion. You can see all of these projects on the website www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/the-future-of-water-quality-in-coeur-dalene-lake. We are doing our best to keep these project pages updated or you can contact Jamie for more information. Bonnie Douglas asked if there was federal CERCLA money available and Jamie answered not for these projects specifically.

Some other NAS recommendations that the ARPA money funding include:

- Science coordination team – made up of IDEQ, CDA Tribe, EPA, USGS, and University of Idaho
- Risk-based evaluation of CDA Lake and Spokane River recreational areas – they have initiated a repeat of the 20-year-old study and will be out this summer collecting data from beaches and recreation areas to reassess potential risks. A report should be out by 2026.
- St. Joe River watershed assessment – CDA Tribe is leading up the effort to build data gaps in the St. Joe/St. Maries watershed and other southern tributaries.

Rebecca wanted to get back to Bonnie's question if federal CERCLA dollars were being spent – the Restoration Partnership (RP) is using CERCLA funding that was received through settlement dollars that are utilized throughout the entire watershed. These projects specifically are focused around CDA Lake to support the monitoring and modeling, the Cougar Bay stream/wetland enhancement and reconfiguration, Lake Creek and Benewah Creek restoration efforts, and riverbank stabilization on the North Fork and St. Joe as well as some habitat stream restoration, as some examples.

Rebecca stated that if there were any questions about why the Tribe decided that the LMP wasn't efficient, they could feel free to reach out to her. This is a big conversation that needs to be had, but it goes back to the trusteeship with the federal government and promises that were made that they would address the lake after 10 years if we were seeing declines.

Terry Harwood thought they should explain under CERCLA, there are two different types of settlements - one is for the cleanup, in which EPA is the lead for private property and federal lands; and then there is the settlement for the Natural Resource Restoration.

Lower Basin Updates – EPA

Topics: Riverbank stabilization, riverbed pilot study, finalized lower basin prioritization plan, BEMP and wetland projects.

Jocelyn Carver introduced the Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) that are currently working on the Bunker Hill Superfund Site (BHSS). Today she and Eric Nicolai will cover the Lower Basin background, plan for prioritizing work in the Lower Basin, the initial list of priorities and then have time for any questions. The Bunker Hill Superfund Site (BHSS) spans 1500 square miles and 166 river miles, all the way from the Idaho/Montana border to just east of Spokane. The site consists of three Operable Units (OU) – in the original 21 square miles referred to as the “Box” there is OU-1 for the populated areas, and OU-2 for the non-populated areas. Everything outside the Box is considered the Basin – Upper and Lower Basin – and is OU-3. The Upper Basin is where you will find most of the mining and milling sites, whereas the Lower Basin includes the main stem of the CDA River, lateral lakes, and wetlands all the way down to CDA Lake. Mining and milling started in the Silver Valley in the 1880’s and continues today. The area was one of the world’s largest producers of lead, zinc, and silver, and by 1994 over \$5 billion of silver had been mined. This long rich history of mining, milling, and smelting left widespread contamination across the site, with common practices placing mine waste and tailings into unlined ponds, directly in or near floodplains, or directly discharged into the river. Other ways that waste was spread were spills by railcars, air emissions from the smelter stacks, and materials used in roadway construction. All these practices spread over 100 million tons of mine waste across the Upper and Lower Basin leaving a legacy of contamination.

The overall approach has been to work top down to minimize the risks of recontamination. Once the Box and populated areas within the Box were dealt with, work began in the Upper Basin addressing the waste from mine and mill sites. Now, work has begun in the Lower Basin. Even though we are taking this top-down approach, we still have high priority areas throughout the site with risks of exposure. EPA’s remedial actions are defined in 2002 Interim Record of Decision (ROD). A two-pronged approach to addressing this contamination in the Lower Basin is to protect people and wildlife then to control those source areas. The actions defined in the ROD include riverbank stabilization, riverbed work, wetlands remediation, addressing lateral lake contamination, Ag to wetland work, recreational sites, and sediment traps. A key aspect of the conceptual site model that was developed for the Lower Basin is the sediment lead budget – extensive modeling, studying, monitoring, and sampling has taken place to develop this. We know that the CDA River contains a significant source of contaminated sediments that have been deposited from years of past mining disposal practices. During high flow events, the river picks up these sediments from the bottom of the river and transports them downstream all the way to CDA Lake, which accounts for approximately 70% of the lead loading to the lake. Inflow and bank erosion are relatively minor contributors. A lot of work has been done in the Upper Basin to address those primary source areas and we are seeing these effects downstream. The river is eroding at legacy deposits of contamination in the riverbed and will continue to do so if left to itself. Other than Dudley Reach, we have not identified a single source location of contamination and there is not a specific pattern of erosive consolidated material. What we do know is lead is mobilized during high flow events and factors that contribute depend on lake levels, the type of storm, the time of year, and the floodplain storage capacity.

Eric spoke on the Lower Basin Prioritization Plan. This plan provides an initial approach towards prioritizing remedial actions and related data gap investigations. It will also help them to select pilot projects, so they can start on a small scale and prove them successful before taking them to a larger scale operation. The plan will apply an adaptive framework to guide pilot projects and review actions to get those lessons learned on how to improve the next project. The prioritization plan will be divided into different categories so they can use different factors for each – riverbeds and banks, wetlands and lateral lakes, and recreational sites.

EPA and the CDA Trust put together this plan to establish a strategy on how to approach all the remedial actions that need to be done. Through this they are able to rank all the sites based off overall exposure risks to people and wildlife and take aim to tackle the biggest sources of contamination first. The general approach is to remediate from upstream to downstream to minimize recontamination, but sometimes a downstream source could be addressed based on an evaluation and assessment for high level contamination and exposure, and low potential for recontamination. This plan allows for flexibility to adapt and use our abilities to inform future decisions based off lessons learned. We also need to balance work that we are doing in the Lower Basin and Upper Basin at the same time. The Upper Basin projects they are addressing include mine and mill sites, repositories, Basin Property Remediation Program (BPRP), and recreational sites. This Prioritization Plan will be revisited on an annual basis so that adjustments can be made if there are any construction schedules or changes in projected costs, or just unexpected site conditions. We are also looking into the future on a 10-year plan to help manage all the work we are doing and to maintain it within the annual budget which is set at \$30 million per year. This amount has been set so that the CDA Trust can maintain a steady workflow and keep a sustainable balance in that trust fund to last for several more decades of work.

Jocelyn touched on the Riverbed Management Plan to help address the significant source of contamination that is in the riverbed. Its purpose is to guide implementation of the interim remedy for the Lower Basin riverbed and banks by providing information and analyses for selected remediation scenarios. It evaluates different types of remedial actions for the entire Lower Basin and then analyzes it for its level of effectiveness. Each technology is evaluated for certain breaches that have similar characteristics, and from this analysis comes up with an integrated remediation scenario to optimize our approach using the most appropriate remedial technology. The adaptive management process will apply here as well as we start these projects, we may change our approach for the next project based on what we learn in these pilot projects.

The Dudley Reach Scour Hole Pilot Project – was identified in the 2002 ROD as a source of contamination and an ideal candidate for an instream pilot project. Subsequent monitoring completed by the CDA Trust through boat-based sampling, sediment sampling, and extensive modeling have confirmed this is a significant source of contamination which increases in lead loading during high flow events. In 2023, the CDA Trust submitted a 30% design which consists of a hybrid cap and dredge to address the contaminated sediments and include some bank stabilization. Pilot project goals include reducing the downstream migration of particulate lead from the riverbed and banks while minimizing adverse system responses; develop means and methods for technology applications elsewhere in the Lower Basin; and establish monitoring methods for assessing remedy performance. We are chasing the 50% reduction in particulate lead loading as laid out in the ROD.

We have been monitoring the riverbanks since 2019 with 62 monitoring stations across 4 reaches moving upstream to downstream. The four reaches are Cataldo Reach, Dudley Reach, Killarney Reach, and Springston Reach. Riverbank monitoring goals include understanding location and extent of riverbank types, understanding nature and extent of metals concentration, evidence of recreational use, and understanding bank erosion rates and lead loading. A riverbank inventory categorizes the banks into eight different bank types. We have also installed erosion pins to monitor for bank erosion, take sediment samples, riverbank wedge sampling, and stratigraphy of the banks.

The Cataldo Reach has 35 monitoring stations and to date, 4 banks have had one or more pins completely erode out. In 2023, we saw the highest erosion rate observed for Cataldo. For 2024, we are continuing our investigation by focusing on monitoring those highly erodible bank types and investigating the island

between River Mile 166 and 167. This information will be helpful for developing designs for future pilot programs for riverbank stabilization. Cheri Zao asked for clarification on the erosion of the pins, and Jocelyn answered the pins are basically 4 to 5 feet long rebar that is installed into the side of the bank. They go back every year to see how much of that pin is exposed and how much of the bank has fallen apart. When they say the pins have eroded out, that just means they can't find the pin at all. When this happens, they install a new pin as close to the original location as possible to still monitor that area. Dave Fortier asked if this reach was located above the Cataldo Mission, and the answer was yes above it. Jocelyn showed him the map and there were discussions back and forth among the group. Ed Moreen stated the island is located downstream from the confluence of the North Fork and South Fork of the CDA River.

Eric will cover the next part of the prioritization plan for wetlands and lateral lakes by highlighting the first three projects on the priority list.

Gray's Meadow – is approximately 700 acres in size and was former agricultural land contaminated from flood events. It is being remediated and restored into clean wetland habitat and is going into its third and final year of construction. Once operation and maintenance (O&M) starts in 2025, they will monitor the water levels, vegetation, and remedy protection to make sure everything is going well.

Gleason Wetland – is also an Ag to wetland conversion that began in 2022 with the installation of groundwater monitoring wells and staff gauges for the surface water on site. This water data will look at the seasonal fluctuations to see what that groundwater and surface water looks like, and we'll use it to help us inform our design once we begin that in 2026.

Canyon Marsh – is approximately 350 acres and is an existing mix of wetland habitat and Ag land that needs to be remediated. Pre-design investigations are scheduled to begin in 2028 followed by the design in 2032.

Terry Harwood commented on the Ag to wetland conversions and how important it is to keep the public informed, which everyone is doing.

Eric showed a map highlighting the three projects and their locations. Even though Gray's meadow is downstream from the other two projects, it was looked at first due to the level of contamination, low potential for recontamination, and waterfowl usage. Land ownership and access agreements also play into how fast they can start the remediation process. Collaboration with the Restoration Partnership to combine remediation and restoration as a unified design team really adds a lot of benefits. Eric also shared some construction photos – before and after – of Gray's Meadow of the tilling process, pump house and water control structures.

Dave Fortier asked about the higher contaminated soils that were not tilled, were they taken off site? Eric replied that they were left on site to build habitat features and embankments. Like repositories in a sense where the contaminated material is capped with clean materials. A wire mesh was put in place on the steeper slopes so animals cannot burrow into the protective barrier. Dave compared what was done on the Schlepp property and Eric said they could discuss this further because they definitely had different interactions with the surface water and groundwater on site. Managing the water levels on these sites is important in areas that are greater than six feet water depth as it is not as crucial as the shallow areas where waterfowl get to those plants and vegetation when they are feeding.

Eric transitioned over to the last category of the prioritization plan covering Recreational Sites. This program was initiated by EPA to help reduce exposure to lead and other metals in areas used regularly for recreational purposes in the Box and Basin. There are currently 69 sites that are being monitored and a lot of these have challenges due to their proximity to either the river (high potential for recontamination in high water events), or their remote locations (hiking trails and ATV areas). To help us address these challenges, we have different ways to minimize exposure and risk – capping, hard landscaping, signage, revegetation, education and outreach, and cleanup. Within the program, the rec sites have been broken down into different categories – primary public sites (2), public sites (35), multi-objective decision analysis (MODA) sites (4), and private sites (28). The first two primary public sites are of higher interest because they are highly accessible to the public and have continuous use throughout the summer months with no remedial actions performed yet – they are larger in size and footprint and will require a more extensive design. The 35 other public sites have been identified and either have some limited action that has been done or there's already existing hard surface there. The MODA sites are located along the river and identified for beachcombing augmentation where rock was installed on the beach and bank to change the surface. The 28 private sites were not previously eligible under the BPRP program or identified in the ROD. They are working through these with the CDA Trust and private landowners to assess their use and existing surfaces. Dave Fortier asked Eric where the two primary public sites were located and the answer was Rose Lake area under the Forest Service Land Management, and the Killarney Peninsula.

Other work that is being conducted in the Lower Basin include:

Basin Environmental Monitoring Program (BEMP) – this program is intended to guide how we're collecting, analyzing, and interpreting all different environmental data including groundwater, surface water, soil, sediment, and biological monitoring. It is broken down into a 3-tier structure that is based geographically – site specific (one project), area wide (multiple projects), and site wide (entire Superfund site). We will monitor remedial action effectiveness and impacts overall.

Waterfowl Research – understanding ways to measure aquatic waterfowl and how they're being exposed to contaminated sediments while in the Basin. We have identified two types of studies – Tundra swans and Wood Ducks. For the Tundra Swans we are looking at their feces to determine lead exposure; and for the Wood Ducks we are looking at their eggshells. Both studies will help us analyze their exposure in the Basin during their migration and provide us with tools to understand how we can design our projects, like the wetland conversions, and make it more friendly for them.

There are some boards located in the back of the room if anyone would like to hear more information about a certain topic or make suggestions that will help them for future meetings. They have also provided some fact sheets providing additional information on the waterfowl survey.

Ways to Continue Communication

- Basin Commission Website: <https://www.basincommission.com/>
- Join our mailing list: <https://cumulis.epa.gov/supercpad/cursites/csitinfo.cfm?id=1000195>
- Follow the Coeur d'Alene Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CDAbasin/>
- Contact EPA's Community Involvement Coordination team:
 - Rafi Ronquillo (206)-603-6358, Ronquillo.Rafi@epa.gov
 - Deb Sherbina (206)-679-9667, Sherbina.Deb@epa.gov

Public Questions and Discussion

Individual speakers will be allowed three minutes to ask questions or provide feedback.

Dave Fortier asked if the Prioritization Plan and Recreation Sites Plan were written and available? Eric replied there are written plans that are being finalized and will be available. They will be provided to Sharon to post on the BEIPC website.

Terry Harwood is concerned that properties are being sold to developers up and down the river who are turning them into recreational sites. Then cleanup money is spent on that property when the responsibility should be their own. You are going to end up with hundreds of properties like this, is the government obligated to clean all those up? And secondly, if they are going to start pilot projects in the Lower Basin, they will need a place to put all the waste, like a repository. He is really interested as he is now working in an area where development is big in the county. Jerry Boyd commented it is something they will have to deal with, it is very political. Terry agreed, if someone subdivides a contaminated property 25 years from now the government should not be obligated to clean it up. Dave Fortier also commented they were told this 10 or 20 years ago, that if you purchased contaminated property, they aren't made responsible. Jerry mentioned that the realtors or title company should be saying something. He also mentioned the ICP program.

Bonnie Douglas asked what was still going into the repositories? Jocelyn replied mostly ICP wastes and road work waste. There is still room, but the cleanup is ongoing, so it is very likely we will need more space in the future. Bonnie said it would be nice to have a repository slide.

Jerry also commented that it would be nice if they put up a sign at Gray's Meadow explaining what is going on there as bikers who use the trail were wondering. Eric explained the process of working with the Trail Commission on trying to get any signage on the trail is quite a process. One of the big focuses is to preserve the natural experience, and they are very strict about any signage and what can be shared. He would like to talk to Idaho Fish & Game as it is their property, we might be able to put some signage and have more information shared about the project itself.

Closing Remarks – Jerry Boyd

CCC Elections will be held at the Kellogg meeting in June.

The next CCC meeting is June 5th from 5 – 7:00 pm in Kellogg at Panhandle Health District. The next BEIPC meeting will also be held in Kellogg on May 15th from 1 – 7:00 pm at Noah's Loft at Silver Mountain.

Adjourn

Jerry adjourned the meeting and thanked everyone for coming!