

BEIPC

20 November 2024

Lower Basin Waste Consolidation Area Siting

Process and Progress

A Perspective Review and Request

Introduction

- 35-Year Resident
- Professional Wildlife Biologist
- CDARWMA Manager
- Restoration Partnership Technical Staff
- BEIPC Technical Leadership Group
- EPA Lower Basin Technical Work Group
- CDA Basin Recreational Sites Team
- Restoration Lead Gray's Meadow Project
- Active CDA Basin Collaborator
- Invited Lower Basin WCA PFT Member

Why Am I Here

- Kootenai County BOCC Letter and Concerns

“The lack of approval of a Lower Basin WCA for the past 5 years prevents moving forward with implementation of pilot studies, demonstration projects or selection of meaningful remediation, stabilization, or human health protection efforts along the Lower CDA River Basin. Wetlands remediation and restoration work is also stymied pending WCA identification.”

- Clarify My Observations and Perspective
- Support Inclusion of Lower Basin WCA Siting in the BEIPC 2025 Work Plans
- Request Prompt Action

What Has Happened

Extensive, Fair, Open, Inclusive, Deferential Process

- Public Outreach
- Technical Outreach
- Unanimous Consensus
- Deferential Pause
- Inaction and Unacceptable Delay

What Has Not Happened

- Transparency
- New Findings
- Identification of Viable Alternatives
- Identification of Demonstrable Harm
- Trust Responsibility Balance

Framing The Decision

- Technical Decision
 - Limited Scope
 - Best Balance of Multiple Objectives
- Good Faith Decision
 - Everyone is Heard Not Everyone is Happy
 - Equitability of Opportunity, Benefit, and Detriment
- Limited Decision
 - Options?
 - Consequences

What Needs To Happen

Swift Resolution

My Requests

- EPA As Lead Partner Reflect on Adequacy of Process, Trust Responsibility Balance, and Act
- BEIPC As Statutory Overseer Provide Direction
- End Current Standstill and Renew Progress in the Lower Basin

Parting Thought

Ask and Answer 5 Questions

- Was the Process Open, Thorough, and Fair
- Does New Information Disqualify the Dredge Road Site or Contramand the PFT Consensus
- Is There Any Viable Alternative Site Identified and Under Consideration
- Is Continued Delay Beneficial or Detrimental to Mission
- Why Not Resolve This Today