

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
February 16, 2006

Participants:

Phillip Cernera (Chair)	Brian Spears
Lloyd Brewer	Ron Roizen
Paul Woods	Greg Clark
Rog Hardy	John Perfect
Nick Zilka	Mike Beckwith
Terry Harwood	Rob Spafford
Bill Adams	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 Meetings - BIF (Basin Information Forum) and Basin Commission

Phillip Cernera mentioned that he was working on the draft agenda for the BIF meeting on February 21 and indicated that the presenters had confirmed. He pointed out that the Caribou room reserved at the Forest Service office may not be available and that he was looking for an alternate. He said that he would notify everyone if the meeting location needed to be changed.

Cernera brought up the upcoming Basin Commission meeting on February 22 and said that he would not be available to attend. However, he indicated that Brian Spears would be there to present the two revised sections of the 2006 work plan along with Terry Harwood.

Harwood mentioned that Representative Dick Harwood had proposed two amendments to the Idaho Legislature. The first deals with allowing the leasing of minerals (mine tailings and dumps) for only the Coeur d'Alene River. A similar amendment was proposed last year for all the waters in Idaho, but did not pass. Harwood indicated that Senator Gary Schroeder, Chair of the Senate Resources & Environment Committee, had asked for comments on the leasing bill. The address to send comments is: P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0081. Comments may also be sent by fax at: 208-332-1422, or by phone: 208-332-1324.

The second amendment being proposed by Rep. Harwood deals with adding an additional community representative from Shoshone County to the Basin Commission. If the amendment were passed, then it would require an amendment to the Idaho Statutes (Idaho Code 39-8106). Cernera asked Harwood if he was going to bring this issue up at the Basin Commission meeting. Harwood indicated that he could, but that he was not going to.

Harwood then reported that he had completed the 2005 annual accomplishment report and would bring copies to the BEIPC meeting. He indicated that the agenda and all of the board packet information had been posted to the web including the CCC (Citizen Advisory Council) notes. Harwood said that if the Basin Commission approves the last two sections (ICP and blood lead) that were revised for the 2006 work plan, he will post it to the web and mail copies to the commissioners, alternates, and staff.

Harwood mentioned that he was asked to attend a water use meeting on February 23 for Kootenai County regarding multiple use planning. Senator Crapo's office also asked him to review an ESA (Endangered Species Act) amendment. Ron Roizen inquired about the proposed amendment. Harwood said that it is basically a good document with the language written open-ended to involve the states more in the process. It includes a provision for allowing a credit to a landowner wishing to set aside land.

Round Table:

Certera: Mentioned that the CDA Tribe sent a draft LMP to the State. He said that he is not sure when the State will get back to them, but he believed it would be in a few weeks. In addition, the Tribe met with the mediator last week and had time in the field to show nutrient management within the reservation.

Brewer: Reported that the WCAC meeting on February 23 was very successful.

Woods: Indicated that the Post Falls crew conducted low flow sampling this week. He introduced Greg Clark who was participating on the call as the appointee to take over his work after he retires. He pointed out that Clark had lots of experience as the supervisor in the Post Falls field office and as the head of the water data. Woods mentioned that he is working on completing the lake modeling report.

Hardy: Inquired if there was any update on the Tribe and State mediation process and how far apart they are on their positions for the LMP. Certera answered that there has not been any dialogue. Hardy indicated that he heard it was close and wondered why they are mediating if they can move towards agreement. Certera mentioned that the Tribe has laid out \$70 million in projects in their proposal. If the State and Tribe could agree to a paper plan, Certera said they would still need funding for the next thirty years to do project work and monitoring as the LMP was an unfunded mandate under the OU-3 ROD.

Zilka: Mentioned that he would be attending all of the meetings next week.

Harwood: Said that he had been talking with Tamara Langton regarding some QAAP's (quality assurance assessment plans) for CWA projects; and that he had also recently talked with Commissioner Jack Buell. Harwood mentioned that the OU-2 Phase II documents had been posted to the EPA Region 10 website and he suggested that people take a look at them to get an idea of what will be discussed at the upcoming BEIPC meeting by Anne Dailey and Nick Zilka.

Harwood indicated that there has been confusion over the Mica Bay project. He pointed out that he is not looking for a final decision, but rather that he wanted to lay out the situations to allow for comment and discussion. Then he would work with the TLG to develop recommendations. Roizen questioned Harwood about the confusion regarding this issue and asked what he should tell Commissioner Sherry Krulitz. He said that Mica Creek is a distant concern for Shoshone County and that he feels Commissioner Krulitz may not have a clear understanding of the issue.

Harwood replied that Mica Creek was originally a CWA project for sediment reduction that may require additional property and funding to remediate. His plan is to have a discussion at the BEIPC meeting to see how the public feels. Roizen commented that if the solution to the project is vague, then he would like to have some light shed on what should happen to it. Cernera responded that the old concept for the project is not feasible, but that an alternate has not yet been defined. He reiterated that more funding would be required along with permission of the various property owners who may, or may not, agree with a new proposal.

Upon further discussion, Harwood suggested that if an alternative was not feasible, then the BEIPC could later decide how to spend the remaining \$121,000 for another project. Brian Spears responded that he feels it would not be good for the Mica Creek project to be dropped, especially in regards to the massive erosion that is occurring. He reported that mature trees have sloughed off into the creek. Spears said that he knows some people are getting frustrated, but that it may be feasible to do a larger project which may also be more cost effective. In addition, Spears indicated that the CWA funding is just a small partnering opportunity that may lead to other funding sources. Harwood asked Spears to speak about this issue at the BEIPC meeting.

Adams: Mentioned that mine and mill work is continuing on the Rex and Golconda with approximately 60% of the design stage completed.

Spears: Nothing to report.

Roizen: Nothing to report.

Perfect: Informed Cernera that there were no conference rooms at the ITD (Idaho Transportation Department) available on February 21 as an alternate location for the BIF meeting

Beckwith: Reported that he made a presentation at the WCAC meeting on lake studies, monitoring and preliminary results.

Spafford: Nothing to report.

Cernera: Gave an update on the Carney creosote cleanup. He mentioned that the EPA was moving forward to begin writing the ROD; and that Arcadis had come up with a new proposal that involved digging up a majority of the upland contamination and thermally treating it.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 3/2/06. Thank you for your participation.