

TLG CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY
August 25, 2005

Participants:

Brian Spears (Vice Chair)	Paul Woods
Anne Dailey	Mike Beckwith
Ron Roizen	Randy Connolly
Rog Hardy	Jeri DeLange (Note Taker)
Nick Zilka	
Mark Stromberg	
Rob Spafford	

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

As Phillip Cerna was unavailable, Brian Spears led the call. He asked if anyone had agenda items or topics to discuss.

Ron Roizen commented that the TLG meeting on August 23 was very positive and was a credit to the TLG. He was pleased that it was an open forum with a true exchange of ideas. Both he and Bill Rust felt that it was the best meeting they have attended. Spears also agreed that it was a productive meeting. He said that he appreciated Roizen sharing his views from the county representatives.

Anne Dailey mentioned that she hopes the commissioners understand the scope of the cleanup work. She feels that they may not realize everything that is going on and the magnitude required to address it. Roizen said that he meets with the county commissioners on a regular basis and that one of the commissioners expressed satisfaction with the TLG meeting. Rog Hardy commented that there used to be a lot of divisiveness before the executive director came on board, but feels that the group is evolving in the right direction.

Roizen brought up the issue of funding for the TLG chair and that there is no funding for the TLG county reps. However, he did agree that the issue was petty compared to the tasks laid out before everyone. He suggested that it not be allowed to obscure the important things. Hardy believes that the counties need to look out for their representatives and should look at chipping in. He pointed out that the county reps are comprised of mostly retired or voluntary appointees because there is no funding available.

Spears suggested that it may be a good idea to invite the commissioners to a technical forum. Upon discussion, it was determined that the commissioners may not have the time to attend.

In regards to the cleanup work, Roizen believes that people would be more responsive if: 1) Gold Book standards for water quality could be lowered on the South Fork; and 2) a universal blood lead testing program could be implemented (modeled after Rhode Island). Spears said the TLG

could consider these options, but may not be able to do them. Dailey mentioned that she did take the first step to talk with someone in the EPA about the systematic problems. Roizen mentioned that EPA listening to the considerations was extremely encouraging and was one of the first things he reported. He also suggested that in the NAS message, the system should not be so rigid. He pointed out that we need to find ways to achieve things if the ARAR's (Applicable, Relevant, and Appropriate Regulations) cannot be imposed. Roizen reiterated a comment made by Bill Rust that if a goal is set too high and is not achievable; we should look at the prospect of the things that can be done. Spears indicated that government can do only what it can do.

Roizen commented on the Section 106 law for sites with historical significance and that a community meeting is required to discuss what needs to be done to preserve history. He said that he took this issue to Boise and also talked with the EPA.

Dailey brought up the Rose Lake boat launch and pointed out that it was a big effort. Roizen said that this is a large complex system and that the regulations are part of the bureaucracy's discretion. Hardy expressed his opinion that public comment worked out at Rose Lake.

In regards to the NAS report, Roizen commented that everyone took hits. The report opens it up for new discussion as it says the EPA should not leave the valley. It occurred at Smuggler, but not here. The counties have changed their position since the report says the EPA has a legitimate purpose to be here.

Mike Beckwith commented that community people are provided an opportunity for information at the BIF (Basin Information Forum) meetings. Spears mentioned that he had not seen any of the commissioners at a BIF meeting. Roizen replied that have very busy schedules, however, they have heard lots of information over a long period of time.

Hardy inquired if the ICP for OU3 will have a public comment phase. He mentioned that he attended a workshop on open meetings and that any meeting with a deliberation phase requires public comment. Dailey answered that she was not sure. Mark Stromberg believes the ICP has to go to the counties and be adopted by law, but it would be best to check with Jerry Cobb of the Panhandle Health District.

Hardy then inquired about the status of the long-term trail management plan. Zilka said there was a meeting yesterday and he is reviewing the Tribe's latest revisions. Hardy asked if there would be public comment on the plan. Zilka said no as the plan affects private property.

Round Table:

Dailey: Mentioned that she is working on completing the responses for the EPA five-year review. Roizen inquired about the blood lead study on page 541 and asked if it would remain in the final report. Dailey said that she believed it would.

Spafford: Relayed a message from Rebecca Stevens on the lake map project. The map is final and the problem with the graphic icon has been corrected.

Woods: Reported that lake sampling will be conducted next week.

Beckwith: Nothing to report.

Roizen: Mentioned that future liability in regards to flooding issues is a huge concern and that people need to be informed. Beckwith replied that the EPA will not go after individual landowners under EPA policy. He suggested that Roizen talk with Anne Dailey.

Stromberg: Reported that 120 properties are currently done. There are over 200 people involved working full and part-time.

Zilka: Nothing to report.

Connolly: Nothing to report.

Schedule: The next TLG conference call will be scheduled 9/1/05.

Thank you for your participation.