

**Panhandle Basin Advisory Group**  
 Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho DEQ  
 October 14, 2010  
*Draft Meeting Notes*

<b>Members and Alternates Present</b>	<b>Guests Present</b>
Dan Dinning – Local Govt	Norm Suenkel – Benewah County
Scott Fields - Coeur d'Alene Tribe	Vera Williams – Surface Water Solutions
Jack Filipowski-Agriculture	Steve Kolb – Twin Lakes Improvement Assn
Kennon McClintock - Timber	Bill Lillibridge – Idaho Soil & Water
Robert Rider-Livestock	Doug Wall - KSSWCD
Vince Rinaldi-Water Based Recreation	Dave Pisarski – DEQ - Boise
Patty Perry – Kootenai Tribe	Rick Currie – Kootenai County
W. C. Rust - Mining	Craig Nelson - KSSWCD
Mike Mihelich KEA (for Liz Sedler)	Sue Ireland – Kootenai Tribe
	Sherry Klaus – Benewah SWCD
	Ken Merrill – Kalispel Tribe
	Kody VanDyk – City of Sandpoint
	Sally Schlepp - KSSWD
	Dan Redline - DEQ
	Bob Steed - DEQ
	Molly McCahon – Lake A Syst
	Ryan Edwards – KIB Foundation
	Kajsa Stromberg - DEQ
	Randy McKahan – Fernan Lake Assoc.
	Marc Andrews – Fernan Lake Conservation and Recreation Assoc
	Tyson Clyne – DEQ
	Faye Beller - DEQ
	Chris Hardy – Water Resource Services
	Gordon Sylte – Twin Lakes
	Becki Witherow – DEQ
	Kristin Keith - DEQ
	Dan Anderson – Kidd Island Foundation

The Panhandle Basin Advisory Group (BAG) meeting was called to order at 9:05 am at Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, by Chair Vince Rinaldi. Introductions were made around the room.

W. C. Rust attended the November 4, 2009 meeting and wanted the minutes changed to reflect that he was in attendance. W. C. Rust then made a motion to accept the November 4, 2009 meeting notes with the correction. Ken McClintock seconded the motion; the motion passed.

There was a change to the schedule to include a discussion about the Coeur d'Alene Tributaries WAG. Kootenai County requested that Rusty Shepard be made a voting member of the WAG. After discussion, Dan Dinning made a motion to have Kootenai County represented by Rusty Shepard as a voting member on the WAG. W. C. Rust seconded the motion; the motion passed.

### **TMDL and Integrated Report Updates:**

Bob Steed gave an update to the 2010 Integrated Report. It has been out for public comment from September 27, 2010 to October 27, 2010. Bob explained that the Integrated Report is the State of Idaho's Bi-annual report to Congress on the status of our waters.

Bob covered the different listings and categories. DEQ is working on a 4B listing where TMDLs are not necessary. Category 4A lists completed TMDLs. The Panhandle Basin has a significant amount of completed TMDLs. Category 5 hasn't been modified a lot. These are ongoing TMDL projects and subbasin assessments.

Category 1 gives an opportunity for other streams to be added to a wilderness listing. The word "wilderness" was questioned by the BAG members. Dan Dinning made a motion that the BAG talk with the State Office about removing "wilderness" out of the report if the stream is not really situated in a wilderness. W. C. Rust seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion was tabled. Bob was asked to provide more information at the next meeting.

Bob also spoke about delisting where a TMDL is not needed. DEQ is delisting the Pend Oreille River for phosphorus. The extensive monitoring that DEQ performed in 2009 did not find a problem. DEQ is working with dischargers to put together a voluntary program to limit phosphorus use.

The State Office wanted to list Coeur d'Alene Lake for mercury because of the Harrison Slough. The Coeur d'Alene Regional Office asked that the lake not be listed until more data is collected.

Bob talked about the Policy and Procedures Manual which details how DEQ prioritizes assessments. The priorities are established by the State Office and the BAGs are charged with working with the priorities.

Kristin Keith talked about the Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries WAG. She presented the list of WAG members with some changes. John Barlow is an "At Large" representative. Rusty Shepard will represent Kootenai County as a voting member. The first meeting will be held November 4, 2010. The WAG will advise on the 5-year review of the 2000 Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries Subbasin Assessment and TMDL, a new temperature TMDL and nutrient TMDLs on Fernan Lake and Blue Creek. The BAG signed a letter to Toni Hardesty approving the WAG members.

Tyson Clyne spoke of the St Joe/St Marie WAG. He solicited the public for interest in the watershed. Sixteen people responded. The first meeting was held on February 26, 2010. Jack Filipowski made a motion to approve the WAG members for the St Joe/St Maries WAG; Dan Dinning seconded the motion; motion passed.

Kajsa Stromberg reviewed what was happening with the North Fork WAG. They are currently reviewing the draft temperature TMDL.

### **Dave Pisarski - Discussion of 319 Grant Updates:**

Dave Pisarski from the DEQ State Office reported that the funding for this year's grants would be the same – around \$2million. There are 44 applications state-wide, and there will be approximately 15-20 projects out of those 44 that will be funded. DEQ is also looking into other funding opportunities.

The Super BAG will be held on December 2, 2010 for the final decisions on the applications. The timeframe for funding is May to June 2011.

### **Lake Coeur d'Alene Management Plan Implementation (LMPI):**

Becki Witherow presented an update of LMPI for the past year. They are working on a 3-year nutrient source inventory and have expanded core lake sampling from 2 to 7 stations on Coeur d'Alene Lake. They plan to expand the Aquatic Vegetation Survey to 5 to 7 other bays.

### **319 Grant Application Presentations:**

#### Twin Lakes Fish Creek Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Restoration Project:

Chris Hardy, Water Resource Services, presented this 319 application. Fish Creek is listed for sediment, nutrients and bacteria. Agricultural and timber harvesting are the sources. The proposal includes bank restoration, fencing and riparian planting. There would also be plantings on the mid channel between the two lakes.

#### Kidd Creek Culvert Replacement and Streambank Stabilization Project:

Chris Hardy, Water Resource Services, spoke for this project. It would include culvert replacement and streambank stabilization. The culvert is at the mouth of Kidd Creek at the Kidd Island Bay Peninsula.

#### Fernan Lake Conservation and Stormwater Restoration Project:

Chris Hardy, Water Resource Services, also presented this project. The Fernan Lake Road was recently completed by the Federal Highway Administration. There are 50-foot cutslopes, ditch erosion sources and culverts that deliver sediment to the lake. This

project will provide a native filtration system to prevent highway stormwater runoff. A biofiltration swale would be installed at French Gulch where back-wash at the lake outlet accumulates nutrients in the lake.

St Maries River Project:

Norm Suenkel, Benewah County, presented this application. This project will reduce non-point sources of sediment from land uses identified in the St. Maries River subbasin assessment. Benewah County will install culverts at stream crossings and ditch relief culverts and all will be accompanied with sediment control. Downspouts will be installed in areas with steep slopes. The project will improve erosion control awareness for personnel working on the county road crews by having them attend a Panhandle Stormwater and Erosion Education Program class. It comprises the first 2.1 miles of the St. Maries River Road. Monitoring will be comprised of photos, field inspections, sediment traps and SNOTEL stations.

Kootenai River bank restoration and riparian enhancement in Braided Reach to reduce river temperature and erosion, and restore ecosystem function:

Susan Ireland, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, presented for this application. The project includes two sites, 1a and 1b. The project will occur on the right bank of the river and a side channel at site 1a and on the right bank of the river at site 1b. Site 1A will include planting, fencing and stabilizing logs. Site 1B is at the Braided Reach with steep eroding banks. Treatments will include construction of bank structures, regrading and revegetation of steep, eroding banks. It will also include riparian exclosure fencing.

Pend Oreille Lake \*A\* Syst:

Molly McCahon presented the Pend Oreille Lake \*A\* Syst application. This project entails three points: 1) Pend Oreille Lake \*A\* Syst, 2) City of Sandpoint BMP –three stormwater outfalls, and 3) bank stabilization/riparian BMP. The bank stabilization will include reestablishing lost riparian vegetation by utilizing innovative technology. The stormwater portion will contribute to the implementation of several BMP demonstration sites for the treat of City of Sandpoint stormwater runoff by providing funding, consultation, coordination and education. The Pend Oreille Lake \*A\* Syst will report progress, create a final project report, complete a financial audit and coordinate with other watershed partners.

After the presentations, the BAG voted on the order of support of the applications:

1. St Maries River Road Project
2. Kootenai River Bank Restoration
3. Fish Creek/Twin Lakes Nutrient and Sediment Reduction Restoration Project
4. Pend Oreille Lake \*A\* Syst
5. Kidd Creek
6. Fernan Lakeshore Nutrient and Stormwater Restoration Project

There was some discussion of having more frequent meetings. Tom Herron stated that the budget may allow that this year. He thought it might be possible to have the next meeting in early April.

Dan Dinning motioned to adjourn, Ken McClintock seconded the motion, the motion passed.