

**Panhandle Basin Advisory Group**  
 Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho DEQ  
 July 23, 2008  
 Approved Meeting Notes

| <b>Members and Alternates Present</b> | <b>Guests Present</b>                  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Dan Dinning-Local Government          | Serena Carlson—Idaho Forest Industries |
| Scott Fields-Coeur d'Alene Tribe      | Tyson Clyne-DEQ                        |
| Jack Filipowski-Agriculture           | Tom Herron-DEQ                         |
| Patty Perry-Kootenai Tribe            | Kristin Keith-DEQ                      |
| Vince Rinaldi-Water Based Recreation  | Ken Merrill-Kalispel Tribe             |
| W.C. (Bill) Rust-Mining               | Mike Mihelich-Kootenai Enviro Alliance |
|                                       | Glen Rothrock-DEQ                      |
|                                       | Robert Steed-DEQ                       |
|                                       | Kajsa Stromberg-DEQ                    |

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by Chair Scott Fields. Introductions were made around the room. Jack Filipowski made a motion to approve the May meeting notes. Dan Dinning seconded the motion; the motion passed.

**Representative at Large:**

Two letters were received by the BAG asking to fill the vacant Representative at Large position on the BAG. The BAG members asked DEQ to advertise for the position so that the BAG would have more candidates from which to choose. DEQ agreed to do so. The BAG deferred this matter to the next meeting.

**Super BAG Meeting and the 319 Grant Applications:** Scott Fields attended the Super BAG meeting in Boise this spring and represented Northern Idaho. All Northern Idaho projects received funding except for the Mirror Creek project. Scott found the entire process much improved for both applicants and the Super BAG members. Scott suggested DEQ provide a cd of a successful grant application to share with applicants next year. Tom said that they would certainly do that.

**Upcoming Tours:** Tyson Clyne of Coeur d'Alene DEQ is planning two tours for the near future. The first tour will be a tour of the 2006 319 projects which will include Hayden Stormwater, Lake\*A\*Syst on Pend Oreille Lake, and the 20 Mile Restoration near Naples on Aug 26. On August 27, the group will tour the Bear Top Project near Prichard and the Moon Pass-Fishhook Slide project near Wallace. A schedule will be sent out to the BAG via Email.

**North Fork Coeur d'Alene River WAG and TMDL update:** Kajsa Stromberg, Coeur d'Alene DEQ, organized a tour of the lower North Fork Coeur d'Alene River in June. Another tour is planned for August 20.

A pre-draft temperature TMDL was sent to EPA for comments. DEQ will incorporate EPA's comments and the WAG's comments and then present it to the WAG for additional comments. Kajsa is also working on updating the subbasin assessment, which will be considered in the five year review of the sediment TMDL for the North Fork.

**Draft Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan:** Glen Rothrock gave BAG members a handout that outlined the history and some information about the draft lake plan. Hard copies and cds of the draft plan are available from DEQ. A comment site has also been created on the main DEQ website. Citizens can comment via letter also.

**Black Lake:** DEQ has received some calls about Black Lake this year. Due to a breach in the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's, the landowners could not pump their pastures out at the beginning of the summer, which left stagnant water standing near the lake. DEQ and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe have been working on monitoring and a TMDL for Black Lake.

**WAGs:** The BAG suggested that, rather than form one large WAG for all the little watersheds in the Coeur d'Alene Basin, that DEQ try to get interested parties for each small watershed to form a WAG or an Interested Group. That would address the spirit of HB 145 and give everyone a voice. The BAG members thought that each smaller WAG could then nominate a member or members to serve on a large WAG which would represent all the smaller watersheds.

**Total Dissolved Gas TMDL:** The Pend Oreille River WAG has put out a couple drafts of this TMDL. The WAG has seen both of the drafts and has and commented. The last group of comments was voluminous, and the time needed to address these comments will put DEQ into a mid-August timeframe.

**Water Quality Grants:** DEQ has secured a grant to study some streams that tested positive for e coli during BURP sampling. The grant will allow the e coli to be characterized as to its source, such as avian, animal, or human. The BAG members asked to be sent a list of these streams.

Coeur d'Alene DEQ is writing a grant to the Basin Commission to study bank erosion on the Coeur d'Alene River. This was co-written with Kootenai-Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Different methods will be used to analyze erosion.

**Post Falls Dam:** The Idaho portion of the Post Falls Dam certification went through with conditions on June 5. Avista will have to maintain the level of the lake. Monitoring will be required to verify Avista's data. If the data are not correct, then DEQ can change the conditions.

**Small Lake WAG:** Tom Herron has proposed a small lake WAG for the Upper Spokane Watershed. People around the smaller lakes in the Coeur d'Alene watershed could address their concerns and find solutions to problems using this forum.

**Fish Creek TMDL:** The Fish Creek TMDL was approved by EPA in June for sediment, temperature and bacteria.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be October 15 at 9 am until noon at Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Coeur d'Alene.

**Topics for October's meeting include:**

Black Lake outcome

Draft Coeur d'Alene Lake Plan

TMDL updates

Letters from people interested in the Representative at Large or Timber position on the BAG

Bill Rust made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Dinning seconded the motion; the motion passed and Chair Scott Fields adjourned the meeting at noon.