

North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group

Draft Meeting Notes

March 26, 2015

1:00 – 3:30 pm

US Forest Service Bldg., Smelterville, ID

Next meeting: April 30, 2015 1:00-3:00 pm

Please visit the WAG website:

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/north-fork-cda-river-subbasin-wag>

Contact Kajsa Van de Riet with any questions:

(208) 666-4633 or Kajsa.VandeRiet@deq.idaho.gov

Participants: Sandra Raskell, Wade Jerome, Rodney Cochrane, Ed Lider, Chad Petersen, Matt O'Donnell, Amanda Parrish, Tarita Harju, Kajsa Van de Riet

Meeting Purpose: To convene the Watershed Advisory Group for the purposes of water quality improvements and protection in the North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Subbasin through Total Maximum Daily Load development and implementation.

- Introductions, review agenda, & distribute previous meeting notes
- North Idaho Fly Casters – The 2015 Conservation Festival will be Saturday June 13th. It will include a tree planting at a USFS restoration site in the Moose Drool Project Area (headwaters of the Little North Fork Coeur d'Alene watershed), and there will be a demonstration from Jim Ekins (UI Extension) for the IdaH2O stream monitoring program. Details are in the attached flyer. If you plan to participate, please RSVP to Ed so the NIFC will know how much food to prepare for lunch. Also, recommend bringing a chair. Kajsa can provide transportation for some from CdA, so please let her know if you'd like to carpool.
- Moose Drool Watershed Restoration Tour – Please mark your calendar! We have a proposed date for a tour of the Moose Drool Watershed Restoration Project with the Forest Service. The proposed date is July 16. Details TBA.
- WAG Operating Procedures – The WAG members present reviewed the revised draft operating procedures. There were some questions about stakeholder categories, voting members, quorum, designating a proxy, notification of voting items, and voting by email. These questions were discussed and considered resolved by those present, and the WAG members present agreed to the revised draft. However, several key WAG members weren't able to attend the March meeting. The WAG opted to postpone adoption of the revised procedures until the next meeting to give everyone a chance to weigh in.

There was discussion about representation from the timber/forest products industry. WAG members present agreed it was important to invite participation from timber interests and asked Kajsa to contact them. Rodney Cochrane had several suggestions for companies and individuals to contact. He will send the contact info to Kajsa for Stimson and Hancock. Kajsa will contact them in April to invite their participation.

- The Lands Council – Presentation by Amanda Parrish, Watershed Program Director

See PowerPoint presentation on WAG web page.

Amanda provided a presentation including general description of The Lands Council (<http://www.landscouncil.org/>) and descriptions of several conservation programs and projects. Some of these include projects like Greensleeves, Project SUSTAIN, watershed restoration, and stormwater management. Watershed restoration practices promoted by The Lands Council include use of beavers in appropriate locations for their natural beneficial effects to floodplains and riparian zones, and riparian planting is another key element of their projects. Stormwater projects have been a recent focus including the pilot use of biochar in urban stormwater swales and gardens.

- TMDL Implementation Plan – We had excellent discussion with many great ideas. Some of the WAG recommendations included the following:
 - Make the implementation a broad discussion of priorities and types of projects, but don't make it too specific
 - Perhaps make the body of the plan broad, and include some specifics in appendices
 - Incorporate flexibility and do not be overly prescriptive
 - Identify goals and then build the plan
 - Organize the document by watershed rather than by land ownership or land use activity

At the April 30th meeting, we hope to:

- Set a date for the Moose Drool Tour
- Review and adopt the WAG operating procedures
- Discuss the Bottom Canyon Project and any WAG comments (this will be postponed until May since the draft EA is not ready for public review quite yet)
- Discuss goals for the North Fork CdA Subbasin WQ Plan / TMDL Implementation Plan
- If there's time, draft an outline for the plan