

Panhandle Basin Advisory Group Meeting
May 6, 2015
9AM-12PM
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
2110 Ironwood Parkway
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

AGENDA

- 9:00 Introductions, Review today's agenda and minutes from the February 19th meeting.
- 9:10 Basin Advisory Group Open Position; Representative at Large, Discussion by BAG Members and selection, Expiring Terms of BAG Members and identified replacements.
- 9:50 Spokane River WAG recommendations for appointments.
- 10:10 TMDL Updates: Spokane River Metals, Priest Lake and River Tributaries Temperature submittal to Public Comment, South Fork Coeur d'Alene River Progress. NFCDA WAG Update
- 10:40 Break
- 10:50 DEQ Updates—Lake Coeur d'Alene Management Plan, NPDES Permit Update for Spokane River, Lake Pend Oreille, and Pend Oreille River, Lake Pend Oreille and River Tributaries monitoring for TMDL 5 Year Review, Restoration Partnership Update and the St. Maries Creosote clean-up update – Sandra Raskell, Coeur d'Alene Tribe.
- 11:50 Next meeting agenda topics and date selection
- 12 noon Adjourn

Panhandle Basin Advisory Group
 Department of Environmental Quality
 2110 Ironwood Parkway
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho DEQ
 May 6th, 2015
Approved Minutes

Members and Alternates Present	Guests Present
John Beacham – Representative at Large	Tom Herron - DEQ
Dan Dinning – Local Government	Kristie McEnroe - DEQ
Jack Filipowski - Agriculture	Chad Peterson – U of I
Vince Renaldi – Water Based Recreation	Craig Nelson - DEQ
Ward Cooper – Non-Municipal Permittee	Bob Steed - DEQ
Patty Perry – Kootenai Tribe	June Bergquist - DEQ
Bradley Kucera - Mining	Jamie Brunner - DEQ
	Kajsa Van de Riet - DEQ
	Melissa Driskell – BAG Mining Alternate
	Laura Laurasia – Coeur d'Alene Tribe
	Sandra Raskell – Coeur d'Alene Tribe
	Matt O'Donnell – U of I

The Panhandle Basin Advisory Group (BAG) meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Dan Dinning at the Department of Environmental Quality, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Introductions were made around the room. The minutes from the February 19th meeting were reviewed and a correction is to be made in the first paragraph changing Patty Perry to Adrienne Cronebaugh. A motion to approve minutes with correction was made by Ward Cooper and seconded by Bradley Kucera, motion passed.

Representative at Large Position

The candidates for the Representative at Large position were reviewed. The BAG members cast their votes, the votes were tallied, and John Beacham was selected as the new Representative at Large.

Open BAG Positions, Expiring Terms

The BAG members indicated at the last meeting that they would be willing to continue service for another term or to solicit their own replacement should they want to step down. Motion to continue service was made by Jack Filipowski, Ward Cooper seconded the motion, motion passed.

Spokane River WAG recommendations for appointments

Bob Steed asked the BAG for appointment recommendations for the Spokane River Metals TMDL WAG. There is no representation for forest products, livestock or agriculture. Bob felt that with the nature of the TMDL it should be ok to continue developing the WAG without those positions filled and would like BAG approval to do so. The BAG would like to see those interests represented for the WAG. The BAG had a few suggested contacts for Bob. The BAG approved the list of members as they stand with the understanding that Bob would

follow up with solicitation to fill the missing interests and to get back to the BAG in a week or two to see if there was any progress in filling those positions.

TMDL Updates:

Spokane River Metals TMDL – Bob Steed

Bob Steed gave the BAG an update on the Spokane River Metals TMDL. The Spokane River is on the 303D list of impaired rivers in Northern Idaho. On the 2010 integrated report, the listing changed from a metals listing to a cadmium and zinc listing. There are 2 segments in Idaho: the outlet to the Post Falls damn (ascending limb) and the Post Falls damn downstream (descending limb). In the 2012 integrated report there was no change in the listing.

In 2000, a TMDL was ruled invalid by judicial review for not following formal rule making. There is now language in the rule making that says that DEQ will not work on metals TMDLs. The last attorney review that took place during the development of the discharge permits for the Spokane River stated that there does in fact need to be a TMDL in place and that the TMDL should be in effect for the next discharge permit cycle. DEQ has been collecting data for 2 years on the Spokane River. The results show that the ascending limb of the watershed exceeds criteria for cadmium coming out of the lake; but by the time it hits Washington, it is no longer exceeding criteria. Lead does seem to exceed chronic criteria at both the ascending and descending limbs and zinc is exceeding criteria all the time.

Priest Lake and River Tributaries Temperature submittal to Public Comment – Bob Steed

The draft has been completed and has gone out to public comment. It is published on the DEQ website and DEQ has posted notices in the local papers to collect public comments. There were some complications in the PNV process but Bob believes they have adapted very well by monitoring and providing better targets in there that were more realistic to natural conditions in the area. The public comment period ends June 1st.

North Fork Coeur d'Alene River WAG – Kajsa Van de Riet

The WAG was started in 2007 to put together a temperature TMDL which they have done. The sediment TMDL was already completed prior to that. They are now in the implementation phase. One of the recent developments has been to update the operating procedures. The WAG has seen a turnover of about half the membership in the past 7-8 years with really great attendance and participation from the WAG members leading to a really successful group. Kajsa handed out the updated roster for the WAG. The only TMDL that is outstanding for this watershed is the metals TMDL which falls under the rulemaking that Bob was discussing with the Spokane River. Most of the sources of the North Fork have been addressed. There were 9 mill sites and only one of those sites still remains. The WAG is trying to add representatives from the private forest industry. IDL has been helping Kajsa to contact some of the larger forest land owners to get some involvement for the implementation phase. They are also putting together an implementation plan to deal with the temperature and sediment. As a group they are getting together and discussing the project ideas and prioritizing them for implementation.

South Fork Coeur d'Alene River – Kajsa Van de Riet

There needs to be temperature TMDLs developed for the South Fork. There are 12-13 temperature listings for streams in the South Fork Coeur d'Alene basin. They have been compiling data to characterize water quality looking at sediment; there is existing sediment TMDL there, and taking in to account all the activities going on. The next step will be advertising and holding the first WAG meeting. Kajsa is hoping to do that this summer.

DEQ Updates:

Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan – Jamie Brunner

Jamie gave a brief overview of the origination of the Lake Management Plan for the new members of the BAG. The current plan was adopted by the state and Coeur d'Alene Tribe in 2009. The goal of the plan is to limit basin-wide nutrient inputs into the lake in order to keep the metabolism and oxygen at the right levels so that the metals ideally stay at the bottom of the lake. Currently they are working with the Kootenai Shoshone Water District and a local land owner on a project to do some offsite watering and fencing that is contributing to the road run off issues from Bloomsburg road into the lake. They are also in the early stages of planning an aquatic plant identification workshop that would also include invasive species sometime in July or August.

NPDES Permit Update for Spokane River, Sandpoint and Kootenai Pend Oreille – June Bergquist

All three permits for the Spokane River discharge permits have been approved and are in effect. Sandpoint has been a bit of a problem. They tried going out for a draft but there were elements in the certification and permit that Sandpoint didn't care for. They want to go from a 3 million gallon per day facility to a 5. They already don't meet the mixing zone requirements. They also run up against some anti-deg issues relating to mercury. An increase of BOD in the Pend Oreille River at that location may also affect water quality. Models are being run right now looking at that issue and making sure that if they do go to a 5 there are no adverse water quality effects. Kootenai Pend Oreille also has a draft permit from EPA and a draft certification. They are pre-public comment. They identified that they do not feel they can meet their new limits and they would like additional time to see if regionalization is something they can work toward. They have 36 acres of land application approved for irrigation; right now they only have 15 acres. Their permit requires that there is no summer time discharge. They discharge into a very tiny tributary to Boyer Slough. Boyer Slough is backwater of Pend Oreille Lake. It's a very difficult spot and there is no opportunity to install a pipe and discharge into the lake. They tried irrigating Poplar trees. There has also been confusion on when to turn off the irrigation before winter freeze and other operational question marks.

Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program, B.U.R.P – Craig Nelson

Craig Nelson gave the BAG a handout that outlined the proposed sites for this year's BURP crew.

Lake Pend Oreille and River Tributaries 5 year review – Tom Herron

DEQ is starting the review for the Pend Oreille tributaries including the Pack River, the down river tributaries of Hoodoo Creek, and Cocolalla Creek watershed. Tom has seen a change of focus from inlake monitoring to monitoring roads. The lower part of Hoodoo creek is essentially intact but the vast majority of wetlands are dredged, altered, over widened and they just don't perform as streams. While the Cocolalla watershed and Pack River have much more fisheries and much more recreational use. Those are some of the considerations DEQ is looking into. We've had good restoration efforts on Grouse Creek and Rapid Lightening Creek so they will document the implementation and improvements regarding sediment and nutrient loading from loads as well as the restoration projects on those 2 creeks.

St. Maries Creosote clean-up update – Sandra Raskell, Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Sandra Raskell from the Coeur d'Alene Tribe spoke with the BAG and presented a slideshow presentation on the St. Maries Creosote clean-up efforts. The effort has been broken down into 3 phases, phase one is already complete. The site was used between the 30's through the 60's as a pole treatment plant. In the mid 60's the pole plant was closed and it was used as a storage facility. In 1998 the City of St. Maries recognized a sheen on the water and contact EPA. EPA did a unilateral administrative order. In 1999 EPA did an emergency clean-up of the property. Since then there have been clean up, remedial action planning and sampling efforts between the EPA, City of St. Maries and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. Sandra explained phase 1 of the remediation efforts that have been completed and described the planned phases 2 and 3.

Next Meeting Agenda Items and Adjourn

The BAG agreed to tentatively schedule the next meeting for August 5th, 2015. Agenda items for the next meeting will include BURP updates, 5 yr. Review updates and a Blue Green Algae update. Meeting adjourned without motion at 12:05 PM.