

## North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group

Draft Meeting Notes  
Mar 23, 2017  
1:00 – 2:30 pm  
US Forest Service Bldg., Smelterville, ID

**Next meeting:** April 20, 2017

**Please visit the WAG website:**

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

**Contact:**

Kajsa Van de Riet at (208) 666-4633 or [kajsa.vanderiet@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:kajsa.vanderiet@deq.idaho.gov)

**Participants:** Kajsa Van de Riet, John Hansen, Dain Gillen, Bob Clark, Sarah Jerome, Josh McDonald, Amanda Parrish

**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.

If there are questions about these notes, mistakes or omissions, please contact Kajsa Van de Riet at DEQ.

- Introductions, review agenda, & distribute previous meeting notes
- **Updates from WAG members -**
  - DEQ - Kajsa Van de Riet provided an update on spring flooding, 2017 BURP sample sites, and the Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Partnership.
    - *Flooding* - Kajsa showed slides to compare the 2017 high flow event with previous flood events in 2008, 1996, and 1974. Peak flow in 2017 were 27,100 cfs on March 16<sup>th</sup>. This is slightly higher than the peak flow in 2008 (26,800 cfs on May 19). Both events were approximately half of the peak flows that occurred in 1996 (56,600 cfs) and 1974 (61,000 cfs).
    - *2017 BURP Sampling Sites* - Based on WAG feedback BURP sampling was requested at 4 sites in 2017: Tributaries to the NFCDRA River between Jordan and Tepee Cr, Independence Creek between Ellis and Declaration Cr, Shoshone Creek between Little Lost Fork and Falls Cr, and Shoshone Cr below Falls Cr. One of these sites (Independence Cr) is quite remote and we are considering using the motorized trail and support to transport gear. Sarah Jerome said there might be assistance available from the Forest Service. Kajsa will connect Sarah with Craig Nelson, DEQ's BURP coordinator.

- *Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Partnership* - The interagency Restoration Partnership of natural resource trustees extended the public comment period on the draft restoration plan and environmental impact statement in response to requests. The public comment period closes April 17.
  - North Idaho Fly Casters - Bob Clark said that the Fly Casters club meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month and the April meeting features their annual Conservation Program. On May 21-22 the Fly Casters will participate in the Spring Fest at the Kootenai County Fairgrounds with a building for fly tying and casting. They would be willing to have a Respect the River booth or materials there. Dates for the annual Conservation Festival (usually held in June) have not been set yet. For more info on the club, visit: <https://www.northidahoflycasters.org/>
  - US Forest Service - Sarah Jerome, Acting Deputy District Ranger, provided an update on Forest Service projects.
    - *Grizzly Salvage Project* - This salvage timber project follows the 2015 wildfire season when approx. 30,000 acres burned. The project is divided into five sales and is generally about halfway hauled with approximately 1,100 log truck loads. Due to a problem with the 1<sup>st</sup> bridge on the River Road (208) above Shoshone Camp, log trucks had to pass at 5 mph. Sarah shared a handout with volumes of timber hauled through Jan and Feb 2017. WAG members had questions about the dollar values and Sarah said she would try to provide that information at our next meeting.
    - *Beaver Creek Project* - A small timber sale (approx. 60 ac) called Kings Pass was recently sold. It's located near the top of Kings Pass, the divide between Beaver Creek and Prichard Creek watersheds.
    - *Bottom Canyon Project* - A timber sale called Lone Cabin recently went out for bids.
    - *Potter's Wheel Project* - This project is in the early planning stages with scoping beginning soon.
- **Water Quality Status Updates** - Kajsa provided a slide show for water quality status assessments currently underway to get WAG input. There are four stream assessment units being considered for sediment delisting. Also, several streams that are currently unassessed have new data from the BURP program that demonstrate full support of cold water aquatic life. We discussed whether the 2015 fires may have affected these streams and Sarah Jerome will provide a fire perimeter map for the Flat Creek area. Besides these questions, the WAG members present supported the assessment conclusions being reached.
- **Respect the River 2017 Plans** - We discussed plans for 2017 Respect the River including locations for signs, banners, and the annual river cleanup. We have the opportunity to obtain funds through Avista for a sign at the Bumblebee Bridge area.