

North Fork Coeur d'Alene River Watershed Advisory Group

Draft Meeting Notes
Apr 20, 2017
1:00 – 2:30 pm
US Forest Service Bldg., Smelterville, ID

Next meeting: May 25, 2017 [canceled]

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

Participants: Kajsa Van de Riet, John Hansen, Sarah Jerome, Fred Brackebusch, Dustin Stetson, Chelsea Gonzales, Tarita Harju, Will Young, Melissa Hendrickson, Ed Lider

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 -**
 - Forest Service - Sarah Jerome gave brief updates on current projects.
 - *Beaver Creek Project* - The project was divided into three timber sales. The White Beaver sale was sold and some road work completed so far. Kings Pass and King Beaver sales also sold recently.
 - *Bottom Canyon Project* - The Lone Cabin timber sale recently went out for bids on a stewardship contract. The sale also includes some road decommissioning.
 - *Potters Wheel Project* - Some brushing and grading in the area will be completed in 2017.
 - *Bridge improvement* - The bridge on the River Road (Rd 208) near Long Pool will have some work in 2017 due to stress cracking in the bridge decks.

- *LiDAR* - Recent LiDAR results came back that cover the northwest areas of the subbasin.
 - *Settlers Grove* - The area has been closed since fire damage sustained in 2015. The safety will be assessed in spring 2017 and, if safe, the area may be re-opened with a minimum standard for trails.
 - *eDNA* - Staff will be collecting samples for environmental DNA in the Tepee Creek drainage this summer, at approximately 50 locations.
- DEQ - Kajsja Van de Riet shared copies of announcements about DEQ's triennial review of water quality standards and EPA's regulatory review.
- North Idaho Fly Casters - Ed Lider said that 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. There will be a Coeur d'Alene River Fish Out event on the North Fork on June 17th. For more info on the club, visit: <https://www.northidahoflycasters.org/>
- **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. First, the support of Shoshone County needs to be secured. The small banner will be posted for now at the USFS Smelterville Office. We will reprint the large banner and discussed suggested changes to the banner's design including making logos larger, leaving a space for the cleanup date to be posted, and referring people to Facebook rather than the long website address. We're also starting to plan for an August 19th River Cleanup.
- **Tours and Field Trips** - We talked about ideas for future meetings. Melissa Hendrickson will be invited to present about the new LiDAR information at the next WAG meeting. Other future field trips or site visits might include bioengineering sites on the Coeur d'Alene River downstream of Enaville (Kahnderosa and Medimont), demonstrations of BURP/eDNA/shade monitoring techniques.