

**Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries Watershed Advisory Group  
Wednesday, July 11, 2012**

Idaho Fish and Game  
2885 W. Kathleen in Coeur d'Alene  
*Please do not park in the front parking lot*  
Coeur d'Alene  
10:00 – 12:00

**Meeting Notes**

**Present:** Kristin Keith, Sheri Gaines, Miles Benker, Steve Wilson, Rusty Sheppard, David Fortier, Dave Funk, Steve Funk, Janet Funk, Wade Jerome, Adrienne Cronebaugh, Don Martin, Diane Partridge, Angelo Vitale, Jim Hagenbarth, Justin Lippens, Katherine Prussian, Rebecca Stevens, Serio, Peirluissi, Kate Walker, Laura Laumatia, Denna Grangaard

Angelo Vitale, Fisheries Manager with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe gave a presentation on the restoration project in the Benewah Creek watershed. This is a large-scale restoration project to improve habitat for native cutthroat trout. The project included an in-depth watershed analyses to identify restoration needs in areas that have the greatest potential to improve habitat. The analyses along with status and trend monitoring aided in the identification and prioritization of restoration actions within the watershed. Landowner buy-in on restoration objectives has been critical, and has taken time, but many have come on board.

Ned Horner with Idaho Fish and Game (Retired) gave his insight into the Wolf Lodge Creek watershed, which included a historical perspective. In the 1980s IDFG started seeing fish habitat issues in Wolf Lodge Creek, and money became available to do some restoration work after a diesel spill in 1983. IDFG hired a fluvial geomorphologist to evaluate the stream and give restoration recommendations. Recommendations included removal of gravel in strategic places, bank stabilization and riparian restoration, and in-stream structures to reduce erosional energy of the stream. Over time, landowner changes have compromised structures and presented additional challenges in the lower watershed. Ned believes reconnection of floodplains to the channel is the most important restoration objective for the creek.

Next Meeting: August 8<sup>th</sup> 10-12.