

**Panhandle Basin Advisory Group**  
 Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
 Coeur d'Alene, Idaho DEQ  
 October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
*Draft Meeting Notes*

<b>Members and Alternates Present</b>	<b>Guests Present</b>
Dan Dinning – Local Govt	Don Ellis
Scott Fields - Coeur d'Alene Tribe	Susie Ellis
Jack Filipowski-Agriculture	Tona Trulock
Mike Mihelich - KEA	Tom Chasse
Robert Rider-Livestock	Tim Kemp
Vince Rinaldi-Water Based Recreation	Kody VanDyk
Patty Perry – Kootenai Tribe	Jerry Little
W. C. Rust - Mining	Marita Little
	Kajsa Stromberg
	Sherry Klaus
	Larry Mundt
	Ron Cater
	Michael Knowles
	Debra Andrews
	Chris Hardy
	Gordon Sylte
	David Fortier
	Norm Suenkel
	Shelly Mathews
	Bob Flager
	Kristie McEnroe
	Kristin Keith
	Tom Herron
	Tyson Clyne
	Greg Becker

The Panhandle Basin Advisory Group (BAG) meeting was called to order at 9:08 am at Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, by Chair Vince Rinaldi. Introductions were made around the room.

Vince Rinaldi motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the August 10<sup>th</sup> bag meeting, the motions was seconded by Dan Dining. Motion passed.

### **Expired and Expiring terms:**

Tom Herron from DEQ went over the current term issues that were brought up at the last meeting. He motioned that all terms be extended as of today so all members are current. It was deemed a non-issue by the chair.

### **Review of Agenda and 319 procedures for timing.**

Vince Rinaldi explained the timing procedure that the presentations limited to be 20 minutes, an 18 minute presentation and a 2 min window for questions.

### **2011 319 Grant Applications:**

Tyson Clyne from DEQ spoke to the group about the 319 applications that were submitted this year. There were 6 applications chosen to be presented to the BAG members. Jerry West from the DEQ State office spoke to the group about the current funding available for the 319 Grants this year. The program has taken a \$330,000 reduction in 2011. They have already been informed by the EPA that there will be additional funding cuts for 2012. Super bag meeting is scheduled for December 7<sup>th</sup> in Boise; it will be decided at that meeting which of the 29 projects are funded.

Tyson introduced Larry Mundt to the group he's a land owner that lives adjacent to Hwy 95 and Mica Creek. Larry has been really active with the 319 program and another grant that was through the Basin Commission. He has been able to install best land management practices. Through his efforts he has been able to stabilize and reduce 827 cubic yards of sediment a year throughout the Mica Creek watershed. A few of the items he is been able to implement are exclusionary fencing, livestock and equipment hardened crossings, planted vegetation and installed 5 offsite watering sources. He was given a Stewardship Award for all the work he has done.

### **St. Maries River Road Improvement Project**

Norm Suenkel presented this project. The project will reduce Total Maximum Daily Loads of sediment being transported in the St. Maries River drainage. The St. Maries River Road from Lotus uphill for two miles is steep, native surface road. This section of road has six pitches which extend for about 0.2 miles each without relief culverts or drainage. This is causing this section of road to erode the native surface material. This water is being transported into the main draws where the creek comes down. These draws transport sediments directly downstream on the St. Maries River. This project will focus on implementing BMP's aimed at reducing sediment by installing culverts and road rocking.

### **Schweitzer/Sandpoint Sediment Reduction Project**

Greg Becker presented this project. The project includes roads maintained by the Independent Highway District located within the city limits of Dover, Kootenai and Ponderay and especially the 9 miles of road that connects the North end of Sandpoint within the city limits of Sandpoint. The use of traction sand on these roads has resulted in excessive sedimentation in the water bodies of North Idaho. The purpose of this project is to decrease the amount of sediment entering into Little Sand Creek, Schweitzer Creek and Sand Creek through conversion from the use of traction sand to de-icing

primarily through the application of sodium chloride salt and liquid sodium chorine to roadways during the winter months. The project is supported by the Independent Highway District, The City of Sandpoint, Bonner County Soil and Water Conservation District, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, Schweitzer Mountain Resort, the Idaho Transportation Department, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

#### Santa Creek Bank Stabilization

Sherry Klaus presented this project. This project hopes to replace an existing unstable bridge with a new one, the project will reduce sediment loadings to Santa Creek, prevent failure of old bridge and continue BMP effectiveness monitoring before, during and after the project is complete. Pollutants listed for TMDL's are sediment and temperature. This project will primarily address sediment but is anticipated to also positively affect temperature and the beneficial use of the stream. Continued erosion of the bank will further impact the 65 feet of cribbing and foundation of the bridge.

#### Fish Creek Restoration Project

This project was presented by Chris Hardy. They hope to repair an exposed section of Fish Creek with fencing, planting up to 10,000 willow bundles, native shrubs, wetland plants and conifers in an attempt to reinforce the bank. Bank stabilization will be composed of 2 rock/log barbs installed with coir cogs and burlap waddles with integrated planting providing root protection. The Fish Creek Restoration Project TMDL effort will reduce sediment and nutrients and will increase stream shade though comprehensive BMP application processes. The outcome of the project will be a stable stream channel with a reduction of 50% of the sediment load allocation and significant phosphorus loading reductions on Twin Lakes.

#### Coeur d'Alene River at Medimont – Riverbank Protection

This project was presenting by Bob Flagor. The proposed project encompasses approximately 4,000 linear feet of riverbank stabilization directly across from the Medimont boat launch. The project is intended to continue to stabilize the eroding banks of the Coeur d'Alene River using the accepted and successful methods employed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. It is generally accepted that the erosion on the river is the result of boat wakes. By reinforcing the bank this will cut down on the 5,200 cubic yards of sediment annually to the river and consequently to the lake.

#### Hayden Lake's McLeans Bay Watershed Improvement Project

This project was presented by Karen Hayes. The project will lead and guide owners of established lakefront and secondary properties in Hayden Lake's McLeans Bay watershed as well as properties that include a portion of McLeans Creek to participate with Kootenai Environmental Alliance (KEA) in customized, en bloc watershed remediation. The expected outcomes and benefits are reduced storm water runoff, reduced phosphorus loads, reduced sediment loads and measured reductions in the total phosphorus levels in the bay in an attempt to help bring Hayden Lake into compliance with its TMDL.

After the presentations, the BAG voted on the order of support of the applications:

1. Coeur d'Alene River at Medimont – Riverbank Protection
2. St. Maries River Road Improvement Project
3. Fish Creek Restoration Project & Santa Creek Bank Stabilization
4. Hayden Lake's McLeans Bay Watershed Improvement Project
5. Schweitzer/Sandpoint Sediment Reduction Project

The next meeting was tentatively set for mid-March 2012. Slated for that meeting are the integrated report and an update from the DEQ on Anti-Deg. An email will be sent to the BAG member after the Super Bag meeting.

Vince Rinaldi motioned to adjourn; Robert Rider seconded the motion, the motion passed. Meeting adjourned.