

Upper Snake Basin Advisory Group Meeting

MEETING MINUTES

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
650 Addison Ave. W., Ste. 110, Twin Falls, Idaho
Wednesday, October 1, 2014

Attendees:

Jay Barlogi - Twin Falls Canal Company
Pauline Bassett - Caribou SCD
Katy Bergholm - BAG- mining
Greg Blaser - Madison SWCD
Roger Blew - BAG- Representative at large
Sonny Buhidar - DEQ-TFRO
Steve Canty – DEQ-TFRO intern
Krystal Harmon – Portneuf SWCD
Stan Hays – NRCS
Justin Hays, BAG- Recreation
Gary Marquardt- BAG- Non-Municipal Permittee
Ralph Myers - BAG-Hydropower
Brian Olmstead- BAG- Irrigated Agriculture
Andy Olson – DEQ - IFRO
Chuck Pentzer - SWCC
Ray Peterson - landowner
Brian Reed - SWCC
Troy Saffle – DEQ- IFRO
Richard Savage - BAG- Livestock
Rob Sharpnack - SWCC
Katie Shewmaker - DEQ-TFRO
Steven Smith – ISWCC
Laurie Stone - BAG- Forestry
Craig Thomas - DEQ- TFRO
Lynn Van Every- DEQ-PRO
Amy Verbeten – Friends of the Teton River
Matt Woodard - BAG – Environmental, Chairman

Welcome and introductions

The meeting was brought to order by Matt Woodard at 10:10 a.m. Everyone in attendance was welcomed and each introduced themselves and whom they represented at the meeting.

Bag business

- Matt Woodard entertained a motion by Ralph Myers to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on April 3, 2013, as written. Brian Olmstead seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- The Super BAG meeting will meet in December to determine the recipients of 319 grants.
- The agenda was modified to accommodate the time schedule of several of the presenters and changes in presenters.
- Troy Saffle gave a quick update on the Integrated Report and Five-Year Reviews the regional offices are working on.
- The next Upper Snake BAG meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2015 in Pocatello.
- The BAG summer tour will take place on Thursday, July 16, 2015. We will meet at 7:45 a.m. at the DEQ-PRO and tour the Upper Blackfoot.

Presentation of 319 projects

- **Upper Portneuf River Project- presented by Steven Smith**
This project will reduce the impacts of grazing with 26 acres of riparian use exclusion, approximately 2 miles of riparian fencing and installation of off-site watering systems. The project estimates a decrease in sediment loading of 317.7 tons/year, 16,097 lbs/year of phosphorus, and 4,614 lbs/year of nitrogen. Estimated total cost of the project is \$369,942.65 which includes \$220,104.05 in 319 grant money and \$149,838.60 in matching funds.
- **Middle Portneuf AFOs and Ditch to Pipe Project – presented by Steven Smith**
This project will focus on the relocation and berming of a large AFO directly below the Rat Pond. A large diversion structure and conversion of a ditch to pipe will occur on Dempsey Creek along with off-stream watering, access control riparian fencing and a fish screen. The project estimates a decrease in sediment loading of 111.5 tons/year, 9,198 lbs/year of phosphorus, and 2,637 lbs/year of nitrogen. Estimated total cost of the project is \$412,206 which includes \$249,206 in 319 grant money and \$163,000 in matching funds.
- **N Coulee Irrigation Conversion Project – presented by Stan Haye**
The N Coulee is located at the western end of the Twin Falls Canal Company tract and discharges into Salmon Falls Creek. Approximately 320 acres of cropland where the project will be located, is very steep and highly erodible. The surface irrigation conversion project includes installation of a four sprinkler irrigation system (1 mini pivot, 2 half pivots and 1 full center pivot); with an annual sediment load savings of 5 to 6 tons per acre. The estimated cost of the project is \$379,000 with a grant amount of \$224,000 and matching funds of \$155,000.

- Lava Hot Springs Urban Project – presented by Krystal Harmon**
 This project proposes to decrease soil erosion and control recreational access points to the Portneuf River. Increased signage for educational and informational purposes would occur along with riparian enhancement areas and weed reduction. This project is estimated to reduce TSS loads by 30 tons/year. The estimated cost of the project is \$331,004 with a 319 grant amount of \$190,143 and matching funds of \$140,861.
- Twin Bridges Stream Bank Restoration – presented by Greg Blaser**
 Approximately 1200 feet of eroding bank would be stabilized on the Snake River. This would slow the destabilization of downstream bridges and increase boat and shore fishing safety. Sediment deposits are estimated to be reduced by 375 tons/year. The estimated total cost of the project is \$111,709 including \$66,896 of 319 grant money and matching funds of \$44,600.
- Teton Creek Restoration Project Phase 4 – presented by Amy Verbeten**
 The fourth phase of this project intends to stabilize 800 feet of streambed and 670 feet of eroding streambank. Water quality would be improved by a projected reduction of 170 tons/year of sediment along with reducing the flood risk to the City of Driggs. The estimated total cost of the project is \$175,950. This includes an estimated matching funds amount of \$72,850 and estimated 319 grant amount of \$103,100.
- Upper Blackfoot Off-Stream Watering Project - presented by Pauline Bassett**
 This project will reduce sediment and nutrient loads by installing 24 offsite watering facilities, constructing 17,160 feet of riparian fence on Meadow Creek and Blackfoot River, installation of 6 solar pumping stations and 25,720 feet of pipe, 3 spring developments, weed reduction and brush and pest management. Willows will be planted and three water gaps will be eliminated. The total cost of the project is \$347,623. The 319 grant request is for \$207,916 and \$139,707 of matching funds will be provided by public and private organizations and participating landowners.
- Mud Creek/ Silo Creek Phase II– presented by Jay Barlogi**
 This project will be implemented on the Silo Creek drain which flows directly into Mud Creek, then into the Snake River. The wetland project will consist of four cells: two smaller cleaning cells and two larger ponds to polish the agricultural return drain water from approximately 1,000 acres. This also includes a 20 year conservation easement on approximately 6 acres. It is estimated that there will be a 64% reduction of TSS, a 60% reduction in TP, and a 50% reduction in E. coli bacteria. The estimated cost of the project is \$344,650 with a 319 grant amount of \$185,910 and matching funds of \$158,740 from Twin Falls Canal Company, Balanced Rock SWCC, and private landowners.

Bag rankings

There were nine BAG members present. Richard Savage served as proxy for Greg Shenton and Hunter Osborne was absent. There were a total of ten votes. All voting representatives

stayed until the votes were tallied and agreed upon. Laurie Stone moved that the following results be sent to the Super BAG and the meeting be closed. Richard Savage seconded.

Teton Creek Restoration Project Phase 4	25
Upper Blackfoot Off-stream Watering Project	37
Mud Creek/Silo Creek Project Phase II	39
Upper Portneuf River Project	44
Twin Bridges Stream Bank Restoration	46
Middle Portneuf AFO and Ditch to Pipe Project	52
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Lava Hot Springs Urban Project	61

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Matt Woodard at 2:01 p.m.

Matt Woodard
Chairman

4/1/2015
Date of Approval