

EcoRA Work Group Conference Call - Jan. 4, 2001, 9:00 - 9:20 AM

Participants:

Steven Hughes, URS Greiner
Harry Ohlendorf, CH2M Hill
Anne Dailey, EPA
Bill Beckley, USFWS
Don Heinle, CH2M Hill
Brenda Osterhaug, CH2M Hill
Randy Connolly, Spokane Tribe
Brad Frazier, USFWS

EcoRA Schedule Update:

- Comments submitted on the Draft EcoRA currently being evaluated.
- We are following up separately with some commenters to clarify their comments and/or obtain referenced supporting information.
- EPA anticipates sharing the outputs from the database with commenters in late January/early February. A two week period will be provided for parties to review the database outputs and provide feedback to EPA.

Draft EcoRA Tech Memo 1 (entitled: Evaluation of Secondary Effects of Mining-Related Hazardous Substances on Physical and Biological Ecosystem Characteristics). This tech memo will be available for review by the EcoRA Work Group in late January and with comments due in mid-February. The final tech memo will be included as an attachment to the final EcoRA. The EcoRA is primarily focused on the chemical contamination from mining-related activities; however, these activities have also altered physical and biological characteristics of the CDA Basin resulting in degradation of ecological function and habitat structure. These secondary effects can also impact eco-receptors.

Other Updates:

- Trudy Pulley, CH2M Hill, has resolved remaining issues concerning the TDM database (e.g., UPRR samples, correcting erroneous units on several samples, etc.). Trudy wrote a memo summarizing the database. The database has been transmitted to those doing the ecorisk calculations.
- At the Coeur d'Alene Basin Inter-Agency Group meeting on 2/14/00 Brad Frazier, USFWS, & Nick Zilka, IDEQ, will give a brief update on the soil/sediment amendment study proposal.

Next Teleconference:

- Next EcoRA call will be on January 18, 2001 at 9 AM PST
- Call-in number is 206-553-4557; no pass code required
- topics of discussion will include:
 - status of the EcoRA
 - discussion of specific comments received
 - other topics as appropriate