

Libby Dam Environmental Management System

Issue 1

March 2007

EMS Meeting Minutes

The EMS Team met on March 21, 2007. Mark Andreasen, Charlie Comer, Richard Franke, Rodney Nixon and Paula Mills were in attendance. Following are the main points from this meeting:

- Implement a Quarterly Newsletter
- EMS Plans were reviewed. 4 plans have been completed to date. 4 plans were added to the top 10 list.
- Reviewed the DEQ violation letter in regards to small oil spill in December 2006.
- Reviewed letters received regarding the spring 2006 spill & the legal implications connected to the spill.
- Charlie briefed team on the 2007 ECC Conference held at the Dalles Dam
- Maintenance crews should be charging environmental work, such as recycling oil/paper/waste, to environmental compliance labor codes.

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Environmental Management

Defined

Wikipedia

Online Encyclopedia

Environmental Management is not, as the phrase suggests, the management of the environment as such but rather the management of the humankind's interaction with and impact upon the environment. The need for environmental management can be viewed from a variety of perspectives. A more common philosophy and impetus behind environmental management is the concept of carrying capacity. Simply put, carrying capacity refers to the maximum number of



organisms a particular resource can sustain. The concept of carrying capacity, whilst understood by many cultures over history, has its roots in Malthusian theory. A common example of the consequences of exceeding the carrying capacity of an area is the starvation and eventual cannibalism of tribes on the Easter Islands after the depletion of the island's resources. Environmental management is therefore not the conservation of the environment solely for the environment's sake, but rather the conservation of the environment for humankind's sake.

Completed EMS Projects

Environmental Management Plan (EMP)

The EMS Team, with the help of Libby Dam Employees, have completed the following EMS Projects:

EMP ID #: 003

Problem: Spills to Water or Soil

Plan: Reduce potential for spills getting into the soil or water from the vehicle maintenance drain.

Solution: A drain plug was installed and shop employees were trained in its inspection and use.

EMP ID #: 004

Problem: Air Emissions

Plan: Filter the welding smoke emissions from the welding shop that reduce the air quality.

Solution: An air filter system was installed and employees were trained in the use of the system

EMP ID #: 006

Problem: Spills to Water

Plan: Prevent grease from entering the water during selective withdrawal PM.

Solution: Operating procedures were developed for the PM and the Mechanical shop employees were trained in these procedures.

EMP ID #: 007

Problem: Dust Generation

Plan: Reduce dust generated by winter road sanding

Solution: A road sweeper was purchased to remove the excess dust from the roads.



Tom Magone sweeping the winter road sand with the road sweeper we picked up free from surplus properties.

Ongoing Projects

Top 10

Environmental Management Plan

EMS Team

The EMS team has identified 10 projects that are currently underway. They are:

1. Spills to water or soil – provide secondary containment to prevent spills during bulk fuel delivery and vehicle fueling operations.
2. Lack of appropriate substrate – determine whether rock introduction might realistically be considered for habitat restoration in current Sturgeon spawning areas.
3. Soil/Water containment – eliminate or minimize contamination to soil and water from lead bullets at the Rock Quarry Law Enforcement Shooting Range.
4. Water Quality Reduction – Prevent water quality degradation long-term by testing spill as a means for providing depth in the Kootenai River at Bonners Ferry, and using results to make habitat or structural modifications, if warranted.
5. Spills to water – provide monitoring and early detection of oil in powerhouse drainage sump.
6. Spills to water – Purchase spill response equipment and pre-stage it in a storage container at the recovery site to reduce deployment time. (see picture, page 3)
7. Recycling – Reduce waste by recycling paper and magazines
8. Save Energy – install energy efficient lighting
9. Hazardous Waste Generation – recycle oil drenched rags and absorbent pads.
10. Resource Consumption – utilize hybrid vehicles in order to save gas and reduce emissions.

Pesticides: Health and Safety

General First Aid Guidelines

Swallowed poison: Induce vomiting **ONLY** if emergency personnel on the phone tell you to do so. It will depend on what the victim has swallowed; some petroleum products or caustic poisons will cause more damage if made to vomit. Always keep Syrup of Ipecac on hand (1 ounce for each child in the household) to use to induce vomiting if recommended by emergency personnel. Be sure the date is current.

Poison in eye: Eye membranes absorb pesticides faster than any other external part of the body; eye damage can occur in a few minutes with some types of pesticides. If poison splashes into an eye, hold the eyelid open and wash quickly and gently with clean running water from the tap or a gentle stream from a hose for at least 15 minutes. If possible, have someone else contact a Poison Control Center for you while the victim is being treated. Do not use eye drops or chemicals or drugs in the wash water.

Poison on skin: If pesticide splashes on the skin, drench area with water and remove contaminated clothing. Wash skin and hair thoroughly with soap and water. Later, discard contaminated clothing or thoroughly wash it separately from other laundry.

Inhaled poison: Carry or drag victim to fresh air immediately. If you think you need protection such as a respirator and one is not available to you, call the Fire Department and wait for emergency equipment before entering the area. Loosen victim's tight clothing. If the victim's skin is blue or the victim has stopped breathing, give artificial respiration (if you know how) and call rescue service for help. Open the doors and windows so no one else will be poisoned by fumes.

Dunn Creek Campground



Stew Cernick and Tom Magone are installing a concrete anchor at Dunn Creek boat ramp below Libby Dam. The anchor will be used to hold the 1700 feet of oil containment boom and 17 boom deflectors that are pre-staged in a 40 foot shipping container on site.

Let's Save Paper

Tools and Advice

Everyone can participate!

HELP SAVE PAPER!

We can cut the amount of paper we use by more than half to save \$\$\$, help the environment, and to reduce the amount of garbage going to the landfill. If you want to help, just try some of the following tips:

- Print things like journal articles and drafts on reusable paper.
- Print multiple journal pages on a single page.
- Print on both sides
- Recycle paper and magazines
- Encourage purchasing of recycled paper
- Decrease margin width of documents and/or print single space

These seem like small things, but if everyone made and effort we can greatly reduce paper waste.

CORRECTIVE ACTION: If you see an EMS violation, such as oil rags in the trash can, trash in the oil rag disposal can, or a bucket that was put into place to catch leaking oil that is on the verge of overflowing, **DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!** Environmental Protection is the job of everyone on the Project.
