

100 Area End State Workshop, June 23 – 24, 2004

100 Area Breakout

Question: What post-cleanup activities do you see for the 100 Area?

Raw notes from 100 Area activities discussion:

Group 1 – Facilitator - Doug Huston

- More stringent cleanup to pre-Hanford conditions desired by Nez Perce Tribe
- Tribal fishing, settling, utilization of all Site resources (including groundwater)
- Tribes hope institutional controls are not required.
- B-Reactor Museum available to the public. Could fold into Hanford Reach National Monument. Bus/car parking and boat dock. Day use only via bus tours. No overnight use. Curator needed during day only. Perhaps custodian service in the evening. Keep open for the long term. Interpretive Center? Gift shop? Boat tours as part of Hanford Reach tours.
- Resident ranger (and family) to manage the Monument
- Railroad access and tours to Monument and B-Reactor Museum
- Wildfire protection and law enforcement will be needed. Will require housing in 100 Area in long term.
- Continued general access to the river with campsites for canoes and kayaks, water skiing, primitive facilities.
- Vendors doing Hanford Reach boat tours could have one campground site available for their use.
- Walking trail along Hanford Reach area with picnic facilities and drinking water?
- Risk assessment must target children (e.g., swimming).
- More than day use to wander around the area.
- USFWS Alternatives C and D are popular with people who want outdoor recreational uses such as hiking and hunting.
- Conservation and preservation
- Some public participants at the recent USFWS workshops want only non-motorized boats in the Reach.
- National Wildlife Refuge to protect large and small creatures.
- Unrestricted use means deep cleaning and waiting for groundwater access.
- Long-term vision – likely that 100 Area would be developed for housing. Can that be prevented? Can the Reach be protected as an undeveloped natural resource? Must fight the trend to develop the land along the river.
- Nez Perce, Yakamas, and Umatillas could manage the land areas not in the National Monument.
- Industrial access to areas not on the river for mining (e.g., gravel).
- How will 200-Area activities and groundwater plumes impact the 100 Area?
- Need a balance between preservation and other various end uses.
- Maintain public protection forever.

- USFWS cannot acquire contaminated land (or land with contaminated groundwater).

Group 2 – Facilitator - Susan Leckband

- Conservation/preservation
- Houses or hotels near Monument Land
- Institutional controls will fail in 100 years
- Overnight camping, boating, hiking
- Fishing and hunting
- Traditional Tribal uses
- Commercial amenities (e.g., restaurant)
- Tours of Monument
- Keep land open, but with USFWS restrictions to protect the public.
- Consider that the risk assessment must protect people who don't follow the rules.
- Hotel with swimming pool may require excavation below 15 feet.
- Will have to fight encroaching development.
- Will B-Reactor Museum have a lawn? Groundwater use for watering?
- Wildlife protection on the Monument
- Interpretive Center on the Monument
- Are hotels, concessions, etc. compatible with the wildlife protection mandate of the USFWS? Possibly, but difficult to manage.
- Farming (e.g., orchards) on land north of Gable Mountain and south of the river in the long term (100-300 years from now). Is potential radioactivity a big issue? Could bad publicity regarding radioactivity devastate Washington agriculture?
- Public access, recreation, tourism, fishing, hunting, hiking
- Motorized recreational vehicles should not be allowed in the area, but kids may break the rules, and they must be protected.
- Consider a wildfire scenario.
- Tribal scenario must include water use for sweathouse.
- Locations of cultural resources must be protected.
- Is there a land release strategy? Which areas are to be released first? All at once?
- Water rights for agriculture could be a problem. If people aren't allowed to use the river, wells could be drilled regardless of groundwater restrictions.
- Oil and gas leasing

Group 3 – Facilitator - Gariann Gelston

- Preserve B-Reactor as a museum.
- Is there a traffic management plan for the museum? Bus tours only?
- No plan to limit vehicle traffic to Reach Monument land.
- Area from Vernita Bridge to B-Reactor should be a park.

- Restore/preserve last native shrub-steppe habitat in Columbia Basin and provide facilities for the public to view the area.
- Rural residential land use? Not in the near term (due to need for irrigation water), but maybe in the long term.
- Is the 15-foot soil cleanup depth adequate to protect human health? Yes. Could the contamination move upward into the clean soil? No.
- Could there be a town along the river (e.g., the old Hanford town site) in 50 years? Depends on status of groundwater plumes.
- Institutional controls are needed for:
 - No digging below 15 feet
 - No drilling below 15 feet
 - No groundwater use
 - Long-term monitoring of existing groundwater wells
 - Reach Monument is forever.
- Septic disposal for bathrooms at the Monument.
- Minimize construction of new roads.
- Destroy some existing roads?
- No motorized vehicles on the river
- Climbing, hiking, photography
- Facilities for the disabled
- Preserve historical sites at the old Hanford town site
- Industrial development (e.g., manufacturing, commercial)
- Agricultural uses (e.g., organic farming)
- Trees for wood pulp
- Natural preserve for the near term. Possible development in the long term.
- No availability of water rights?
- Examples where designated parks survived for 200 years in Philadelphia