



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2014

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Douglas PUD Auditorium

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Dave Duvall, GCPUD

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Chris Fisher, CCT

Lee Carlson, YN

Jeremy Cram, Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW

Debbie Williams, GPUD, Administrative Assistant

Attendees:

Justin Yeager, NMFS

Lee Carlson, YN

Kate Terrell, USFWS

John Soden, ICF

Jennifer Goodridge, CCNRD

Steve Kolk, BOR

Matt Karrer, USFS

Tom Kahler, DCPUD

Jeff Osborn, CCPUD

Chris Fisher, CCT

Jeremy Cram, WDFW

Dave Duvall, GCPUD

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Rob Richardson, BOR

Gardner Johnson, Inter-Fluve

Richard Vacirca, USFS

Steve Hays, CCPUD

Tracy Hillman, Facilitator

Action Items:

1. Rohr to consolidate and distribute HSC comments on Entiat Projects to BOR.
2. Fisher to provide cost estimates for HSC review for similar excavation projects as those discussed in the Upper White Pine presentation.
3. Duvall to contact Brandon Rogers, Yakama Nation, for a visit to the Squadroni property.
4. Carlson to check on Newby Narrows property title.
5. Duvall to check with GCPUD Lands on HAZMAT requirements.
6. Rohr to send response to the sponsor and Cascadia on Tyee project.
7. Rohr to send response to CCFEG on Wenatchee Nutrient Enhancement.
8. Duvall to initiate CCFEG Nutrient Enhancement Change Order.
9. Duvall to send response to ONA regarding ORRI Phase II and Penticton Spawning Platforms.
10. Fisher to send response to ONA regarding Shuttleworth project.
11. Yeager to provide updated Barkley Spec Sheet to Rohr for distribution to HSC.

Final Meeting Minutes

11:00 AM – Combined Meeting of Habitat SC and HCP Tributary Committees

Review of Entiat Restoration Projects (Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) and ICF International).

John Soden, ICF, and Steve Kolk, BOR, presented on the Entiat Restoration Projects, including Stormy and Gray reaches, with background on the Mapbook work, 1D Hydraulic modeling, 2D Model done by BOR and reviewed meander, deflector, apex, and access limited jams. Also presented was a summary of the sections A, B, D, E, and F on the Entiat River. Steve Kolk requested a comment deadline of December 5. In order to meet this tight deadline, the two facilitators (Hillman and Rohr) will distribute Technical Team comments to be received from Kolk to their respective committees for review and comment, and Hillman and **Rohr will consolidate their committees' comments and provide them to Steve Kolk by December 5.**

BPA is to fund all construction for this project in 2016-17 with an approximate budget of \$6M.

1:30 PM – Combined Meeting of Habitat SC and HCP Tributary Committees

Upper White Pine Presentation (Chelan County Natural Resources Department and Bureau of Reclamation).

Gardner Johnson, Inter-Fluve, Jennifer Goodridge, CCNRD, and Steve Kolk, BOR, presented on the Upper White Pine Restoration Proposal. Soil sampling of 5 soil pits were done to help identify the sediment types (e.g., sand, silt) which provides insight on the historic channel location. 2D modeling results were also presented showing floodplain inundation and velocities. The question asked by the PRCC HSC of Goodridge and Kolk at the September, 2014 HSC meeting was why not break the levee and let Nason Creek take its own course through the property. The answer provided was the design team was uncomfortable with 1) uncertainty of the river channel, 2) downstream impacts of sediment, and 3) downstream impacts on existing infrastructure.

Taking this information into consideration, the design team incorporated a new concept using a 2-Meander Design rather than the original 3-Meander Design by breaching the levee and allowing floodplain re-connectivity. The upper meander had been removed from the original design. The next steps are to continue with the NEPA process and complete/provide the 60% design to USFS in 2015, along with Chelan PUD power line relocation. Because of the lead time for materials and planning, a tight schedule in 2015 will be needed. With the conclusion of the formal presentation, the committees had numerous questions relating to the amount of excavation required (30,000 cubic yards estimated) and the input and outflow of sediment based on the actual work that could be done. In general, the USFS as the land owner would not accept letting the system go naturally and would need to have a channelized approach to avoid the uncertainty of the project. The biggest difference is the approach being proposed at this point (engineered channel) and the one being requested by the committees (let the creek make its own channel) even though there will likely be a similar outcome; the former will be over time (10 years or more) whereas the latter would be done immediately.

After the guests had left, it was decided that **Chris Fisher would provide some cost estimates of similar projects for committee members to review and consider.**

1:00 – 4:00 – Regular Habitat SC Meeting

Approval of Meeting Minutes – HSC approved meeting minutes from September 11, 2014 as written.

Habitat Funds Report. As of September 27, 2014, the balances for Fund 601, 602, and 603, respectively are \$2,931,616, \$3,823,760, and \$886,415 for a grand total of \$7,641,792 unencumbered dollars available through PRCC.

Review of Squadroni Property. After a brief discussion, the HSC agreed that it would be worthwhile to visit John Squadroni once again and see if there was any project worth considering on his property. **Duvall to contact Brandon Rogers and set up a visit.**

Newby Narrows Property Acquisition. Rohr affirmed the HSC email vote finalized on October 14, 2014 approving the acquisition of the Newby Narrows property with a funding level up to \$350,000. Carlson discussed the current status of the property acquisition and Duvall mentioned he was reviewing the draft agreement. The question of the need for a HAZMAT survey was discussed and in general, unless there is a reason to suspect contamination, HAZMAT surveys are usually not done. The committee also discussed the need to have access to earnest money funds if needed to secure the acquisition, which is a real estate acquisition procedure often followed. **Committee members agreed that funds in the amount of 2% of the purchase price would be made available for immediate use if needed, but the total funding amount would not exceed \$350,000 as previously agreed upon by committee members. Carlson will check to see if the property title is clear. Duvall will check with Grant PUD Lands on HAZMAT requirements.**

White River Staff Gage: Duvall reported that he offered \$50,000 for 5 years of data collection (based on a previous decision by the HSC) from the White River staff gage. WDOE responded that they could make no comment until after October 2014. Duvall sent another email reminder in November but has not received any response from WDOE.

Tyee Conservation Easement. Rohr reported that he had been contacted by Mike Rickel, Cascadia Conservation District and a spokesperson for Tyee property, stating that they are now willing to meet the terms required by the HSC for the conservation easement and would like an opportunity to present their side of the discussion to the committee. After some discussion, it was decided that the committee already provided their response and is not interested in re-visiting the Tyee project. **Rohr to send response to Cascadia and the Tyee spokesperson.**

Project Tour of Canada. Fisher reported that it went very well (though there are still some concerns with Shuttleworth) and in particular, the new spawning platforms were at almost full spawning capacity with adult sockeye in October. Everyone was pleased with how quickly ONA completed this project.

Wenatchee Nutrient Enhancement Change Order. CCFEG is requesting \$10,570.79 to cover some unbudgeted costs as a result of a request by the WDOE for additional sampling. After some discussion the committee approved a change order for the amount but in the

response back to CCFEG, Rohr was asked to strongly convey the message that in the future, any unbudgeted work needs to be approved by the HSC first, if they expect to be reimbursed. **Rohr to send response to CCFEG, Duvall to initiate Change Order.**

ORRI Phase II. ONA requested the remaining funds left over from ORRI Phase II (approximately \$65,000) to be spent on additional monitoring (e.g., project stability, hydraulic model predictions, and beaver impacts). After some discussion, the HSC declined this request. **Duvall to send response.**

Penticton Spawning Platform. ONA requested that the remaining funds left over from Platforms 1 and 2 (approximately \$60,000) be applied to Platform 3. After some discussion the HSC declined this request but were happy with the project and would like to see a new spec sheet for the remaining spawning platforms when possible. **Duvall to send response.**

Red Shirt Mill Cleanup. Discussion was deferred to the December meeting.

I. Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam – Improving Fish Jumping Efficiency** No update.
- B. **Wenatchee Nutrient Enhancement Proposal.** The meeting with USFS, CCFEG, and USFWS raised a lot of questions and still needs considerable development. Langshaw working on a proposal.
- C. **Icicle Creek Boulder Field Assessment Project.** The Icicle Boulder Field work is proceeding under our design grant through the SRFB. This project has consisted of a bunch of field work, mostly survey related. Currently we are developing two major design alternatives to be considered by stakeholders, these include:

Option 1: Left Bank Floodplain Roughened Channel

This option would require 270 feet of the existing diversion headworks access road to be removed and the waterline relocated. The overall drop would be from elevation 1376 to 1335 (41 feet) in a length of 285 feet (14% slope). The form of the roughened channel would take the shape of a step/pool channel. The drops would average 3 to 4 feet with spacing of 20 to 30 feet. The steps (or rock ramps) would be formed by rocks 3 to 5 feet in diameter placed with an excavator. Pool depth would average 6 to 8 feet. The actual grade and layout will vary and be adapted on site to negotiate existing boulders and minimize disturbance. Approximately 7000 cubic yards of rock material (boulders and rock) will be removed through blasting and excavation.

The initial concept to relocate the waterline would be to cut a new trench 20 feet north of the existing location and a greater distance from the creek, bury a casing, and pull a new HDPE pipe through the casing. This needs to be coordinated with the City of Leavenworth.

Option 2: Channel Profile Re-grade

This option would re-grade 380 feet of channel. Approximately 200 feet would be cut upstream and 180 feet fill downstream. The 20 foot deep

plunge pool downstream would be filled. Overall slope would be 9.5%. The road would have to be removed and water line relocated similar to Option 2, but for a greater length. A fish passage way would not be constructed and only boulders which are obstructing the channel re-grade would be removed. Successful passage would require several large floods in the 5 to 10 year range to sort material and form a fish passage routes. The overall slope and material size would mimic the natural condition of sections of Icicle Creek downstream of the project site. The key here is removing the width and boulder constrictions to allow the channel to re-grade naturally.

- D. **Shuttleworth Creek Project.** Fisher reported that ONA provided a modified proposal in an effort to resolve the Shuttleworth issue. The HSC decided to wait an additional year to evaluate any progress on development and verify if additional funding has been secured. **Fisher to send response to ONA.**

Roaring Creek Flow Restoration and Diversion Removal Project. TU has secured all necessary funding and permits for construction and as such is ready to implement the project. However, the limiting factor still remains agreement by USFWS to initiate the project. In short, TU and RCWUA need a temporary easement for construction and a granted quit claim deed easement for access and maintenance of the new system by USFWS to RCWUA. This is the final piece of the puzzle. TU, USFWS, and the major irrigator need to identify a seamless solution to the easement issues and "neighborly" challenges as soon as possible. The solution should be sufficient enough for USFWS to grant a temporary construction easement on their property for construction and a permanent access easement for maintenance of the new system for Roaring Creek Water Users Association. If there is not an amicable path way by the close of 2014 TU intends to reevaluate other options, including working with other landowners. TU continues to work on a few neighborly land use issues, with hope to have this issue somewhat ironed out in the next several weeks. We would like to install the ring well and the pump station pipe install next spring.

- E. **Bremer Property, Phase 3.** Property is close to closing.

Barkley Irrigation Company, 2012 – 2014 Diversion Change. Yeager reported that there is a need for more funding (\$1M) for additional work. **Yeager will work on providing an updated spec sheet to Rohr that outlines the details.**

- F. **Peshastin and Icicle Irrigation Districts Pump-back System Options Feasibility Study.** TU's IPID irrigation analysis is complete. TU is currently working with the consultant to identify if development of any specific options can be done with in the remaining resources of the grant. It is likely that the remaining grant funds will be returned to PRCC to because further work on the alternatives will exceed remaining funds. Currently we anticipate the return to about 5k.

- G. **Icicle Creek Boulder Field PIT Tag Array.** Cram reported that two of the three PIT tag arrays have been installed; the third installation was delayed because of the Bio mark issue (compatibility between different programs). The

upper and lower arrays are functional and the middle array could be installed late winter/early spring before flows increase.

- H. **Penticton Spawning Platforms.** See report above.
 - I. **Trout Unlimited – Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II.** Trout Unlimited-Washington Water Project (TU-WWP) has continued planning and due diligence for the Jones-Shotwell Ditch Company (JSDC) irrigation efficiency and instream flow enhancement project. We are very close to closing the water rights change component, which has been the stalling hurdle. We have the RFP for engineering services ready to go out the door as soon as the water rights are complete. TU-WWP conducted an in-depth historical analysis of the Jones-Shotwell Ditch Company (JSDC) through the Chelan County Assessor's Office, Washington Department of Ecology, and Washington State Archives. Documents were compiled detailing JSDC appropriation, development, and water allocation to properties throughout the Monitor flats. Additionally, a land use change assessment was performed using aerial photography and LANDSAT satellite imagery to determine changes to irrigated land from 1948 through 2013. TU-WWP is currently working with the Washington Conservation Commission and Washington Department of Ecology to secure remaining funding and move the project from planning to implementation. We are very confident in construction in 2015.
 - J. **White River Staff Gage.** See report above.
 - K. **Lower Nason Side Channel RM 2.4 Development on the McCarty Property.** Contract has been signed by all parties.
 - L. **Methow Valley Instream Flow Improvement Project (MVID).** Fisher reported a discussion he had with Lisa Pelly. A new concept was presented; instead of drilling new wells in the future, a water buy-back idea is being circulated that will provide funds for irrigators not using their allocated water. This concept was well received by the HSC and hopes this can further be developed.
 - M. **Silver Side Channel PIT Tag Array.** Cram reported it was being installed today.
- II. **Next Meeting:**
- A. Next Meeting – December 11, 2014 at Grant PUD office in Wenatchee.