



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday June 11, 2020

1:00 pm

Microsoft Teams

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Dave Duvall, Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel (alt), GCPUD

Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick (alt), NMFS

Jeremy Cram, Carmen Andonaegui (alt), WDFW

Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Chris Fisher, CCT

Brandon Rogers, Hans Smith (alt), YN

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Erin Harris, GCPUD, Admin Assistant

Meeting Attendees

Chris Fisher, CCT

Dave Duvall, GCPUD

Justin Yeager, NMFS

Jeremy Cram, WDFW

Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GCPUD

Brandon Rogers, YN

Erin Harris, GCPUD

Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Decisions made during June 11, 2020 meeting

1. ACTION: **Funding Activities of Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (J. Yeager)** - Denny Rohr will send committee members email next week to vote on TU funding request of \$250,000.
2. ACTION: **Determine volume of Sediment Accumulated behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington (C. Fisher)** - Denny Rohr will send committee members email vote next week on funding \$85,739 to USGS.

MEETING MINUTES

- I. **Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

A. May 14, 2020 – Approved.

III. Action Items Review from May 14, 2020 Meeting (D. Rohr) –

1. Yeager and Rohr will follow up with PRCC NNI Funding request for the Barkley Irrigation Co. Permanent Point of Diversion project – **for discussion today.**
2. Rogers will contact Curt Soper, CDLT, for additional discussion of the new appraisal process – **for discussion today.**
3. Duvall and Fisher will contact Mickey Fleming, CDLT, for review and discussion of the new appraisal process – **for discussion today.**
4. Duvall and Fisher will review the new land acquisition appraisal process language and its application to parties involved – **for discussion today.**
5. Cram will follow up with CDLT regarding a Spec Sheet for the Mill Creek acquisition proposal - **for discussion today.**

IV. **Habitat and NNI Funds Report Q2 (D. Rohr)** – Dave Duvall shared Q2 will be available July 2020.

V. **Review and Update of Appraiser Information (D. Duvall, C. Fisher, B. Rogers)** – Denny Rohr has had discussion with several members on this subject. Dave Duvall has also been in contact with Kirk Dosser to discuss the new language in the appraisal process and the verbiage to be included in contracts going forward. Duvall and Chris Fisher are also planning to discuss the new appraiser language and process with Mickey Fleming after hearing back from Dosser. This subject will be discussed further at the July meeting.

VI. **Update – Funding Activities of Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (J. Yeager)** – As follow up to the Habitat SC discussion during the May 14th meeting, Justin Yeager shared he attended the PRCC May 26th meeting to discuss the funding request from Trout Unlimited (TU) for \$250,000 for the Barkley Project. TU was unsuccessful with a funding request to Washington Department of Ecology and Yeager was requesting PRCC fund the \$250,000 from the PRCC NNI Fund. After review and discussion, PRCC denied the request. Next, Aaron Penvose, TU, and Yeager discussed the possibility of selling the Wilson Property and using the proceeds to fund the \$250,000 request. The Wilson Property was purchased in 2016 to allow for a temporary pumping location during the Barkley Project construction period. Comment was made that the estimated value of the Wilson Property exceeds the \$250,000 funding request. After additional review, committee members discussed consideration of funding the \$250,000 TU request from a Habitat Funding account plus also selling the Wilson Property and putting the proceeds back into a Habitat Funds account to backfill the \$250,000. Duvall requested additional time for consideration. Therefore, all agreed to Rohr conducting an email vote the following week to consider funding the TU \$250,000 request plus selling the Wilson Property to backfill the \$250,000. Yeager commented that if this path is

agreed upon with the email vote the following week, he would work with TU to provide the appropriate Spec Sheet needed to sell the Wilson Property.

VII. Update - Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition (CDLT developmental funding) (J. Cram) – Jeremy Cram shared he spoke with Mickey Fleming last week and is waiting on a spec sheet in order to move forward with consideration of this project. Denny Rohr shared Fleming sent an email indicating a spec sheet will probably be submitted in July. Rohr also shared that he reminded her of the policy of not purchasing property for more than the appraised value.

VIII. Decision Item - Determine volume of Sediment Accumulated behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington (C. Fisher)
Chris Fisher reviewed the spec sheet, dated June 3, 2020, submitted for this proposal. The Public Utility District No. 1 of Okanogan County (PUD) owns the currently non-powered Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River in Okanogan County, Washington. In November 2018, the PUD Board of Commissioners decided that re-energization of Enloe Dam in an environmentally responsible manner is cost-prohibitive. At the direction of the Board, PUD staff and various stakeholders are now investigating the future of Enloe Dam. In a report on Enloe Dam (Inter-Fluve, Inc., 2016) a critical unanswered question is whether contaminant concentrations of the sediment trapped by Enloe Dam are high enough to trigger special handling of the sediment, either through on-site processing or removal to an off-site storage facility. In addition, knowing the volume of material that accumulated behind the dam may be important for habitat purposes and other potential recommendations in the future. Knowing the volume of material needed to be removed will result in a more dependable cost for other habitat restoration activities.

Location: The Similkameen River is near Oroville, Washington. Enloe Dam is located approximately 8 miles upriver of the confluence with the Okanogan River. The 72-mile long Similkameen River originates in the Cascade Range along the international border between British Columbia and Washington State, with the last 27 miles of the river in Washington. The 1.6-mile-long impoundment behind Enloe Dam, which was constructed in 1923 just upstream of Similkameen Falls, occupies a narrow sinuous reach with steep banks and an average depth of less than 20 feet. Mining, forestry, and agriculture are the major land uses in the drainage, and there is a long history of mining in both the lower basin in the US as well as the upper basin between Princeton, BC and the Canada/US border. Commercial mining activity in the Similkameen Valley has been very limited during past decades, although recreational gold prospecting (small-scale placer mining) is still popular within the river corridor.

Contamination from historical mining operations in the Similkameen River watershed has resulted in elevated arsenic and other trace element

concentrations in river and reservoir sediments. Previous data have shown concentrations of arsenic and copper in Enloe reservoir bed sediments that are consistently elevated above background levels. The source of arsenic is thought to be tailings in the mining area between Hedley, B.C. and the border; the source of elevated copper levels may also be mining related but is less certain.

During the fall of 2019, USGS, secured funding from the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee – Habitat subcommittee to sample the sediment from behind Enloe Dam and analyze the sediment samples for 49 trace elements. Sampling commenced during October and was completed in December. Seventy-two surface samples and 12 core samples were collected; the deepest core was 35.9 feet below the existing riverbed. All sample results (trace element concentrations and grain size) are expected by August 1, 2020 and a USGS report describing data collection methods and results is expected by September 30, 2020.

Though the chemical contents of the sediment samples will influence the cost of dam removal, so will the quantity of material to be removed. To gain an accurate estimate of the volume of sediment to be removed, a geophysical survey using either Continuous Seismic-Reflection Profiling (CSP) or ground penetrating radar (GPR), or a combination of both methods, will be used to measure depth to pre-dam substrate and/or bedrock. The methods that will be employed will be determined during a site visit and based on channel conditions (organic material along the riverbed, hard-rocky bottom, etc.). Regardless of the technique used it is anticipated the survey will be completed within two weeks. Once the survey data is collected and quality assured, interpretation of the data will be made to produce an estimate of the volume of aggradation created by Enloe Dam. Once the data and interpretation is reviewed, a report will be generated describing the technique, data-process and volume estimate.

The objective of the study is to provide an accurate volume of sediment accumulated within the 1.6-mile long impoundment behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River in Okanogan County, WA. This volumetric measurement will refine the cost to dredge the accumulated sediment from the impoundment as a recommended task of the removal of Enloe Dam. The entire effort of this proposal would cost \$85,739 for USGS to conduct. Sediment samples results will be available in October 2020.

Dave Duvall inquired if going forward is contingent on sediment results. Fisher said yes, based on the cost to move sediment and if there is contaminate, there would be additional costs to move it.

Duvall stated he is not prepared to vote on the proposal today and requested additional time for review. Accordingly, committee members agreed to Rohr conducting an email vote the following week. Fisher will be excused from the vote.

IX. Potpourri (D. Rohr)

- A. Trout Unlimited Support Letter – Aaron Penvose, TU, requested a letter of support be sent to document the PRCCHSC support of TU's funding proposal to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Regional Conservation Partnership Program. A draft letter was distributed to committee members for review and an email vote was conducted resulting in approval of the letter. Accordingly, the final letter was sent to Aaron Penvose as he requested.

Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency (C. Fisher)** - Nothing new to report.
- B. **(Status) Shuttleworth Creek Projects (C. Fisher)** - Nothing new to report.
- C. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II (J. Cram)** – Aaron Penvose reports the following: In May TU had several check-in calls with one of the Jones-Shotwell Ditch Company (JSDC) Directors regarding the status of the Washington State Conservation Commission consolidated water right application. TU sent the draft application to JSDC for review in April, it's still in JSDC review process. TU continues to field questions from some of the JSDC shareholder inquiring on the status of the project and they all seem eager to see the project move forward to construction. TU will continue to push this project along slow, but sure, in addition to keeping all interested parties up to date on the project status.
- D. **Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (J. Yeager)** - Aaron Penvose reports the following: May was busy for the Barkley/MVID project team, irrigation season started in the middle of April, most shareholders are not using water until early May, giving the team a chance to fine tune the new pump station, pressure pipeline and new individual wells. The Barkley pump station is online and running nicely. The team is working on a pressure difference between the jockey and the booster pumps that use different PSI sent points, the team will monitor this throughout the 2020 irrigation season and adjust as needed. The pressure pipeline is 98% complete, all that remains is installing asphalt on the road crossings and installing a small concrete apron on one of the shareholder services valves, the contractor has scheduled to do both the second week of June. With great relief the Individual wells have all been drilled, pump tested and commissioned and are now in service. There remains one well that needs a finalized easement with an adjoining landowner other than that the wells are performing as designed. The DOT/FAA and Barkley/MVID pipeline undated

easements continue to be a slow-moving process, TU continues to have weekly DOT/FAA conference calls and in addition to Barkley/MVID shareholder outreach to move easements along.

- E. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project (C. Fisher)** – Nothing new to report.
- F. **(Boulder Field) Icicle Creek Fish Passage – Wild Fish to Wilderness Proposal (K. Terrell)** Kate Terrell shared the pipeline is under construction and they are starting with screenhouse next week. Aaron Penvose reports the following: Strider Construction, our selected construction contractor is vetted and under contract, we issued Notice to Proceed on April 29th. Strider has mobilized equipment and materials, clearing and grubbing the pipe alignment in the Snow Lakes Trailhead Parking Area vicinity on May 1st then began pipe installation near the City of Leavenworth Water Treatment Plant (WTP) on May 4th. Despite very rocky digging conditions and having to remove several compact car-sized boulders from the pipe trench Strider managed to complete install of the approximately 400 L.F. of pipe between the WTP and Snow Lakes parking area entrance by May 13th, ahead of schedule. After parking area clean-up and asphalt patching, the parking area was turned back over to the USFS on the 15th. With pipe installation completed, Strider shifted efforts and spent the remainder of the month breaking and removing boulders between the IPID access and USFS roads making good progress.
- G. **Entiat Stormy Project Area “A” Stream & Floodplain Enhancement, Yakama Nation (B. Rogers)** Brandon Rogers shared work is being done to finalize the report.
- H. **Assessment of Sediment Chemistry behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington (C. Fisher)** – Chris Fisher expects result to be published in October 2020.
- I. **Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition (CDLT developmental funding) (J. Cram)** – Nothing new to report.
- J. **Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District Fish Screen Proposal (J. Cram)** – Parties are on board and the project is moving forward.
- K. **Final Construction for Floodplain Re-engagement - Pentiction Channel Culvert Proposal (C. Fisher)** – Dave Duvall shared the agreement should be fully signed as early as next week.
- X. **Next Meeting** – Thursday, July 9, 2020, 1:00 pm, Location TBD

Action items from June 11, 2020 Meeting

1. Rohr will conduct email votes as described in Decision Items above.
2. Duvall will follow up with Kirk Dosser on appraisal activities.
3. Cram will follow up with Mickey Fleming, CDLT, regarding spec sheet for Mill Creek Land Acquisition proposal.