



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday July 16, 2019

(note meeting date change)

1:00 pm

Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

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 (Via Phone)

Justin Yeager, NMFS

Jeremy Cram, WDFW

Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GCPUD

Brandon Rogers, YN

Erin Harris, GCPUD (absent)

Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Decisions made during July 16, 2019 meeting

1. Entiat Stormy Project Area "A" Stream & Floodplain Enhancement, Yakama Nation, affirmed that final approval received.
2. Kahler Creek (Toole and Mardini) Land Acquisition, CDLT, affirmed that final approval received.
3. Funding Request for Additional Irrigation to Native Vegetation at Pentiction Spawning Beds 3&4 (D. Duvall), ONA request for a scope change on \$4,751 in unspent funds was approved.

MEETING MINUTES

I. SAFETY REVIEW - Completed.

- II. Agenda Review** - No additions to agenda.
- III. Approval of Minutes for May 8, 2019** - May minutes approved by all representatives. June meeting cancelled.
- IV. Action Items Review from May 8th Meeting (D. Rohr)**
 - 1. Rogers will keep the committee advised of discussions with CDLT regarding the CDLT Land-Owner Agreement. Completed.
 - 2. A draft formal appraisal process will be developed for committee review and approval. Pending for review and discussion.
- V. Habitat and NNI Funds Report** Pending.
- VI. Summary Report of July 1, 2019 Email CALL FOR VOTE (D. Rohr)**
 - 1. Entiat Stormy Project Area "A" Stream & Floodplain Enhancement, Yakama Nation – affirmed that project received final approval by email CALL FOR VOTE of July 1, 2019. No additional comments on project. YN has the contract for review and signature prior to return to Grant PUD. Rogers said he thought it was signed and returned. ACTION: Duvall to follow up with GCPUD Contracting.
 - 2. Kahler Creek (Toole and Mardini) Land Acquisition, CDLT – affirmed that project received final approval by email CALL FOR VOTE of July 1, 2019.
- VII. Discussion - PRCC Habitat SC Landowner Agreement (All).**
 - 1. Landowner agreement(s) options and next steps for the committee?

Terrell will provide a copy of the landowner agreement template USFWS uses for review by committee members and their legal departments. Is development of contracts for landowners an option for the PRCC HabSC? USFWS does this because they fund agreements; where funding is provided, funders can add approved/not approved activities, however, caution should be exercised to not make landowner agreements so arduous that normal NGO's, etc., won't/cannot sign them. YN felt the CDLT landowner agreement was difficult and unsignable due to extensive contingencies listed in the contract.

Nexus for this group; identify reasonable terms around landowner agreements/projects to ensure typical groups tasked by the committee to conduct restoration work can actually complete the projects. YN has completed 2 (a third is in process) contracts with CDLT, and they've all been different, and progressively more stringent. Rogers wants to be sure we don't end up in a place where we can't do restoration work on CDLT properties. If it was another entity, we would provide a template or identify restrictions for properties.

Should we discuss risk with CDLT and see if we can find common ground? Should we have a landowner agreement that is standard or set by policy? Landowner agreements are what they are, but we still have issues that should be addressed. For example; important District issues are typically included in the contracts themselves (i.e. public access), but should we more broadly consider incorporating language for issues the committee would like to see addressed? If so; the HabSC should consider what we are forcing the restoration proponent to do under the landowner agreements.

2. **HOW TO IMPLEMENT: Two Possible Options:**
 - i. Agree on a standard/generic agreement template with which we are familiar, OR
 - ii. Have project proponents/sponsors submit property-specific landowner agreements with their proposals.
3. **ACTION:** HabSC will continue discussion and Duvall and Rohr will ensure this issue is addressed in the policy document to be developed.

VIII. UPDATE - Icicle Peshastin Irrigation District (IPID) Diversion Fish Screen (J. Cram, K. Terrell). Project is still in design/final design phase and permitting. Construction anticipated to start next year.

IX. IPID Pumpback Options July 23rd Meeting (J. Cram). Rohr distributed information received from Cram regarding Mike Kaputa, CCNRD, scheduling this meeting and HabSC members are invited to attend. Several HabSC members stated their intention to attend and further discussion will occur at the next HabSC meeting.

X. Funding Request for Additional Irrigation to Native Vegetation at Penticton Spawning Beds 3&4 (D. Duvall). ONA is requesting scope change on \$4,751 (labor, supplies, etc.) in unspent funds to irrigate plantings that are struggling under the drought. The additional funds would be for the enhanced riparian zone along for spawning beds construction area. The plantings are a requirement after installing the spawning beds. Fisher noted the requirement for plants was probably from the city. Fisher noted it doesn't really matter to fish if the plants live or die and our focus is really the fish. HabSC's past stance; this should all be included in the original project request. NOTE: This request is a change in scope only and not a request for additional funding, so the group generally supports. **DECISION: approved.**

XI. Potpourri (D. Rohr)

1. Discussion of Policy Document (Appraisal Process and Release of Final Appraisals) - Work in Progress.

- XII. 2019 ONA TOUR Discussion:** hold off until 2020 because the adult return is small this year and next year may be a better option to see fish, along with new or updated projects funded by the committee(s).

Project Updates

A. McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency (C. Fisher). Nothing anticipated to occur on this project this year due to low returns. Fisher would like to know if there is support for installation of a temporary PIT tag detection array above and below the dam. Est. cost \$68,000/array and staff downloading time (Capital and O&M costs). Duvall noted they tagged 10,000 natural origin fish in the lakes. Fisher not proposing this project, just gauging whether the group is interested. Cram noted that this type of work has been done at many barriers and would require using gates at the dam in a way that supported passage where the arrays are located. Yeager wanted to know funding level earmarked for the initial study; currently unknown. **ACTION:** Duvall or Fisher will find out. Cram noted that the data is typically difficult to analyze and WDFW has dedicated staff to do that type of work. Fisher noted that with the arrays you could get all fish with tags not just sockeye.? **ACTION:** Fisher will check with Tom Kahler to determine if there are arrays available from Wells Dam that could be repurposed for this project. Other arrays are located above Zosel Dam and the Okanagan River; Cram suggested the project proponents may want to locate array's above and below, which could show where travel delays exist. **ACTION:** Cram will look into whether he has extra/unused arrays available in his shop.

Fisher's request; are there any strong objections to looking into options further? No one objects to looking into it further.

B. Shuttleworth Creek Projects (C. Fisher)

Still one entity holding out; fish were found in the overflow pond and diversion canal, which was reported to DFO. Likely to be politically contentious going forward.

C. Icicle Creek Boulder Field PIT Tag Array (J. Cram).

No fish so far this year, and none anticipated as they would have likely shown up by now.

D. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II (J. Cram).

(Trout Unlimited Report) Scored the project in RTT. It is going back to SRF Board. Project materials costs have increased quite a bit (due to length of time project was stalled). Some design costs have been funded, but nothing more. Still moving along, was stalled for a long time, but it's moving again.

Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (July 12, 2012) plus 2015/16 O&M Funding (May 14, 2015) - (J. Yeager).

(Trout Unlimited Report) Hurst construction barely made their substantial completion date of June 10th for the phase 1 gravity pipes! This feat allowed

the Barkley/MVID to start running irrigation water to their shareholders. As mentioned above Hurst did make the target date but in doing so made some very aggressive cuts along the MVID/Barkley easement alignment, the project has now been tasked with cleaning these issues up within the easement and the neighboring properties. Hurst has agreed to do the clean-up but this will be a change in the contract and an added cost. During the last week in June, Hurst began to close in on the final clean-up of the gravity pipe install, which we are thankful for. In addition, Lloyd Logging completed the pressure testing of the Davis creek pipeline in June, which was long overdue. The pressure testing was the last piece on the punch list. Looking toward July, for the gravity pipe, all that remains is the de-mob and final clean up.

In admin news, the DOT/FAA easements continue to be a big challenge, at times it feels like we move 3 steps forward, but in short order realize, we took 5 steps backwards. That said the team has brought on another contractor at the request of the DOT aviation to assist in creating some more detailed exhibits. Met with JAviation seems very knowledgeable in this field, hopefully he will help the team get the required Barkley easements. Easements along the Barkley/MVID pipeline alignment continue to get checked off, but slowly.

- E. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project (C. Fisher)** Nothing new to report.
- F. **Nason Ridge Riparian Corridor Project – Placeholder (B. Rogers).**
ACTION: Rohr to remove from the UPDATE list.
- G. **Icicle Creek Fish Passage – Wild Fish to Wilderness (Boulder Field) Proposal (K. Terrell).**

(Trout Unlimited Report) The boulder field lost a little steam in June as we await the federal permits and are in lull with project planning. Low flows on the Icicle this year should accommodate a good site tour with the contractors though and we are still planning on releasing the bid to accommodate a late summer/early fall bid walk. We continue to work with Ecology on their concerns regarding the water quality certification, but are otherwise waiting for the Army Corp to act on the permit request. We continue to work closely with WDFW and are working through the funding process for the COL fish screen. Hopefully progress will be more-steady in July.

- H. **Lower White River Floodplain (Martinson) Phase 1 – Land Acquisition (J. Yeager).** COMPLETED: property has been purchased. Remove from UPDATE list.

Next Meeting – Thursday, August 8, 2019, 1:00 pm, Grant PUD Wenatchee Office. Meeting is cancelled; conference call will be scheduled if needed.

Additional Discussion: Rohr will update the HabSC list of representatives and alternates. Ben Truscott will be Cram's alternate for WDFW, and Hans Smith will be Rogers' alternate for YN.

Action items from July 16, 2019 meeting

1. Duvall will follow up regarding contracting status of Entiat Stormy Project Area "A" Stream & Floodplain Enhancement.
2. Terrell will provide a copy of the USFWS landowner agreement template for review by committee members. HabSC will continue discussion and Duvall and Rohr will ensure this issue is addressed in the policy document to be developed.
3. Fisher, Duvall, and Cram will follow up with questions regarding McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency.
4. Nason Ridge Riparian Corridor Project will be removed from the UPDATES list.
5. Lower White River Floodplain (Martinson) Phase 1 – Land Acquisition will be removed from the UPDATES list.

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