



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 9, 2017
1:00 pm
Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Kate Terrell, USFWS	Chris Fisher, CCT
Dave Duvall, Deane Pavlik-Kunkel (alt), GCPUD	Lee Carlson, YN
Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick (alt), NMFS	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Jeremy Cram, Carmen Andonaegui (alt), WDFW	Erin McIntyre, GCPUD, Admin Assistant
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator	

Meeting Attendees

Kate Terrell, USFWS	Chris Fisher, CCT
Lee Carlson, YN	Dave Duvall, Grant PUD
Jeremy Cram, WDFW	Erin McIntyre, Grant PUD
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Associates	Justin Yeager, NMFS

Decision Made in March 9, 2017 Meeting

1. In conclusion and after discussion, the committee decided to address appraisal requests on a case-by-case basis at the time they are requested.
2. The committee approved the funding not to exceed \$29,270, Fund 602, but contingent on success of the modifications, and if the run is passing alright, the project is to be stopped.
3. The HSC approved funding as requested up to \$225,000, Fund 603, with two contingencies, including all easements must be secured and documentation must be provided of increased shareholder assessments.
4. HSC approved two hardened ford crossings with the upper crossing being installed first. Other alternatives were deemed too expensive, based upon the amount of habitat upstream of the crossing and current salmonid utilization. If the use of the upper ford crossing is satisfactory, the construction of the lower ford crossing would be pursued at a later date. However, if possible, the HSC would prefer that both ford crossings be constructed within the same "in-work window".

Draft Meeting Minutes

- I. **Agenda Review**
- II. **Approval of Minutes for January 12, 2017 Meeting (D. Rohr)** – HSC members approved.
- III. **Action Items Review from January 12, 2017 Meeting (D. Rohr)** – Action items were completed and/or discussed further during meeting.
- IV. **Habitat Funds and NNI Report (placeholder) (D. Rohr)** Rohr reviewed the unencumbered balances of the funds and the amount that each was increased on the annual renewal date of February 15th of each year.
 - A. No Net Impact Fund 601: \$4,195,453 unencumbered amount plus \$989,171 increase
 - B. Habitat Supplemental Fund 602: \$3,836,966 unencumbered plus \$1,061,086 increase
 - C. Habitat Fund 603: \$922,049 unencumbered plus \$379,043 increase
- V. **Follow Up of March 9th, 11:00 a.m., Joint Meeting with HCP Tributary Committee Regarding Entiat Projects / Steve Kolk, BOR (All)** - Steve Kolk, BOR, updated the committees on the status of the Middle Entiat Restoration Project. Kolk reviewed the Primary Project Objectives, which included improving the off-channel habitat availability and quality, improving the habitat complexity, re-engaging the channel forming processes, and improving the floodplain connectivity. Kolk additionally reviewed Landowner/Sponsor Considerations, Project Scope, status of Permit activities, and the Remaining Project Funding information. BOR will handle the project funding with the caveat from Kolk that \$1 – \$1.5 million is currently unaccounted for and they will be looking for additional funding. He commented they need to ensure funding in 2018 and they are planning to move into construction in 2019. Committee members suggested Kolk consider possibly securing SRFB funding. The HSC discussed the presentation and the related activities later in their meeting. The HSC concluded that they will monitor the project as it continues to move forward.
- VI. **Affirmation of Email Vote to Approve Project Proposal: “Entiat Stillwaters Upland Lot Sales and Purchase of Replacement with Riparian Properties”, dated January 31, 2017, CD Land Trust/Mickey Fleming Sponsor, Funding Request of \$12,000 (D. Rohr)** - Affirmed
- VII. **Affirmation of Email Vote to Approve Project Proposal: “Appraiser for Land Acquisitions and Conservation Easements”, dated December 12, 2016, Tom Walters Sponsor, Funding Request of \$10,000 (D. Rohr)** – Affirmed
- VIII. **Update: Silver Side Channel Acquisition and Review Appraisal Activities (D. Duvall)** – Duvall was tasked by the HSC to seek legal advice regarding a possible disclaimer on relinquishing appraisals that had been paid for from HSC funds. A question had surfaced within the committee when a request was made by an individual to obtain a copy of the Silver Side Channel Acquisition Appraisal that had been completed. Accordingly, Duvall shared some legal information with committee members prior to the meeting that related to the outstanding question. Several different aspects and interpretations come into consideration regarding this question, and the committee members discussed the subject in some detail. Concern was voiced that high appraisals may result in a setting of costs for other properties that the HSC may be interested in purchasing in the future. Also, comment was made to consider attaching a notice with the appraisals stating that the committee didn't agree (if

applicable) with the appraisal, so if it's requested, the notice is part of the record. In conclusion and after discussion, the committee decided to address appraisal requests on a case-by-case basis at the time they are requested.

IX. (DECISION ITEM) Project Proposal: "Skaha Dam Fish Passage", dated February 1, 2017, ONA Project Sponsor, Funding Request of \$29,270 (Chris Fisher) –

It was estimated about 60% of the fish were not passing through the fishway. 2 PIT arrays were installed on top of the fishway which resulted in raising the fishway higher than designed. Therefore, the structure has been removed to reduce fishway height. ONA wants to install a camera and see if the fish are passing through the fishway alright, and if the fishway is operating accurately due to the lower than expected entering versus exiting fish numbers.

Discharge through the fishway will double due to the reduction in head on the upper structure, and much more aeration will occur. Concern was expressed questioning if fish can be visibly monitored during this condition. The location of the PIT arrays will be changed with a plan to install a smaller array tube. Also, it should be installed on the back of the structure. Therefore, based on PIT tag data, 39% of fish went all the way through the fishway. After discussion, the HSC agreed that if the problem occurs again this year after the modifications are in place, continue to move forward with the study. But, if the run begins and there's not an issue, stop the project as it suggests the issues have been resolved with the updates to the system. The committee approved the funding not to exceed \$29,270, Fund 602, but contingent on success of the modifications, and if the run is passing alright, the project is to be stopped. Fisher will discuss the contingencies with ONA.

X. (DECISION ITEM) Project Proposal: "Barkley - Operation and Maintenance", dated February 27, 2017, Aaron Penvose/Trout Unlimited Project Sponsor, Funding Request of \$225,000 (J. Yeager) – The requested funding is to provide a portion of the O&M for future years; however, the irrigators are working to offset the costs by increasing the user assessments, which are expected to be implemented in a year or two. Barkley currently spends a little over \$16,000 annually to run its ditch, a figure that includes everything from costs for a bookkeeper to costs of hiring a ditch walker. Under the new system the parties have negotiated, even with the additional endowment funding Barkley requested, Barkley will need to increase shareholder assessments by 100% – and an additional 2.5% annually thereafter – to ensure long-term system viability without the certainty of incurring crippling special assessments every time a pump, control, or valves needs replacement. In other words, without the additional endowment funding, Barkley will not be able to finance the ongoing operation of the new pump-and-pipe system. Due to the expensive future operation the project has come to the point where continued participation and effort by Barkley and dedication by TU and its partners to upgrade the Barkley's system is entirely dependent on our ability to secure \$225,000 in additional funding for a Barkley endowment.

Further, the bottom section of the project needs easements to complete the restoration projects; Barkley-Bear are willing to relinquish and give these easements (2.5 miles) that will be needed by the Barkley-Bear Restoration Project (BPA is paying for reconnect and to provide access, and potentially to restore side channels).

The HSC approved funding as requested up to \$225,000, Fund 603, with two contingencies, including all easements must be secured and documentation must be provided of increased shareholder assessments. Yeager will discuss with TU's Aaron Penrose.

- XI. **Review of Newby Narrows Activities (L. Carlson)** – Rohr will provide additional necessary information to Carlson in order to continue these activities.
- XII. **(Postponed) Spring Tour – Viewing of CE Projects (plus others) (All)** – Decision made to postpone a tour of projects until later in the summer or early fall time period.
- XIII. **Project Summary Spreadsheet (D. Duvall)** – Information was distributed to HSC.
- XIV. **Stormy Creek Fish Passage Project (D. Rohr)** - Robes Parrish, USFWS, attended the March 9, 2017 Habitat Subcommittee (HSC) meeting to discuss the Stormy Creek project which was submitted to the HSC by Spec Sheet dated February 10, 2016. The total funding for this project was \$148,500, and the HSC previously approved funding contribution was \$91,500. Parrish's presentation outlined the current status of the project and stream crossing design considerations. Parrish explained that a lower and an upper crossing were involved and requested HSC consideration. Accordingly, after discussion, the HSC approved two hardened ford crossings with the upper crossing being installed first. Other alternatives were deemed too expensive, based upon the amount of habitat upstream of the crossing and current salmonid utilization. If the use of the upper ford crossing is satisfactory, the construction of the lower ford crossing would be pursued at a later date. However, if possible, the HSC would prefer that both ford crossings be constructed within the same "in-work window".
- XV. **Potpourri:**
 - A. Middle Entiat Projects and BPA Funding – no discussion.
 - B. Restoration Liability Activities – HSC commented they would like to see a copy of the agreement between Chelan County and the CDLT.
 - C. SRFB Funding Activities – brief discussion of funding amounts distributed in the Upper Columbia region.

Project Updates

- A. McIntyre Dam – Improving Fish Jumping Efficiency (Placeholder for 2016 Activities) (C. Fisher) nothing new.
- B. Shuttleworth Creek Projects (C. Fisher)
 - 1. Removal of Allendale and Clark Meadows Dams
 - Looks like it may go through regardless, but much discussion about conservation license (ministry has changed requirement). Trying to get Allendale water (available stored) to be held by ONA license; if they don't hold it, who would is unknown. This will require political pressure by the Tribal Council. The license request is the first the government ever received so they're trying to figure out steps forward and how to deal with it when request is by a Tribe. Is there any influence the committee can apply to support their process and gain the license? Let Chris F. know if we can help in some way.
 - Looks like Allendale Dam will be going out by 2018.

- Clark Meadow is to be removed this fall. Allendale next year (2018). With both removed, the system will be whole and reconnected.
- C. Roaring Creek Flow Restoration and Diversion Removal Project (K. Terrell)
- Permits sent in and signed.
 - Modification of easement RVE off well (move elsewhere), triggered mod to easement. Currently pump off USFWS property and down the road. WDFW property, so need easement. Moving water from Roaring Creek to up Entiat.
 - Construction slated to start May 1st. Diversions out by next year.
- D. Icicle Creek Boulder Field PIT Tag Array (J. Cram). Nothing new. BPA may help fund (meeting currently).
- E. Trout Unlimited – Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II (J. Cram)
- a. Having discussions still.
- F. MVID – Methow Valley Irrigation District (K. Terrell).
- a. Decommission a couple of wells; almost completed.
- G. Silver Side Channel PIT Tag Array (J. Cram) done.
- H. Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (July 12, 2012) plus 2015/16 O&M Funding (May 14, 2015) - (J. Yeager) See discussion above.
- I. Entiat Enlow Flood Plain Protection Acquisition - Update of moving house (J. Cram). Project nearly complete. Well is out (casing out about a month ago).
- J. Stormy Creek Fish Passage Project (K. Terrell) –
- XVI. **Next Meeting:** April 13, 1:00 pm, Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

Action Items for March 9, 2017 Meeting:

1. Fisher to discuss Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project funding contingencies with ONA.
2. Yeager to discuss Barkley O&M Project funding contingencies with TU.