



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday January 14, 2021

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/Action Items – January 14, 2021 meeting

1. Decision: Methow Beaver Project - Students in the STREAM Watershed Steward Program, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation. After discussion committee members decided not to approve.
2. Action: Methow Beaver Project - Students in the STREAM Watershed Steward Program, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation - Duvall will notify Johnson of the committee's decision.
3. Action: Rohr will follow up on creation of a list of questions. Also, Rohr will follow up on Terrell's request for the Martinson and Sugar Dike Deeds of Right to be distributed to committee members for review. Additional review and discussion of Deed of Right subject will continue during the February meeting.
4. Acton: Duvall and Fisher will meet with Mickey Fleming.

MEETING MINUTES

- I. **Agenda Review** – No edits or additions were made to the agenda.
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 10, 2020** – Fisher provided edits that were included by Rohr. Also, Duvall asked that the approved dollar amount of \$66,000 also be included with the Ben Canyon Creek Fish Passage Project affirmation of approval to use Habitat Fund 602. December 10, 2020 meeting minutes are approved with the addition of Ben Canyon Creek Fish Passage Project dollar amount.
- III. **Action Items Review from December 10, 2020 Meeting**
 - A. Dave Duvall to inquire with Grant PUD Lands Department to have either Sheryl Dotson or Blair Fuglie attend the next meeting for discussion of the Deed of Right subject. -**Completed**
 - B. Denny Rohr will email Mickey Flemings request to committee members. -**Completed**
- IV. **Habitat and NNI Funds Report** – The Q3 Report was submitted to members in November 2020. Rohr requested Harris ask Grant PUD for the status of the Q4 2020 Habitat and NNI Funds Report. Duvall commented that the Q4 2020 Habitat Funding report will be ready after February 15, 2021.
- V. **Review and Update - Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project** – Yeager continues to correspond with Greg McLaughlin of Washington Water Trust (WWT). During their most recent conversation, Greg reported that the design and permitting work is taking place. Yeager shared WWP is apparently short on funding, plus Greg has not provided a spec sheet that Yeager has been requesting. Yeager reported Greg may be asking for up to \$750,000 from both the PRCC Habitat SC and the HCP Tributary Committee. The project cost is around \$4,000,000. Fisher asked what the biological benefit will be. Yeager replied it is an on-demand system of 7 to 11 CFS that will allow Leavenworth Hatchery to be independent. The spec sheet, when received, will hopefully provide information outlining the benefits. Fisher also asked if work is planned to start this year, and Yeager was unsure. Committee members discussed and offered some suggestions which Yeager will consider asking to be included in the spec sheet.
- VI. **Deed of Right Review and Discussion, Sheryl Dotson and Blair Fuglie, GCPUD** – Duvall shared a brief history of this topic. Duvall also met with Sheryl Dotson and Blair Fuglie of Grant PUD, Environmental Affairs, Property Services Department, to get information on the Deed of Right subject. Dotson and Fuglie shared they did not have much experience directly with this type of document, and Fuglie commented his understanding that a Deed of Right was very much like a property easement. Duvall asked Dotson and Fuglie who enforces the

conditions included in the Deed of Right, and they were not sure of the answer. Fuglie did share that once the Deed of Right has been recorded, he understands that it is difficult to change. Dotson and Fuglie were unable to attend today's meeting but are available for future discussion as committee members may request.

In prior years CDLT has provided three conditions in the Deed of Right document, namely, 1) protecting real property, 2) providing public access for restoration activities and 3) provide the formula for monetary reimbursement if property is sold. CDLT has remained consistent with these three conditions over the last three times the committee has approved the three Deed of Right documents. Another question that surfaced with committee members was if these three conditions are enough or are more conditions needed? Terrell stated she desires the Deed of Right conditions to remain with the property in perpetuity. Duvall shared his understanding that the committee would have the right to know in advance of any sale of property. Fisher stated he reviewed the Martinson Deed of Right and saw nothing that he thought would create a problem for the committee and instead he understands it to protect the committee. Terrell questioned what would happen if CDLT ceased to exist. Rohr suggested meeting with a professional who could help in answering these questions. After additional discussion, Yeager suggested developing a list of the questions and then decide how to move forward. Rogers suggested consideration of using boiler plate language plus including additional conditions as committee members thought to be appropriate. **Action: Rohr will follow up on creation of a list of questions. Also, Rohr will follow up on Terrell's request for the Martinson and Sugar Dike Deeds of Right to be distributed to committee members for their review. Additional review and discussion will take place at the February meeting.**

VII. Methow Beaver Project - Students in the STREAM Watershed Steward Program, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation – Duvall received a spec sheet from Chris Johnson, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) on this project, and after conversation with Chris, Duvall agreed to bring the proposal to the committee. MSRF is requesting \$29,000 for this project and it is a carryover from another project for outreach and education of their staff. This project will benefit salmon by shifting the focus from high elevation restoration to lower in the tributaries where anadromous fish occur. Part of the discussion included past projects which were partially completed. Terrell also shared that they recently submitted a funding request to USFWS, and that request was denied. Upon further discussion committee members decided to not fund this proposal. **Action: Duvall will notify Johnson with the committee's decision.**

VIII. HabSC Policies Review Rohr provided some background to the committee. He stated that in past years this committee has had discussions on creating a

policy/procedure document and it was decided that it was not something that was needed. Rohr stated there are now several policies created by the committee that need to be identified and cataloged.

- A. Appraisal Process – Rohr discussed this process approved on December 12, 2019 as an example of identifying and cataloging. He commented that he and Duvall will be following up on this action and will share with the committee members moving forward.
- B. CDLT Follow Up – Rohr commented that CDLT had questions regarding the December 12, 2019 Appraisal Process. Additionally, there was committee discussion in the early months of 2020 about meeting with Mickey Fleming, CDLT, to review the new Process. However, during the April 9, 2020 meeting committee members decided to delay this meeting to a future date because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Accordingly, after discussion during today's meeting, Duvall and Fisher committed to meeting with Fleming to discuss the new appraisal process and answer any questions she may have. **Action: Duvall and Fisher to meet with Fleming.**

IX. Potpourri (D. Rohr)

- A. Committee Process Review – 2021 -Rohr shared with members that he wants to make sure they have what they need for meetings. Accordingly, if any process or procedure needs adjusting or modification, please let Rohr know. Fisher asked to be able to view meeting materials on their computer screens during these ongoing TEAMS Webinars rather than looking at a blank screen. For example, display the meeting agenda, spec sheets, maps, and other visual aids and information that is related to the meeting and discussions.

Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency** -Nothing to report.
- B. **Shuttleworth Creek Projects** – Fisher reported he spoke with Kari Alex, ONA, and she said one of the wineries on the pump system has changed ownership but continues to use the groundwater/piped system. Blue Mountain is the only winery that is not part of the ground water system. Kari also commented that Blue Mountain is slowly progressing toward using the groundwater/piped system and discontinuing diverting surface water from Shuttleworth Creek.
- C. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II** -Nothing to report.
- D. **(Placeholder for April 2021) – Funding Activities of Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion – Wilson Property Options Discussion** -Yeager shared this will reconvene in April 2021.
- E. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project** - Fisher commented on the design webinar meeting he attended in December regarding the status of aging VDS Structures between Vaseux and Skaha Lake and possible remedies to

address the potential of failure. Fisher commented that a cost share is needed of approximately \$70,000 for riffle construction or perhaps VDS removal, and ONA may be submitting a spec sheet next month. The next design webinar meeting is to be scheduled in February and Fisher is planning to participate.

- F. **(Add-On) – Lake Okanogan Fish** – Fisher reported that fish are making it into Lake Okanogan and three tributaries have been identified with spawners that appear to be spring Chinook. Approximately 100 Sockeye have made it into the lake also.
 - G. **(Boulder Field) Icicle Creek Fish Passage – Wild Fish to Wilderness Proposal** Terrell shared this project is done and they are wrapping up the screen house. Rohr will remove this from future agendas.
 - H. **Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition – CDLT Developmental Funding / Final Acquisition** -Nothing to report.
 - I. **Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District Fish Screen Proposal (J. Cram)** – Update from Kate Terrell's email - Phase 1, the replacement of the Snow Lakes Trail Bridge will be completed in February 2021. The larger bridge deck will enable construction equipment to cross Icicle Creek for installation of a compliant fish screen, Phase 2. Site preparations for the new screen will be done in Spring 2021 prior to the May 1 start of the irrigation season. The new fish screen is currently being designed and will be installed in Spring or Fall 2021.
 - J. **Final Construction for Floodplain Re-engagement - Penticton Channel Culvert Proposal** -Fisher provided an update on activities for this spring. Final excavation is expected to be conducted for the alcove during February and March when the ground is frozen.
 - K. **Assessment of Sediment Chemistry behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** – Fisher spoke with USGS asking for update, and the chemistry analysis will not be completed until 2/12/2021.
 - L. **Determine volume of Sediment Accumulated behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** – Fisher commented that a report is expected by the end of the month.
 - M. **Ben Canyon Creek Fish Passage Project** -Nothing to report.
- XI. **Next Meeting** – Thursday, February 11, 2021, 1:00 pm, Location – TEAMS webinar