



## PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

### Conference Call

Thursday, 14 May 2026  
 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### Final Meeting Minutes

#### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

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Tracy Bowerman, Shelby Fowler (alt), USFWS	Chris Fisher, CTCR
Dave Duvall, Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel (alt), GPUD	Brandon Rogers, Hans Smith (alt), YN
Scott Carlon, Sean Gross (alt), NMFS/NOAA	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Jeremy Cram, Cody Gillin (alt), WDFW	Erin Harris, GPUD
Nathan and Clayton Buck, Wanapum	Tracy Hillman, BioAnalysts, Chair

#### Meeting Attendees<sup>1</sup>

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Brandon Rogers, YN	Dave Duvall, GPUD
Jeremy Cram, WDFW	Chris Mott, GPUD
Tracy Bowerman, USFWS	Chris Fisher, CTCR
Erin Harris, GPUD	Nathan Buck, Wanapum
Tom Kahler, DPUD*	Catherine Willard, CPUD*
Tracy Hillman, BioAnalysts, Chair	

\*Participants from the HCP Tributary Committees who joined for the Coordinated Resource Management Riparian Stewardship Package discussions.

#### Action Items:

- Dave Duvall will determine whether Grant PUD will need to modify their contract with BioAnalysts, Inc., to include Becky Sadler to track funded projects and provide project updates during PRCC HabSC meetings.

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<sup>1</sup> Scott Carlon was unable to join the meeting. He provided his votes on decision items after the meeting.

## Decision Items<sup>2</sup>:

- **Decision:** *PRCC Habitat Subcommittee supports the use of Becky Sadler to help track projects and provide project updates during Habitat Subcommittee meetings.*

### I. Welcome and Introductions

Tracy Hillman welcomed everyone to the meeting and participants introduced themselves.

### II. Coordinated Resource Management (CRM) Riparian Stewardship Package (with the HCP Tributary Committees)

Tracy Hillman reminded the committees that during the last meeting, members worked through the table of sites that identify and rank restoration projects for adaptive management. During the review last month, the committees realized the coordinates for project sites did not match with the Site Name or Stream in the spreadsheet. This made members question whether the other information in the spreadsheet (e.g., RM, Stream Length Affected, Riparian Acres, BDAs, etc.) matched correctly with the Site Name and Stream. Members opined that only the coordinates were incorrect; however, without knowing for sure, the committees were unable to identify which sites they would recommend being included in a proposal. Tracy shared this concern with the sponsor, and the sponsor provided an updated spreadsheet with corrected information.

Members worked through the updated spreadsheet and would like to see a proposal requesting funds to adaptively manage the following restoration sites:

- Lower Peshastin
- Merrit Oxbow (Nason Creek)
- Alder-DS
- Peshastin 2.5
- Jones (Chumstick Creek)
- Roaring Creek-DS
- Roaring Creek-US
- Goodwin Side Channel (Wenatchee River)
- Stormy Creek

Members agreed that the proposal should be submitted to the HCP Tributary Committees. As the sponsor prepares the proposal for the HCP Tributary Committees, they need to describe each project site, what work was completed on each site, identify possible adaptive management actions, and identify the estimated cost by site. Much of this information is already contained in their spreadsheet; therefore, it should be relatively easy for the sponsor to provide this information in the proposal.

### III. Lunch

### IV. Agenda Review

The PRCC Habitat Subcommittee reviewed and approved the May meeting agenda.

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<sup>2</sup> All decision items listed here were approved by PRCC HabSC members.

## V. April Meeting Notes

PRCC HabSC members reviewed and approved the 9 April 2026 meeting notes.

## VI. Review Action Items

The PRCC HabSC reviewed the following action items from the April meeting:

- Tracy Hillman will contact Cascade Fisheries and let them know that there are errors in the CRM Riparian Stewardship Package spreadsheet. Tracy will request a revised spreadsheet, which the PRCC HabSC will review during their May meeting. **Complete. Tracy distributed the revised CRM Riparian Stewardship Package spreadsheet to members on 9 May 2026.**
- Tracy Hillman will let Mike Kaputa (Chelan County Natural Resources Department) know that he can present an update on the Peshastin Creek Pump-back Project to the PRCC HabSC (a joint meeting with the HCP Tributary Committees) on 9 July 2026. **Complete.**

## VII. Project Updates

Members of the PRCC HabSC provided the following updates on funded projects:

- **Primary Appraiser (Pacific Appraisal Associates)** – Dave Duvall reported that Pacific Appraisal Associates is working on the Roaring Creek-Nysether Acquisition appraisal.
- **Primary Appraiser (Noble Ag Land Valuation)** – Dave Duvall reported that Noble Ag Land Valuation is working on the Rains property appraisal. CDLT provided the deed for the Rains property to the appraiser to lower the appraisal cost.
- **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II Project (TU)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that Smith Excavation completed the electrical and programming of the PLC inside the pump station and wrapped up the installation of the Chelan County PUD power and fiber. Initial startup occurred on 10 April; however, it was short lived because of an air relief valve leak. After adjustments and repairs, the system was up and running on 20 April. Final commissioning and punch-list work is ongoing, and final inspection will take place once water demand increases. The Jones Shotwell Ditch Company is expected to take control of the system in early July. The sponsor is also assisting shareholders with opening service connections and operating their existing irrigation systems. The shareholders appear delighted with the pressurized system. Dave Duvall indicated that the sponsor is working with Grant PUD on the recently approved change order.
- **Peshastin Creek RM 2.5 Project (CF)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that the sponsor is completing contracting with Stider Construction. The sponsor, Strider, and Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT) met to discuss traffic control and site access. In April, a new well was drilled for the landowners to replace the existing one that was within the construction footprint. The sponsor also continued landowner coordination, which included two zoom meetings. The landowners are excited to see the project take shape. This coming month, Strider will begin submitting construction submittals. The sponsor will review and comment on the submittals. The sponsor will finalize their agreement with WSDOT, which will authorize the sponsor to complete the work.
- **Bockoven Entiat and Stormy Acquisition Projects (CDLT)** – Jeremy Cram reported that there are no new updates on these two projects.

- **Canyon Creek Culvert Design and Construction Project (CF)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that there is no update on this project.
- **Eagle Rocks Habitat Enhancement Project (MSRF)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that the Eagle Rocks project was completed in 2024 and is now in the monitoring and adaptive management phase. The sponsor is currently working on outreach.
- **Skyline Screen and Fish Return Upgrades Project (MSRF)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that the sponsor removed the final portion of corrugated metal pipe; installed, fused, and partially backfilled the HDPE (High-Density Polyethylene) pipe; completed initial installation of turnouts for landowners; and flushed and tested the new pipe.
- **Penticton Dam Fish Passage Construction (ONA)** – Chris Fisher and Dave Duvall reported that this project is complete. Grant PUD is waiting for the final invoices for this project.
- **White River Ohme Acquisition (CDLT)** – Dave Duvall said there is no update on this project. Grant PUD is waiting for the final invoice.
- **Enloe Dam Sediment Analysis and 30% Design (TU)** – Chris Fisher indicated that based on arsenic elutriate toxicity testing, the proponent would like to do a controlled release of sediment stored behind Enloe Dam. Okanogan PUD and Okanogan County, however, are concerned about liability associated with a controlled release of sediment. Their position could open the door to refute the elutriate testing. The sponsor may conduct additional deep sediment core sampling just upstream from the dam. This additional sampling would cost around \$250,000. A public meeting is scheduled for 8 June 2026.
- **Methow River Riparian Stewardship (MSRF)** – Dave Duvall reported that the sponsor continues work on individual properties, including barb wire fence removal, battery operated irrigation system for new plantings, and debris cleanup. Outreach with local stakeholders is ongoing.
- **M2@3R Habitat Construction (MSRF)** – Dave Duvall reported that the sponsor continues design coordination, site visits with Methow Conservancy and WDFW, landowner engagement for staging materials, and incorporating FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) comments into the application. Final design adjustments and permitting coordination are in progress.
- **Libby Creek Fish-Passage Barrier Dam Removal (CF)** – Tracy Bowerman said the sponsor hired American Land and Water to perform a preliminary feasibility assessment on moving the irrigator from a surface water diversion to a groundwater well or a Ranney well.
- **Sugar Channels Reconnection Project (MSRF)** – Tracy Bowerman reported that on Sugar Left (Phase 1), the sponsor continued ongoing maintenance of riparian plantings, began initial restoration of the staging area, documented activation of side channels, and began initial discussions with the engineers about project performance and channel connectivity. Regarding Sugar Right (Phase 2), the sponsor reported that they awarded the contract to Hurst and are coordinating construction work with the contractor. Construction will begin on 1 July. Finally, regarding Sugar Upper Left, the sponsor awarded the contract to Pipkin and is currently coordinating construction work with the contractor. Sugar Upper Left construction will begin on 1 September. Wood has been delivered to the site.
- **Methow River – Integrated CMZ Project (MSRF)** – Dave Duvall reported that the sponsor is waiting on clarification from Ecology about matching funds.

- **Wenatchee-Okanogan Comprehensive Thermal IR Surveys (CCD)** – Chris Mott reported that the sponsor has secured the necessary insurance as required in the contract with Grant PUD. Contracting is now complete and survey work is pending.
- **Roaring Creek-Nysether Acquisition Project (CDLT)** – Jeremy Cram reported that Pacific Appraisal Associates is working on the appraisal.

## **VIII. Restoration/Protection Projects**

### **CRM Riparian Stewardship Package**

This agenda item was discussed with the HCP Tributary Committees (see Section II).

### **Chelan County Natural Resource Department (CCNRD) – Lower Chiwawa River Area D Restoration Project**

Dave Duvall reported that CCNRD will submit a specification sheet on the Lower Chiwawa River Area D project, which is a cost share with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and HCP Tributary Committees. The purpose of the project is to address factors limiting spring Chinook Salmon and steelhead life stages (i.e., holding, summer and winter rearing, and fry colonization) in Reach 4 of the Lower Chiwawa River Assessment Unit (RM 6.6-7.3). The project will enhance floodplain connectivity, side-channels, riparian canopy cover, instream cover (wood), deep pools, and temperature (rearing). The completed project will improve conditions along 0.6 miles of mainstem channel; create 1,000 linear feet (lf) of side-channel habitat; enhance a cold-water tributary confluence; consolidate/reduce dispersed camping; decommission up to 1,000 lf of unauthorized roads; and reduce potential for future impacts and enhance vegetation within 15 streamside acres. Dave said the total cost of the project is \$1,882,583. The request from the PRCC HabSC will be \$823,158. Dave said the PRCC HabSC should receive the specification sheet from the sponsor soon.

## **IX. Administration and Information Updates**

### **SRFB 2026 Schedule**

Tracy Hillman reviewed the Salmon Recovery Funding Board schedule for 2026. Important dates are noted below:

- Final Application Due: 27 May 2026
- Review Final Applications: 11 June 2026

### **Becky Sadler Assist with Project Tracking and Updates**

Tracy Hillman indicated that Becky Sadler will retire from Chelan County PUD, but will remain the coordinator of the HCP Tributary Committees as an employee of BioAnalysts, Inc. During the last PRCC HabSC, there was some discussion about Becky also tracking funded projects and providing project updates during PRCC HabSC meetings. Tracy Hillman said that Becky is willing to do this but will not replace the role of the liaisons, who are ultimately responsible for tracking project evolution and completion. Tracy Hillman also noted that this would require a modification to the current contract between Grant PUD and BioAnalysts. All members supported Becky tracking and providing updates on funded projects. Dave Duvall will check internally on whether Grant PUD needs to modify the contract between Grant PUD and BioAnalysts.

***Decision:*** *PRCC Habitat Subcommittee supports the use of Becky Sadler to help track projects and provide project updates during Habitat Subcommittee meetings.*

## **X. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the PRCC HabSC will be on 11 June 2026.