



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

09 January 2014

Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members (HSC)

Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick, NMFS	Kate Terrell, USFWS
Chris Fisher, CCT	Dave Duvall, GCPUD
Lee Carlson, YN	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Jeremy Cram, c. Andonaegui, WDFW	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Meeting Attendees: (*Denotes PRCC HSC member)

Jeremy Cram, WDFW*	Chris Fisher, CCT*
Dave Duvall, GCPUD*	Lee Carlson, YN*
Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick, NMFS*	Kate Terrell, USFWS*
Debbie Williams, GCPUD (via phone)	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Action Items:

- 1. Notify Rohr of all edits/changes to the PRCC and Habitat SC List of Projects.**
- 2. Duvall will make arrangements for the appraisal of the property in the Natapoc Habitat Restoration Properties Strategic Acquisition.**
- 3. Cram will provide funding information for the additional array at the mouth of Icicle Creek. Rohr will request an email vote on the additional array.**
- 4. Rohr will contact Rickel and email the HSC a “track changes” copy of the conservation easement and landowner agreement.**
- 5. Rohr will contact Mickey Fleming for an update on the Bremer Property, Phase 3.**

Decisions:

- 1. The HSC agreed that an HSC approved appraiser conduct the appraisal on the Natapoc Habitat Restoration Properties Strategic Acquisition; Duvall will make arrangements.**
- 2. The HSC approved spending \$117,806 from Habitat Fund 603, to fund the Icicle Creek Boulder Field Pit-Tag Array Proposal.**

Final Meeting Minutes

- I. Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.
- II. Action Items Review** - Action items identified during the 15 November 2013 PRCC Habitat Subcommittee (HSC) meeting were discussed, or completed.
 1. Rohr will discuss the Tye Ranch Project Proposal with Mike Rickel, CCD. **Ongoing**
 2. The HSC will compile a list of proposed NNI projects for the joint PRCC/PRCC HSC meeting on December 18, 2013 in Cle Elum, WA. **Complete**
 3. Duvall will continue to work on the Blackbird Island Project Use Authorization Permit No. 23-084466. **Not discussed**
 4. Duvall will contact Mitch Delabarre for a status update on the Methow River 1890s Side Channel Groundwater Gallery Properties Strategic Acquisition. **Complete**
 5. Cram will check to see if the Robinson appraisal is complete. **Complete**
 6. Chiwawa Nutrient Enhancement Project - Cram and Duvall will work with Jason Lungren to rework the proposal and reduce the cost. **Ongoing**
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - A. December 18, 2013** – Approved
- IV. Habitat Funding Report through 30 November 2013** – Rohr will send the updated reports when he receives them.

Fund	Balance	Unencumbered Balance
No Net Impact Fund 601	\$5,692,911	\$4,631,535
Habitat Supplemental Fund 602	\$5,215,448	\$3,239,025
Habitat Fund 603	\$1,055,260	\$578,300

Total	\$11,963,619	\$7,927,860
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- V. **Request for Additional Review of PRCC and Habitat SC List of Projects** – Tom Dresser updated the Habitat list after the December 18th meeting (it is dated 12/30). Dresser has requested HSC members to review the updated list and to pay close attention to items in red. **Notify Rohr of all edits/changes.**
- VI. **Process and Timing for Project Submittals**– HSC members agreed that proposals can be submitted to the HSC for review at any time. The HSC can then agree to take action or wait until the next meeting.
- VII. **Natapoc Habitat Restoration Properties Strategic Acquisition** – Terrell is concerned about spending more money on the appraisal than on the purchase price of the land. A yellow book appraisal as well as a hazmat appraisal needs to be conducted; there are no indications that this property was ever a hazardous dumping site. **The HSC agreed that an HSC approved appraiser conduct the appraisal; Duvall will make arrangements.** In March, HSC members requested a presentation of findings; at that time they will decide to purchase the property, or not.
- VIII. **Icicle Creek boulder Field PIT-Tag Array Proposal** – Cram explained that Yakama Nation’s concerns regarding this proposal have been addressed; as long as spring Chinook fisheries in the lower river aren’t affected, they no longer oppose this project and have agreed to reconsider the proposal.

The objective of this proposal is to identify how many and which species of fish encounter the Icicle Creek boulder field. The amount of \$117,806 is being requested to install, operate, and maintain two PIT-tag arrays (above and below boulder field). If approved, and after the project has been constructed and evaluated, WDFW proposes to move the lower array to the mouth of Icicle Creek, because the existing array only has one antenna. Fisher cautioned that the array not be moved until several years of data, at different water levels, are collected. Duvall suggested that an additional array be installed at the mouth of Icicle Creek to add detection capacity at this site. The array could be installed the last two weeks of March. **The HSC approved spending \$117,806 from Habitat Fund 603, to fund the Icicle Creek boulder Field PIT-Tag Array Proposal. Cram will provide funding information for the additional array at the mouth of Icicle Creek. Rohr will request an email vote on the additional array.**
- IX. **Future Methow Valley Irrigation District Instream Flow Improvement Project (MVID-IFIP) Diversion Removal from Twisp River** – Terrell, Fisher, and Bambrick have reviewed the 30% design drawings. The HSC is awaiting an updated spec sheet from Lisa Pelly.

- X. **ONA Spawning Platforms** – This proposal entails installing sockeye spawning platforms in the channel between Skaha and Okanogan Lake. Fisher was unaware of the timeline of this project, and if funding would be requested this year.
- XI. **Project Updates**
- A. **McIntyre Dam Jumping Efficiency Report** – Fisher will distribute the report electronically.
 - B. **Nason Creek LWP Flood Plain Reconnection Project** – No update.
 - C. **Wenatchee Nutrient Enhancement Proposal** – No update.
 - D. **Icicle Creek Boulder Field Assessment Project** – Terrell reported that the contract has gone out for design.
 - E. **Tyee Ranch Project** – Rohr explained that Rickel sent him a new conservation easement in November, but because of email size limitations, he never received it. Rickel resent the document again last week and Rohr was able to download it on a different computer Rohr said the document wasn't in Track Changes so he will contact Rickel to request changes be highlighted in some manner. Rohr will then review the document and distribute to the HSC for review. After review of the document, the HSC will determine approval or denial of the project funding, including the \$35,000 Cascadia Conservation District spent on an appraisal prior to having a signed contract, as well as approval of changes to the conservation easement and landowner agreement. **Rohr will contact Rickel and email the HSC a "track changes" copy of the conservation easement and landowner agreement.**
 - F. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project** – Project complete; final report will be forthcoming; discussion of potential field trip is being discussed by Terrell and Rohr.
 - G. **Shuttleworth Creek Project** – Diversion dam won't be pulled until the conclusion of one irrigation season.
 - H. **Methow River 1890s Side Channel Groundwater Gallery Properties Strategic Acquisition** – Carlson reported that the contract has been reviewed and signed by the YN and Grant PUD. Funds have been dispersed to landowners. **Remove from agenda.**
 - I. **Roaring Creek Flow Restoration and Diversion Removal Project** – Cultural resources survey is complete, feasibility has been conducted on the intake, landowners are on board, special use permit request will be made to WDFW. They are trying to

install before irrigation season starts (March.) Terrell was not aware if permits have been started.

- J. Bremer Property, Phase 3 – Rohr will contact Mickey Fleming for an update.**
 - K. Robinson Acquisition Project – Complete. Remove from agenda.**
 - L. Barkley Irrigation Company, 2012-2014 Diversion Change –**
Bambrick reported that they are working to remove water and pump it back up to users.
 - M. Chewuch River Permanent Instream Flow Project – No update.**
 - N. Peshastin and Icicle Irrigation Districts Pump-back System Options Feasibility Study – No update.**
- XII. Tour of Projects – No update until the weather is better.**
- XIII. Next Meeting:** February 13, 2014 at 1:00 p.m., Grant PUD Hatchery/Habitat, Wenatchee Office.