



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
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PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting
FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 12, 2018

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
Lee Carlson, Brandon Rogers (alt), YN
Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Erin McIntyre, GCPUD, Admin Assistant

Meeting Attendees

Chris Fisher, CCT
Dave Duvall, GCPUD
Justin Yeager, NMFS
Jeremy Cram, WDFW
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Brandon Rogers, YN
Erin McIntyre, GCPUD, Admin Assistant
Patrick Weyena, GCPUD (Via Phone)
Kate Terrell, USFWS
Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GPUD (Via Phone)

Decisions made during the July 12, 2018 meeting

1. June 14, 2018 meeting minutes were approved.
2. Members decided to stop funding activities to CDLT regarding the Colockum Confluence Land Acquisition Project and to not proceed with a property appraisal; HSC members are not interested in pursuing a conservation easement for this property.
3. Members decided additional review necessary before any decisions will be made for the Nason Ridge Riparian Corridor Proposal from CDLT.

- I. **SAFETY REVIEW** – completed by Dave Duvall
- II. **Agenda Review** – No additions
- III. **Approval of Minutes for June 14, 2018 (D. Rohr)** – Approved.
- IV. **Action Items Review from June 14, 2018 Meeting (D. Rohr)**
 - A. E. McIntyre to check on Habitat Funds Reports. – Complete
 - B. Rohr will contact Mickey Fleming, CDLT to request attendance at next meeting for discussion regarding Nason Ridge Riparian Corridor Proposal and Colockum Confluence Land Acquisition Project. - Complete
- V. **Habitat Funds and NNI Report (D. Rohr)** – Preliminary reports for Q2 were distributed to committee members listing unencumbered funds as No Net Impact Fund 601 - \$5,034,361, Habitat Supplemental Fund 602 - \$5,116,070, Habitat Fund 603 - \$1,695,255. A final Q2 report will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.
- VI. **(2:00) Nason Ridge Riparian Corridor, Mickey Fleming, CDLT (L. Carlson)** – Committee members discussed this project at the last meeting and concluded they were supportive of continued review. Fleming was asked to attend today's meeting for additional review and discussion. Fleming informed committee members that the property has changed hands since the last HSC meeting and Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC), Portland, OR now owns the property. WRC does not typically own and manage land acquisitions for the long term and they will be looking for purchasers to acquire the property, which consists of a 3,712-acre block near Nason Ridge. As described in the Project Spec Sheet dated April 9, 2018, the role of the CDLT is to help with private fundraising, be the local liaison with the community, and provide some assistance to WRC in matching up the long-term owner(s) with community values as developed in the Upper Wenatchee Community Lands Plan and Biological Strategy. CDLT is requesting \$10,000 administration funding from PRCC Habitat Subcommittee to work with WRC and funding activities are expected to take up to a couple of years or more. Chelan County NRD has been identified as the lead to do some restoration work on the property. Over 1 mile of river frontage exists and steelhead spawning has been identified in the area. After extensive review and discussion, committee members decided to have further discussion to consider possible options, including potential HSC acquisition activities. HSC member Rogers also indicated the Yakama Nation may have interest in acquisition. Committee members concluded their discussion with no action regarding the CDLT funding request. Moreover, they decided to tour the property during the September HSC meeting to gain further information to assist with their continued review and discussion regarding any decisions to be made. Rogers will work with WRC and coordinate with Rohr to schedule a tour of the area.

VII. Colockum Confluence Land Acquisition Appraisal, Mickey Fleming, CDLT, (D.Duvall)

- A. Discussion – Conservation Easement vs Land Acquisition – Committee members had previously approved \$5,000 funding for CDLT to pursue acquisition of the property. However, Fleming commented that recent discussion with the land owner has concluded that a conservation easement is now the desired outcome for the property. Committee members informed Fleming they were not interested in pursuing a conservation easement and that any additional work by Fleming on this project as funded by the HSC should stop. Committee members expressed disappointment that most of the \$5,000 approved for CDLT to work on acquisition has been paid and now it has been changed to be a conservation easement activity. The CDLT contract will be closed.
- B. Appraisal Selection Activities – Duvall informed committee members that all appraisal activities for this project have been stopped.
- C. Fleming additionally mentioned a previously proposed project relating to the Icicle and Wenatchee Confluence, including Peninsula Island, and that CDLT was still pursuing with the land owner. HSC had previously closed further discussion regarding this project as they felt the expectations were unreasonable. Fleming commented the property has not sold and CDLT is continuing to follow activities regarding the property.

VIII. Summary of Fish Tagging In Silver Side Channel between 2014 and 2017 (J. Cram)

Cram reviewed a WDFW staff report dated July 2, 2018 for this project. Starting in 2014 and continuing through the fall of 2017, WDFW personnel operated backpack electro-fishers in the Silver Side Channel (SSC) to collect, PIT-tag, and release juvenile salmonids. This work was done to estimate the species composition, distribution, and relative abundance of ESA listed salmonids in the SSC, and to compare these data for two periods – before habitat restoration (i.e. treatment) and after treatment. Further, treatment only occurred in two of the four sections (sections 1 and 2), and therefore they consider those sections “treated” and Section 3 and 4 to be untreated “control” sections for evaluation purposes. Additional discussion included fish sampling efforts and results, which indicated ESA-listed steelhead and Chinook Salmon were both present in the SSC during the fall sampling period, as well as non-ESA listed Coho Salmon. Conclusions and observations outlined in the report were reviewed as well. At the conclusion of the HSC discussion, Cram’s question was if the program should continue or should they take a break from these activities. Cram requested the HSC review the July 2, 2018 WDFW staff report and provide comments plus be prepared to discuss the question at the next HSC meeting.

- IX. Potpourri (D. Rohr)** – Rohr updated the committee members that HR 2083 regarding sea lions in the lower Columbia River had been approved by the House, and a companion Senate Bill, SB 3119, has been introduced and is awaiting action. Additionally, Rohr informed the members that a Northern Pike Forum is scheduled for July 24th in Spokane, plus a Northern Pike Workshop on July 18th & 19th is also scheduled in the Airway Heights area near Spokane. Both of these are open to anyone desiring to attend.

Project Updates

- A. McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency (C. Fisher)** – No new information
- B. Shuttleworth Creek Projects (C. Fisher)** – Fisher provided an update of current activities.
- C. ORRI Update (C. Fisher)** – Fisher stated the project is to start early next week on the Penticton Spawning Platform #4. They will create a bank area to stage the materials and completion is expected in approximately 6 weeks.
- D. Roaring Creek Flow Restoration and Diversion Removal Project (K. Terrell)** – Under construction and expected to be completed in mid-August.
- (TU REPORT) In the month of June, the contractor made a lot of progress on the Roaring Creek project. They were busy and we are getting close to completing the construction phase. Work included 95% of all the 6 inch main line install, the half street overlay on Roaring Creek Road (including the grind out and pavement install), and starting construction on the RCWUA pump station building. In addition the 4 inch mainline for RCWU was tested and passed mechanical and pressure testing. The old ERV pump building was demolished and removed. The team decided to move the ERV 6 inch mainline from the North side of Entiat River Road to the South side, w creating a change order to the contracted price. However, the reason for the change was due to phone and fiber lines on the north side of the road making it very difficult to navigate install of the 6-inch line. Smith was very accommodating and reasonable, it was the right decision. As a result, Smith made good progress on the South side of the road and did not run into any problems. Pipe averages were between 300-500 ft/day. Smith excavation continues to do top quality work - neat and tidy. The have been easy to work with too. The Roaring Creek project is on schedule and moving along nicely and should make our substantial completion date of July 13th 2018.
- E. Icicle Creek Boulder Field PIT Tag Array (J. Cram)** – Nothing new
- F. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II (J. Cram)** –Nothing new, holding and waiting for completion of internal water rights report.
- G. Silver Side Channel PIT Tag Array (J. Cram)** – See VIII discussion above.

- H. Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion (July 12, 2012)** plus 2015/16 O&M Funding (May 14, 2015) (J. Yeager) – Yeager commented the pipe has been ordered and should come this fall. Email of details was distributed this week.
- I. Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project (C. Fisher)** – Nothing new
- J. Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project (J. Yeager, D. Duvall)** – Nothing new
- K. Wenatchee Basin Barrier and Diversion Inventory Proposal – CCFEG (K. Terrell)** – Final draft coming out shortly.
- L. Colockum Confluence Land Acquisition (D. Duvall)** – See VII discussion above.

Next Meeting – Thursday, August 9, 2018, 1:00 pm, Grant PUD Wenatchee Office – HSC members agreed to cancel the August meeting due to scheduling conflicts of several members.

Action items of July 12, 2018 meeting

1. Rogers will work with WRC and coordinate with Rohr to schedule a tour of the Nason Ridge area.
2. Duvall will close the contract with CDLT for the Colockum Confluence Land Acquisition Project.
3. Rohr will add a discussion of fish tagging in the Silver Side Channel to the agenda for discussion at the next HSC meeting.

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