



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting
FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
Thursday October 8, 2020
1:00 pm
Microsoft Teams

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

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

Meeting Attendees

Chris Fisher, CCT - Absent	Brandon Rogers, YN
Dave Duvall, GCPUD	Erin Harris, GCPUD
Justin Yeager, NMFS	Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc
Jeremy Cram, WDFW	Kate Terrell, USFWS
Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GCPUD	

Decisions made during October 8, 2020 meeting

1. No final decisions were made during the October 8th meeting.

MEETING MINUTES

- I. Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - A. August 13, 2020 minutes **Approved**. The September meeting cancelled.
- III. Action Items Review from August 13, 2020 Meeting**

1. Yeager will follow up with Aaron Penvose, TU, and with Chris Johnson, MSRF, regarding the disposition of the Wilson Property. – **Discussion ongoing at agenda item V below.**
2. Yeager will follow up with gathering more information regarding the funding status of the Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project – **Discussion ongoing at agenda item VII below.**

IV. Habitat and NNI Funds Report Q3 - Erin Harris to check in with Accounting for Q3 Report.

V. Review and Update – Funding Activities of Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion

A. Review of Wilson Property Sale – Review and discussion of options: Justin Yeager shared that he talked to Chris Johnson with MSRF and Aaron Penvose of Trout Unlimited. When talking with Chris Johnson they discussed an analysis that highlights an area that pushes the river right with restoration work. MSRF is looking forward to doing the restoration work. Yeager also shared that Penvose would be alright with releasing title of the Wilson property, and Penvose said he is happy to do whatever the committee decides. Yeager also stated that TU is not in a hurry to start any work on the property and that the National TU office shared they do not want to hold onto the Wilson Property. It was also shared that the house located on the property is currently occupied by a renter. Penvose would like to be involved in the decision if agreeable with committee members as to how this is handled. Brandon Rogers asked if we had approached TU and offered funding to complete the project or did TU request it? Yeager responded that TU needed money to finish the Barkley project and they approached us with the idea of selling the Wilson Property. However, we decided to give them the money to finish the Barkley project with the thought of further reviewing the final disposition of the Wilson Property as it has restoration value. Rogers shared he would like to have restoration work done to the Wilson Property but continue committee discussion later about selling it. Kate Terrell shared that she also would like to hold onto the Wilson Property for restoration with it being transferred to MSRF, but not sure what to do about the rental. Dave Duvall said if TU is in no hurry to release the property and there is no risk to holding on to it, we can let it remain as it is and consider the disposition in the future. Jeremy Cram is leaning toward the idea of waiting also. ***ACTION: Yeager will communicate with Aaron Penvose and Chris Johnson and share the committee discussion regarding restoration of the property; discussion will continue at the next meeting.***

VI. Update - Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition Jeremy Cram reached out to David Morgan and Mickey Fleming of CD Land Trust and learned that the Forest Service and Weyco are communicating directly with each other. Cram shared that this project is moving forward and with no stewardship funding as it is under discussion as a direct transfer from Weyco to the Forest Service.

Therefore, this could result in some cost savings overall. Dave Duvall asked about the status of receiving a spec sheet, and Cram shared he expects a spec sheet will coming soon from Fleming. Duvall asked if funding to acquire the property is still needed and Cram confirmed it is.

- VII. Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project** -Justin Yeager shared he talked with Greg McLaughlin, Washington Water Trust, in August, and McLaughlin said they moved the pump location for the third time, going about 2-2.5 miles upstream in the Icicle Creek. They are now looking at 8 cfs and this is more than expected. McLaughlin had also talked to Yeager about attending a shareholders meeting to discuss the project, but there has been no follow up from McLaughlin. Additionally, McLaughlin commented that construction is set to start in 2021. Yeager has been in contact with BPA and they are moving on and not planning to fund this project. Yeager spoke with Jenni Novak, WDFW, and she will be meeting with Dave Rice in October to discuss pump location and screen projects. Cultural staff have also shared there are a lot of artifacts in the area and cultural issues need to be addressed. Kate Terrell shared the LFH wants separation from Cascade Orchards. Committee members agreed that there is value in restoring water quality in Icicle Creek and the importance of doing it properly. In conclusion, Terrell suggested members table the discussion today while everyone does their own research on this subject and be prepared to engage in further discussion at the November meeting. Brandon Rogers agreed with Terrell stating he has a stake in this while others may not. Dave Duvall also questioned what the consequences might be if we do nothing. **Action: Tabled; committee members to do their own research over the next few weeks and be prepared to discuss at the November meeting.**

- VIII. Potpourri** - Nothing new reported.

Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency**– Nothing new to report.
- B. **Shuttleworth Creek Projects**– Nothing new to report.
- C. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II** (*From Aaron Penvose monthly report*) *There was no movement on this project in September. TU continues to check in with the JSDC Director regarding their review of Conservation Commission IEGP application and to see if there is anything TU can assist them to help them move this along. Until TU receives the signed application from the JSDC folks we are on hold.*
- D. **Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion** – See agenda item V above. Also, (*From Aaron Penvose monthly report*) *In September the contract for gravity pipe and North of Evans Rd. tree removal by Selland's, sub-contractor Swedberg Contracting started the tree removal process the first week in September. Swedberg's team began tree removal on the north end of the project and headed south and was moving right along until the third*

week in September when they were shut down due to dry hot conditions in the Methow valley. In addition, TU worked on organizing the Phase II Gravity irrigation project, with a start date of October 1, 2020. There were several different aspects of the project that needed to be worked out. TU continues to work on outreach with property owners and shareholders for the fall construction window as well as ongoing easements for the BIC/MVID. TU keeps all interested parties informed on the day to day progress of this very worthwhile project.

- E. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project** - Nothing new reported.
- F. **(Boulder Field) Icicle Creek Fish Passage – Wild Fish to Wilderness Proposal** - Denny Rohr thanked Kate Terrell for sending out a video to committee members of the work taking place. Terrell shared it's very busy there right now and plans to take more videos and continuing sharing them with committee members. Also, *(From Aaron Penvose monthly report) In September the project contractor focused on excavation of material in schedule B portion of the contract. The step pool channel started to take form, working from the bottom up. The contractor fine-tuned the entrance to the fish way and was able to complete pools 1-4. Work on the upstream waterline and fish screen also continued in earnest through the month. The biggest accomplishment on schedule C was the placement of the precast greenhouse building, which is now in its forever home. All and all the progress is steady and we expect the contractor to keep breaking away at it through October. Substantial completion is anticipated the first week of November.*
- G. **Entiat Stormy Project Area “A” Stream & Floodplain Enhancement, Yakama Nation** Nothing new reported.
- H. **Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition (CDLT developmental funding)** – See above item VI.
- I. **Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District Fish Screen Proposal** – See above item VII.
- J. **Final Construction for Floodplain Re-engagement - Penticton Channel Culvert Proposal** - Nothing new reported.
- K. **Assessment of Sediment Chemistry behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** From email received from Chris Fisher: *As of today, only the results of the surface grab samples are available. I don't know if all the 82+ grab samples have been analyzed. However, of the samples analyzed, none of the chemical compounds or heavy metals of interest/concern were detected above background levels.*

The results of chemical composition within the core samples (13 ranging from 7.5 to 35.9 feet below existing riverbed) are expected to be available during November.

- L. **Determine volume of Sediment Accumulated behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** – From email received from Chris Fisher: *late last week the USGS has completed the bathymetry of the impoundment, including shoreline topography. The USGS team is scheduled to return to the site (last week of this month) and using ground penetrating radar identify the bathymetry of the historic channel. The difference between the existing and historical channel bathymetry will provide the estimated volume of sediment/bedload that has accumulated behind the dam.*
- XI. **Next Meeting** – Thursday, November 12, 2020, 1:00 pm, Location – MS TEAMS webinar
- IX. **Additional Agenda Items:** Additional Info: Nothing added to 10/8/2020 meeting.

Action Items from October 8, 2020 Meeting

1. Yeager will have additional discussion with Aaron Penvose, TU, and Chris Johnson, MSRF, regarding committee discussion of disposition of Wilson Property.
2. Committee members to do their own your research over the next few weeks and be prepared to discuss Cascade's Orchard project further at the November meeting.