



PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 8, 2021

1:00 pm

Zoom Webinar Meeting

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Dave Duvall, Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel (alt), GCPUD

Justin Yeager, Dale Bambrick (alt), NMFS

Jeremy Cram, Ben Truscott (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

Attendees

Chris Fisher, CCT

Brandon Rogers, YN

Dave Duvall, GCPUD

Jeremy Cram, WDFW (absent)

Denny Rohr, D.Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Justin Yeager, NMFS

Kate Terrell, USFWS

Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GCPUD

Erin Harris, GCPUD - Absent

Decisions made during April 8, 2021 meeting

1. Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Proposal was approved by committee with funding from Habitat Fund 603 for up to \$515,000.
2. Minnow Creek Fish Passage Restoration Proposal was approved by committee with funding from Habitat Fund 602 for up to \$37,100.

MEETING MINUTES

I. **Agenda Review** – No additions to agenda.

II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

A. February 11, 2021 – approved.

B. March 8, 2021 – approved.

- III. Action Items Review from February 11, 2021 and March 8, 2021 Meetings**
- A. ACTION: (February 11) Nason Ridge Acquisition - Members will email their questions to Rogers and he will respond at the April 2021 meeting. completed
 - B. ACTION: (February 11) Review and Update - Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek Flow Restoration Project - Rohr and Yeager will discuss Greg McLaughlin, (Washington Water Trust) attending the April 2021 meeting. completed
 - C. ACTION: (March 8) D. Rohr, B. Rogers and J. Yeager will put together questions and additional conditions request to present to CCNRD and RCO. Voting consideration will be on-hold until a later date to be determined.
completed
- IV. Habitat and NNI Funds Report – Q1, 2021 expected soon.**
- V. Nason Ridge Acquisition Proposal –** Rogers explained current activities and status of the proposal including CCNRD continuing to have discussions with additional funding sources. Accordingly, Rogers suggested a pause be placed on this proposal for perhaps a couple of months. After discussion, committee members agreed, and Rogers will keep members advised moving forward.
- VI. Cascade Orchards Icicle Creek (COIC) Flow Restoration Proposal –** Yeager received a completed project specifications application from Greg McLaughlin, Washington Water Trust, which was distributed to committee members for review prior to today’s meeting. This is an instream flow restoration project and Yeager reviewed project information and details. It was noted that this project will share a diversion point with the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery and include an increase in the instream flow of up to 20 cfs at the hatchery and down to the COIC intake. Yeager also commented the project will begin probably in 2022. **After additional discussion, committee members approved funding from Habitat Fund 603 for up to \$515,000, subject to concurrence from Cram who was absent from today’s meeting.**
- VII. Minnow Creek Fish Passage Restoration Proposal –** Terrell reviewed the project specifications application that was received from Cascade Fisheries which was also distributed to committee members for review prior to today’s meeting. The purpose of the project is described “to restore fish passage and connectivity to 3.74 miles of high-quality, cold-water habitat in the Chiwawa River subbasin. A 33% fish passage barrier culvert will be replaced with a 60’ long steel bridge that will allow for full fish passage. The project will primarily benefit ESA listed steelhead and bull trout”. The total proposed budget is \$236,448 with a PRCC HSC funding request of \$37,100. **After further review and discussion, committee members approved funding from Habitat Fund 602 for up to \$37,100, subject to concurrence from Cram who was absent from today’s meeting.**

VIII. Deed of Right – Follow-Up Review and Discussion

- A. Deed of Right -- CDLT / Martinson Project – Affirmation of committee “Email Vote of Approval of February 23, 2021” to sign the Martinson Project Deed of Right document – Rohr explained and affirmed the outcome of the voting activity.
- B. Deed of Right Examples and Review – Rohr reviewed the information received from Mickey Fleming, CD Land Trust, regarding Deed of Right information included within certain example documents. This information was distributed to committee members prior to the meeting for review.

IX. Potpourri

- A. Habitat Policies and Procedures Document Review – Duvall distributed document information prior to today’s meeting for members’ review that included “Selected Boilerplate Language for PRCCHSC Habitat Contracts”. Duvall reviewed details of the document with the members and commented this information will be included in the Habitat Policies and Procedures Document currently under development.

Project Updates

- A. **McIntyre Dam - Fish Jumping Efficiency** – no new information.
- B. **Shuttleworth Creek Projects** – no new information.
- C. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project, Phase II** In March, TU continued monthly check-in calls with one of the JSDC Directors regarding the Conservation Commission IEGP Application review process. Unfortunately, there has not been a lot of progress on the application review and currently TU is not moving the project forward until this application review and approval has been completed. TU continues to field questions regarding the proposed JSDC irrigation upgrade project from JSDC shareholders and interested parties, and all are eager to see the project move forward.
- D. **(Placeholder for April 2021) – Funding Activities of Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion – Wilson Property Options Discussion** In March, Selland Construction mobilized their equipment. By the second week in March, they had a crew working on installing services/valves along the Phase II Gravity pipelines. The same week, Swedberg Contracting, Selland’s subcontractor for the tree removal process, was on site as well removing trees and clearing & grubbing the pipeline alignment. Currently, it appears that Selland is going to be around 120 feet short of the specified pipe, and with an extreme shortage of HDPE pipe in the US. Thankfully, between Selland and the TU team, we were able to come up with both 32 and 26-inch pipe to fill the shortage. Selland is working on getting another crew to come on board the 1st of April to help with the last stage of the pipe install around Mill Hill, near Twisp. At Mill Hill, Selland will connect to the existing MVID 26-inch mainline that serves their East side shareholders. Substantial completion is set for April 30th, 2021 and it appears that Selland should have water flowing by that date, although they will still

have some clean-up and other tasks that will need to be addressed before final completion is granted. After a long-haul, the DOT/FAA easements are close to being finalized, and hopefully by the end of April, these will finally be wrapped up.

- E. **Skaha Dam Fish Passage Project** – Fisher informed members he will be in attendance for the ONA / Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries meeting April 19th regarding preliminary design of the vertical drop structure.
 - F. **Weyco (Weyerhaeuser) Mill Creek Land Acquisition – CDLT Developmental Funding / Final Acquisition** – no new information.
 - G. **Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District Fish Screen Proposal** – Terrell informed the committee that Jeff Dengel, WDFW, will attend the May 13th meeting to discuss a project cost increase of approximately \$30-50,000. Terrell reported that the access bridge is now in place, plus IPID is increasing their in-kind contribution. Committee will be receiving a new spec sheet to address the cost increases and for discussion when Dengel attends the next meeting in May.
 - H. **Final Construction for Floodplain Re-engagement - Penticton Channel Culvert Proposal** – no new information.
 - I. **Assessment of Sediment Chemistry behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** – Fisher informed committee members that USGS and Ecology are comparing conclusions of their sediment chemistry analyses, and a meeting is to be scheduled probably around May 1st to discuss details, including more sampling. Terrell informed Fisher and committee members that a USFWS expert in this field works in their Spokane office and may be available to provide some assistance as may be desired.
 - J. **Determine volume of Sediment Accumulated behind Enloe Dam on the Similkameen River, Okanogan County, Washington** – no additional information.
 - K. **Ben Canyon Creek Fish Passage Project** – Terrell informed committee members that construction is scheduled to begin this summer.
- X. **Next Meeting** – Thursday, May 13, 2021, 1:00 pm, Location – ZOOM webinar

Action Items from April 8, 2021 Meeting

1. Rohr will contact Cram regarding concurrence with committee members approval of Cascade Orchards and Minnow Creek proposals.
2. Yeager will check-in with Aaron Penvose, TU, regarding follow up of Barkley Project plus Wilson Property options.
3. Terrell will follow up with Jeff Dengel, WDFW, on spec sheet for the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District Fish Screen Proposal cost increases.
4. Fisher will keep committee advised of meeting of USGS and Ecology around May 1st regarding Enloe Dam.