



Grant County  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**  
*Innovation & Excellence... Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*

## **PRCC Habitat Subcommittee**

**Thursday, October 12, 2006**

**2:00 to 5:00 pm**

**Chelan PUD Auditorium**

**Wenatchee**

### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Chris Fisher, CCT

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

David Morgan, USFWS

Ben Lenz, GPUD

Bob Rose, YN

Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Chris Parsons, WDFW

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

**Attendees: David Morgan, USFWS; Lee Carlson, YN; Chris Fisher, CCT; Chris Parsons, WDFW; Dale Bambrick, NMFS; Ben Lenz, Grant PUD; Shannon Lowry, Grant PUD**

### **Action items:**

- Lee Carlson will e-mail Yakama Nation approval of the Skookumchuck land purchase to Shannon at Grant PUD.
- Parsons will contact Sara Walker of the ECD concerning submission of a project proposal for the Entiat Stream Gage funding.

## **MEETING AGENDA**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval/Finalize/Affirmation:
  - A. Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2006
  - B. Affirmation of Email Voting re Skookumchuck Creek Project
- III. Status/Review of Habitat Funds
  - A. Review of Habitat Funds Information Sheet
- IV. Update of LIDAR Project
  - A. Kitsap County Contract, Update/Status re Flights, Product Schedule
- V. Discussion Re Funding of Entiat USGS Gaging Stations
  - A. (Place holder for future discussion)
- VI. Discussion of Committee Members Future Projects
  - A. Omak Creek Culverts – Update/Status (Chris F)
  - B. Skookumchuck Creek – Update/Status (Dale)

- C. Further Discussion of Private Land Acquisitions or Conservation Easement (Bob)
  - D. Further Discussion of Cascade Orchards Irrigation Co – (David)
  - E. OTHER
- VII. Follow Up Discussion re Expedited Permitting Process for Projects Benefitting ESA Listed Species (Dale)
- VIII. Next Meeting: November 9, 2006, Wenatchee

### **FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

- I. Welcome and Introductions** – Ben Lenz of Grant PUD welcomed subcommittee members.
- II. Approval/Finalize/Affirmation:**
- A. Meeting Minutes for September 14, 2006 – approved.
  - B. Affirmation of Email Voting re Skookumchuck Creek Project – Lee Carlson will e-mail Yakama Nation approval of the purchase to Grant PUD.
- III. Status/Review of Habitat Funds**
- A. Review of Habitat Funds Information Sheet – Funds from all three accounts total \$2,703,024, as of Sept. 30, 2006.
- IV. Update of LIDAR Project**
- A. Kitsap County Contract, Update/Status re Flights, Product Schedule – Lee Carlson stated that the LiDAR flight which was supposed to occur last week was grounded due to mechanical difficulties. Flights were scheduled to be completed this week.
- V. Discussion Re Funding of Entiat USGS Gaging Stations** – Parsons stated that an e-mail between the Entiat Conservation District (ECD) and YN from spring 2006 requested funding for three USGS gages in the Entiat. WDOE does not have funds available for stream-gaging, noted Parsons. The ECD requested that the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee consider ongoing funding for the gages. Parsons will contact Sara Walker of the ECD concerning submission of a more detailed project proposal.
- VI. Discussion of Committee Members Future Projects**
- B. Omak Creek Culverts – Update/Status (Chris F) –Culverts for the projects are ordered and will be installed simultaneously. Construction should be complete by the end of November.
  - C. Skookumchuck Creek – Update/Status (Dale) – Bambrick thanked the subcommittee members, particularly Ben Lenz of Grant PUD, for their e-mail approval of the Skookumchuck land purchase. Lenz noted that he has

been in contact with Peter Dykstra from the Trust for Public Lands concerning a land acquisition contract. The land purchase should be complete this fall.

- D. Further Discussion of Private Land Acquisitions or Conservation Easement (Bob). Carlson noted that Keely Murdoch is working with landowners on the proposal. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting concerning land-ownership issues.
- E. Further Discussion of Cascade Orchards Irrigation Co – (David). Morgan stated that WDFW and other agencies are meeting next week to discuss the irrigation diversion proposal. Morgan is working on making contact with members of the Cascade Orchards Irrigation Co.
- F. OTHER – The 62-acre Godwin property has been appraised at \$375,000. Owners are holding off on listing the property until the subcommittee acts on the purchase. Lenz stated that the owners are willing to wait until next spring. The 8-acre Kahler Glen property appraisal is not yet complete. A wetlands delineation is being done and should be complete in the next month or so. Parsons noted WDFW's support of the purchase. Purchasing both parcels would be beneficial, stated Lenz. Further discussion will occur at the November PRCC Habitat Subcommittee meeting.

VII. **Follow-Up Discussion re Expedited Permitting Process for Projects Benefiting ESA Listed Species (Dale)** - While initial discussion occurred on using PRCC Habitat funds to develop a programmatic Biological Assessment (BA) that could be a consultation under section 7 for the projects funded by Habitat Accounts, Bambrick noted that funding may be more appropriate through the HCP funding process. The subcommittee agreed to take the proposal off the table for discussion.

VIII. Next Meeting: November 9, 2006, Wenatchee, 2 p.m., Chelan PUD auditorium.