



**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**PRCC Habitat Subcommittee**  
**Conference Call**  
**Monday, April 16, 2007**  
**1:30 – 3:00**

**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

**Participants:**

\*Chris Parsons, WDFW  
\*David Morgan, USFWS  
\*Chris Fisher, CCT  
\*Dale Bambrick, NMFS

\*Ben Lenz, Grant PUD  
Denny Rohr, facilitator  
Shannon Lowry, Grant PUD

**Distributed items:**

- Lenz distributed an updated project proposal for purchase of a 62-acre piece (referred to as the Godwin property) on Nason Creek.

**Action items:**

- Rohr will follow-up with Rose concerning scheduling the LiDAR informational workshop.
- Rohr will contact Rose concerning approval of Grant PUD's purchase of the Godwin property.
- Lenz will distribute an updated project proposal for purchase of the eight-acre Kahler Glen parcel on Nason Creek.
- Bambrick will notify subcommittee members once a determination is made on whether the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee could use NMFS' account for interactive conference call technology.

**Decision summary:**

- CCT, NMFS, WDFW and USFWS voted to support purchase of the property by Grant PUD with Habitat Funds. The purchase is approved pending Rose's approval.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed subcommittee members.

- II. **Agenda Review** – Rohr requested changes to the agenda.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - A. **March 14, 2007** - approved
- IV. **Report of Current Habitat Funds – SSA / BiOp –**

PRCC Habitat Funds totals through March 31, 2007:

  - NNI Habitat Account - \$2,455,616.00**
  - Habitat Supplemental Account - \$1,783,815.00**
  - BiOp Habitat Account - \$795,827.00**
- V. **LIDAR Update** – Not all invoices have been received to date. Rohr will follow up with Bob Rose on scheduling an informational workshop concerning the LiDAR data.
- VI. **Update Omak Creek Culvert Replacement** – CCT is working on putting together additional funding for the contractor based on delay of the construction project. Fisher stated that an estimated \$2,500 funding from BPA and \$10,000 from Habitat Funds will likely be offered to the contractor as compensation. Fisher hopes the issue will be taken care of in the next month or so.
- VII. **Upper Twisp River Property Update** – The property owners of the proposed land purchase have not yet re-contacted the Methow Conservancy. Morgan reiterated that if the land is purchased by the Conservancy, it would in turn sell the property to either the USFS or to a private owner. All proceeds from the sale would either be returned to the PRCC Habitat Funds or set side into a riparian habitat protection account at the Methow Conservancy. Project cost is estimated at \$392,000 (including appraisal fees). Morgan noted that the USFS plans to provide a letter of interest indicating the property would likely be purchased by the USFS in 2009 with Land and Water Conservation Funds. The letter is on hold until the landowner contacts the Conservancy concerning the purchase.
- VIII. **Godwin Property Update** – Lenz distributed an updated project proposal for purchase of a 62-acre parcel (referred to as the Godwin property) on Nason Creek. Because a purchase by WDFW would likely take six to eight months and the landowners are anxious to sell the property, the subcommittee was requested to approve Grant PUD assuming full ownership responsibilities to purchase the Godwin parcels and hold them for conservation purposes until other ownership can be defined. Ownership issues can be discussed at a later date. An appraisal (previously paid for by Habitat Funds) and closing costs

estimated at \$400 would bring the total estimated purchase price to \$378,200. Bambrick asked if Grant PUD would request a budget for management of the lands. Lenz noted if the property is owned by the District long-term, that would be a possibility, but if ownership is short-term, it would not be an issue. Parsons noted that WDFW's estimated cost for managing the property was \$2,500 per year. The subcommittee approved Grant PUD's purchase of the property, with CCT, NMFS, WDFW and USFWS voting to support purchase of the property by Grant PUD. The purchase is approved pending Yakama Nation's confirmation. Rohr will contact Bob Rose.

- IX. **Kahler Glen Property Update** – A wetlands delineation to finalize the appraisal of the 8-acre parcel should be complete within two weeks. A final appraisal will be received in six to eight weeks. Lenz will provide an updated project specification sheet concerning purchase of the property once the appraisal is received.
- X. **NNI Fund Discussion** – Lenz provided a draft Habitat Plan to Rohr, who is reviewing the document. The draft will soon be provided to subcommittee members. Morgan asked if the document will be discussed prior to a proposed combined meeting between the PRCC and the Habitat and Hatchery subcommittees. Rohr confirmed that such discussion will take place prior to a combined meeting. Parsons noted that WDFW is currently working on a project proposal for predation studies on resident fish for NNI funding. Fisher expressed CCT's concerns that the data would be gathered but not acted on. Parsons noted that in internal discussions within WDFW, she asserted that action on the data needs to be part of the project proposal.
- XI. **Discussion of Conference Call Technology** – Rose and Bambrick provided Rohr a link to the website providing information on an interactive conference call technology. Bambrick noted the subcommittee could possibly access the technology through NMFS' account with the provider. Bambrick will notify subcommittee members once a determination is made.
- XII. Lenz noted that the **Salmon Habitat Projects Conference** (sponsored by Salmon Recovery Funding Board) is being held on April 26 in Tacoma. Gordon Congdon and Chris Johnson are guest speakers. Lenz requested permission to provide an exhibit (pamphlet and poster) concerning the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee and its activities. The subcommittee supports development and presentation of the exhibit.
- XIII. **Next Meeting** – Tuesday, May 15, 8 a.m., conference call.