



**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**PRCC Habitat Subcommittee**  
**CONFERENCE CALL**  
**Tuesday, May 15, 2007**  
**8:00 – 9:00 am**

**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

**Call Participants:**

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

Ben Lenz, GPUD  
Denny Rohr, Facilitator  
Julie Yount, GPUD

**Distributed Items:**

- Habitat/NNI Accounts summary as of April 30, 2007
- Draft NNI Funding Document

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- Rohr to distribute minutes of the Chelan County Commission meeting wherein the road vacation regarding the Cascade Gardens site was discussed.
- Rohr will send NNI funding process bullets in rough draft format for comment by the Habitat SC. Parsons requests also a copy of the Habitat Plan which will be sent as well.
- Lenz and Yount to review other conference call technology options available to Grant PUD.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Introduction of Julie Yount who will be taking over minutes and other administrative duties for the HSC.

**II. Agenda Review**

**Agenda additions:**

Fisher indicated an ONA submittal for additional work on channel reconnection is still pending but should be final at June meeting. Could be able to break ground this summer. Fisher will distribute a spec sheet to the committee as soon as it available. This continues a project funded through the HCP.

**III. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- A. April 16, 2007 – Approved as mailed.

- B. Affirmation of Bob Rose approving purchase of Godwin Property as discussed during April 16, 2007 meeting –Rohr contacted Rose after the meeting since he was unavailable. He did approve as well.

**IV. Report of Current Habitat Funds – SSA / BiOp**

Reviewed report of fund balance report forwarded by Rohr. No comments by the committee.

|                                  |                       |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>No Net Impact Fund</b>        | <b>\$2,465,759.00</b> |
| <b>Habitat Supplemental Fund</b> | <b>1,791,183.00</b>   |
| <b>Habitat Fund</b>              | <b>799,299.00</b>     |

**V. LIDAR Update**

Rohr indicated he was not aware of status. This update will be tabled until Rose can provide status. Still pending is the need for a workshop to review data.

**VI. Update Omak Creek Culvert Replacement**

Fisher provided an update. He spoke to contracting folks yesterday, but so far no word back from the contractor has been received. The contractor was apparently willing to accept \$.50 on the dollar to settle the dispute.

**VII. Upper Twisp River Property Update**

Morgan indicated he had not spoken to Catherine, but she left a message stating there is no landowner interested at this time. Land prices continue climbing so perhaps owners are wishing to hang on for a bit longer.

**VIII. Godwin Property Update**

Sheryl Dotson, GCPUD Lands Specialist, is working through a purchase and sales agreement with property owners. Morgan questioned if this is the same property that the County is balking at ROW. Lenz indicated that issue related to the Cascade Gardens site. Status of the Cascade Gardens/Chelan County situation remains the same. The county is still asking for justification of the public benefit of the spring Chinook hatchery program for the citizens of Chelan County. Rohr and Tom Dresser met with Ron Walter who appeared to be willing to assist if possible with the situation, suggesting perhaps moving the road to another location on the property. Topic will likely come up at the public meeting to be held on Thursday evening to continue coordination, cooperation and collaboration. Rohr offered to distribute minutes of the Chelan County Commission meeting to the Habitat Committee wherein the road vacation regarding the Cascade Gardens site was addressed. Mike Kaputa gave Morgan the sense a few months ago that the county was not supportive of the program and did not appear willing to make concessions on the vacation.

**IX. Kahler Glen Property Update**

Lenz stated the wetlands delineation survey in process so final appraisal may be within the month. There is interest in selling.

## **X. NNI Fund Discussion**

Rohr expressed thanks to Lenz for putting together document on funding programs, sent out late yesterday via email. Rohr recommended putting this information together with the NNI process, which includes 9 process summary points. He reviewed the general assumptions: Grant PUD is required by the Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSA) to establish the NNI fund. Grant PUD is directed by the SSA to develop Habitat Plans annually, subject to the approval of the parties. Grant PUD may use the Habitat SC Habitat Plan as their annual plan. The Habitat SC has developed a specification sheet process. The Habitat SC follows a process to approve the spec sheets for expenditures out of the NNI funds. Following these assumptions, Rohr concluded that the Habitat SC drives the NNI fund expenditures through this process through the annual Habitat Plans and project selection process.

Morgan indicated that there may be some who wish for additional detail in the Habitat Plan; that the plan is very general and at the January joint meeting there was some question as to the thoroughness of the Habitat Plan. Lenz stated it does call for coordination with other parties and cited participation in the SRF Board Habitat Projects Conference and Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Implementation Team as examples.

Rohr stated the language should be tightened up, but there are caveats in the SSA stating Grant “*may*” ....

Rohr suggested that every January at the joint meeting there should be particular attention to review the Habitat SC Habitat Plan and officially adopt such as the official annual plan. It should be reviewed at that time to ensure it continues to be effective. Parsons asked if it linked in any way to the Salmon Recovery Plan, to which Rohr stated no.

Rohr understood that Carmen would be making a presentation to the PRCC on May 23. Parsons states it is still in draft, and that she would be working with Tom Dresser to finalize the proposal. Rohr stated it should ultimately require a spec sheet to be completed by Carmen, just as any other project would require. No disagreement has been expressed by either committee.

Rohr will send process summary points in rough draft format for comment by the Habitat SC. Parsons requests also a copy of the Habitat Plan.

## **XI. Discussion of Conference Call Technology**

Bambrick checked on technology used by NMFS but it is not available to outside groups. Rohr suggested Lenz and Yount review other options available to Grant PUD.

## **XII. Other Items**

### **SRF Board Habitat Projects Conference:**

Lenz reported that he attended the conference and presented a poster of the annual summary of Habitat SC projects from the last year. Approximately 400 people were in attendance. Gordon Congdon spoke on White River, covering the general situation overall. The Methow Salmon Recovery project was discussed, as well as the Fulton Diversion project. Lenz noted this project (Fulton) is now complete and final billing resulted in the project completing under budget. Parsons stated it was a difficult project due to fires and increased sediment issues.

**May 22-23 PRCC BBQ and PR Project Tour –**

Rohr sent an invitation to all Habitat and Hatchery SC members and has heard back from a few. Julie Morgan of UCSRB and Eric Gaedke of FERC are scheduled to attend. Everyone welcome to join the BBQ/social on May 22 in Ephrata, and can join the PRCC tour of Wanapum and PR facilities on May 23. Parsons expressed interest in attending both.

This is not the same format as the joint meeting held last year. Due to the White River public meeting, it just did not work with Hatchery SC schedule. June is also not good due to ONA meetings. Rohr states he is shooting for a joint meeting in July.

**XII. Next Meeting : June 14, Wenatchee, following HCP tributary meeting.**

Discussed if a conference call or face-to-face was preferred. Committee stated calls have been working well. After discussion, it was suggested dovetailing on the HCP Tributary Committee meeting on June 14 in Wenatchee would work best for schedules. No objections.