



Meeting Minutes

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Friday, January 11, 2008
Conference Call

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Dale Bambrick, NMFS
Chris Fisher, CCT
Bob Rose, YN
Chris Parsons, WDFW

David Morgan, USFWS
Ben Lenz, GCPUD
Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Denny Rohr, Facilitator

ATTENDEES: (* denotes PRCC HSC member)

Dale Bambrick, NMFS*
Chris Fisher, CCT*
Bob Rose, YN*
Denny Rohr, Facilitator*

David Morgan, USFWS*
Ben Lenz, GCPUD*
Chris Parsons, WDFW*

Distributed Items:

- **Habitat Funds spreadsheet**
- **Habitat Rehabilitation of Nason Creek at Squadroni Property: Phase 1 Project Specification Sheet**

Action Items:

- **Fisher will look at the drop structure diagram and provide the PRCC HSC with drop structures elevations upstream of McIntyre Dam.**
- **Fisher will call into the PRCC meeting on Jan. 23, 2008, to answer questions PRCC members might have about ORRI.**
- **All available spring Chinook and steelhead redd information pertaining to the Nason Creek Restoration project reach will be provided by Lenz.**
- **Rose and Lenz will schedule meeting with Jones before end of January.**
- **Lenz requested comments from members regarding future USGS scope of work proposed by Rose.**

Decision Summary:

- **The PRCC HSC approves seed money for preliminary design of the Nason Creek Large Woody Debris project. The PRCC HSC asked that the proposal for installation of large woody debris on Nason Creek reflect the concept, number of structures, timing of installation, areas of re-vegetation and budget.**
- **Committee approved non-payment of invoice until LiDAR product is approved by Rose and Lenz.**

Meeting Minutes

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. Agenda Review – Rohr removed agenda item. Discussion will take place at the next meeting when the PRCC HSC meets in Wenatchee. Committee approved.
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - A December 14, 2007 - approved
- IV. Action Items Review – Members reviewed and updated action items.
- V. Project Proposals Status
 - A Goodfellows Fish Enhancement Morgan met with Joy Juelsen and other Chelan County reps. David M. explained the PRCC HSC wasn't interested in doing restoration work at this time, but might reconsider if the original scope of work is modified by the landowner. The PRCC HSC is interested in the proposal if a reconnection project is possible. Presently there is no viable proposal to do habitat work at Goodfellows, noted Bambrick. Rohr proposed removal from future agendas until a more viable option is proposed. Committee approved.
 - B McIntyre Dam contingencies status (Fisher) - Fisher supplied PRCC HSC and Bryan Nordlund, NMFS, with drop structure jump heights downstream of McIntyre Dam. The data shows that drop structures downstream of McIntyre Dam have less vertical drop than ones above the dam. Parsons questioned what higher upstream structures meant to McIntyre Dam. Fisher explained that during an isolated storm in 2000, a screen was lifted from a sockeye outlet structure at Skaha Lake. The fish had no problems getting through that vertical drop structure. **Fisher will look at the drop structure diagram and provide the PRCC HSC with upstream drop structure elevations.** After review of the downstream drop structure data provided by Fisher, Bryan Nordlund recommended that the PRCC and PRCC HSC move forward with using NNI funds to construct the project as long as all other contingencies have been met. It was

noted that the Town of Oliver contingency hasn't been met to date. Parsons questioned if the fish screen was the only contingency the Town of Oliver needed to meet. Bambrick stated it was. Terry Long will be the project coordinator for Okanagan National Alliance (ONA), noted Fisher. Long inquired about funding status to date, commenting that August is the only window of opportunity to complete this project. She has a finite time frame to complete permitting, design (currently 30% complete) and find a contractor to complete the project. Long explained to Fisher that if approval isn't received by the PRCC soon, the project will have to be pushed out to 2009. PRCC members will be asked to approve the McIntyre Dam project on Jan. 23, 2008.

- C Blackbird Island (David) - Morgan approached Bob Stroup of the Icicle Chapter of Trout Unlimited. He was excited about the project. He planned on presenting the Blackbird Island proposal at the Jan. 9, 2008 board meeting of Trout Unlimited. Morgan stated Mike Kaputa and Joy Juelsen, Chelan County had inquired about this project, but he hasn't gotten back to them yet. He's still waiting to hear from Stroup. Parsons requested that before the HSC starts the JARPA permitting process, they talk to Bob Steele and Bruce Heiner, WDFW. She thought this project should be exempt from the Chelan Co. shoreline and SEPA permits.
- D ORRI (Okanagan River Restoration Initiative) Project (Chris F.) - After the ORRI project was presented to the PRCC on Dec. 23, 2008, they questioned what would happen to the upper half of the river after the lower half of the river is complete. Lenz stated the upper half of the river could still be completed in the future for a small amount of money. The lower part of the river where the ORRI project is being proposed would reconnect a natural channel, as where the upper portion of the river would be to create a new channel. Lenz noted that at this time the Canadian Ministry is not willing to complete the entire project, citing the need to know if the first half of the project will be successful before completing the second half. The Canadian water management group wants proof of concept before moving on stated Fisher. **Lenz and Fisher will call into the PRCC meeting on Jan. 23, 2008, to answer questions PRCC members might have.**
- E Nason Creek LWD (Ben) - Lenz proposed installation of large woody debris and/or rock structures at RM 11 of Nason Creek to increase habitat diversity (scour pools, refuge cover, pool tailouts, etc.) in this reach. The property owner, John Squadroni, owner of approx. 100 yards of Nason Creek frontage is an arborist who is concerned with saving salmon and their habitat.

Lenz explained that this is an active spawning ground for spring Chinook and steelhead. Redd locations are generally associated with scour pools and possibly hyporheic flow in this reach. The largest disconnected oxbow on Nason Creek is located directly across from this property. Reconnection of this oxbow would provide juvenile refuge from high water events. The shoreline has been denuded of vegetation noted Lenz. Lenz is requesting seed money to start the design process with LGL engineering. (Rose joins call) Parsons suggested that Lenz contact Bruce Heiner, Gina McCoy, and Bob Steele, WDFW, citing this location is just upstream of the first rock spur structure installed by Bob Steele, WDFW years ago. Rose explained that the YN received funding from the PCRf that may be available to the HCP and PRCC Tributary/Habitat committees for similar projects on Peshastin Creek and upper Wenatchee River. The YN is using Herrera Consultants for engineering support on their projects. Rose suggested that Herrera could also potentially be used as the engineering firm on this project. Lenz wasn't comfortable with this as LGL had been instrumental in the proposal of this project. Rose and Lenz will talk off line regarding this matter. Lenz stated USFS owns the land directly across the creek from the Squadroni property, and the Railroad could and should be involved regarding any re-connection issues. Lenz noted that willow scrubs grow along this portion of the creek and any re-vegetation on the left bank would be for stabilization and shading purposes. Bambrick voices his support of the project, but expressed concern with getting wood to stick in the straight channel because of the high energy levels. Bambrick noted that if you can get wood to stick, it would create a velocity refuge that would be very beneficial to fish. Lenz stated the need to create pools to limit water velocity during high water events. Parsons, Bambrick, and Rose approved seed money. Morgan requests that a dollar amount be given before he approves the project. Morgan stated his dislike of similar projects in the Entiat. If things with the railroad can be worked out and longevity of wood placed in the stream can be resolved, Morgan stated he would be comfortable moving forward with the project. This is an obvious re-connection opportunity noted Fisher. Lenz noted that LiDAR information has and should provide preliminary value to the assessment. Lenz noted that the disconnected oxbow is full of sediment and would be useful as juvenile refuge cover. Fisher states that the lower oxbow on Nason Creek is a good example of how fish will utilize or colonize these reconnected oxbows. Fisher approves seed money. **All redd information pertaining to the reach will be provided by Lenz. The PRCC HSC approves seed money**

for preliminary design of the Nason Creek Large Woody Debris project. The PRCC HSC asked that the proposal for installation of large woody debris on Nason Creek reflect the concept, number of structures, timing of installation, areas of re-vegetation and budget.

VI. Current Projects Status

- A Godwin Property (Chris P.) - Parsons and Lenz will meet in February to fill out the WDFW Land Evaluation Matrix application to initiate the transfer of the Godwin property ownership from Grant PUD to WDFW.
- Parsons explained she had conversed with Keith Rowland, USFS regarding the Kahler Glen property. He is responsible for USFS acquisitions and trades. He stated the USFS has not been approached regarding transfer of ownership on the Kahler Glen property, noted Parsons. Lenz stated the owners of the Kahler Glen property were not interested in selling the property to Grant PUD.
- B Monitor Irrigation Diversion Improvements (Ben) - Lenz noted work finished up in early fall or winter on the Monitor Irrigation Diversion Improvements, but he hasn't received an invoice from Cascadia yet.
- C LiDAR Contract Update (Bob) - Lenz stated the first invoice for \$15,000 has been paid by Grant PUD as approved by the PRCC HSC committee. Grant PUD has now received a second invoice from USGS for \$15,000 which is due the end of January 2008. Lenz explained he had spoken with Joseph Jones's supervisor, Gary Turney regarding this invoice. Turney stated that the contract for 2007 covered federal fiscal year 2007 and if the invoice was not paid by the end of January 2008, it would start accruing interest. Lenz stated his discomfort with this contractual process. Lenz stated PRCC HSC members approved and paid the first invoice, but that he was surprised by the arrival of the second invoice prior to any LiDAR product being received from Jones. According to conversation w/Turney this means that the product received in December 2007 is worth double what the PRCC HSC had already paid for it. Rose thought Peshastin LiDAR would be done next week, followed by the White River and main stem Wenatchee. Current full billing includes estimated times to complete products. Rose stated he is not interested in trading the Eniat for the Little Wenatchee because you can walk to both of these side channels. Jones offered the Little Wenatchee as a possible trade site to have LiDAR done. Lenz stated it makes a difference regarding the amount of product the PRCC HSC gets for the money. Morgan

questioned if the lower three miles of Icicle Creek would be completed? Rose stated he wants to get it in the mix of products we get from Jones. Morgan questioned if Jones would be willing to attend the next PRCC HSC meeting to explain the process and go over the LiDAR maps. Rose stated Jones was willing to talk to the PRCC HSC regarding all LiDAR work to date. Rose asked if all PRCC HSC members received his email regarding a document created by Lenz and himself outlining future work and contract agreements between the PRCC HSC and USGS. All members had received the document and were in agreement with the contents. Members discussed having Jones attend the Feb. 8, 2008 meeting. Bambrick commented that a meeting with the entire PRCC HSC might be intimidating to Jones; he feels Rose and Lenz would be able to get an honest assessment from Jones if they met privately. Bambrick stated he did not want to be involved in point, counter point, if work with USGS continues. Rose noted the PRCC HSC would be charged for a meeting with Jones in 2008. After the meeting, the PRCC HSC can determine if they would like to dissolve the agreement before any additional work is completed by Jones. PRCC HSC will discuss this issue at the February meeting. **Rose and Lenz will schedule meeting with Jones before end of January. Committee approved non-payment of invoice until LiDAR product is approved by Rose and Lenz. Lenz requested comments from members regarding future USGS scope of work proposed by Rose.**

- VII. 2007 Review – 2008 Projections (Denny) - Rohr removed agenda item. Discussion will take place at the next meeting when the PRCC HSC meets in Wenatchee. Committee approved.
- VIII. Next Meeting: Friday, February 08, 2008 TBD.