



## Meeting Minutes

### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Wednesday, March 12, 2008  
Chelan PUD Fish and Wildlife Conference Room  
Wenatchee, WA

#### **PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members**

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Dale Bambrick, NMFS	David Morgan, USFWS
Chris Fisher, CCT	Ben Lenz, GCPUD
Bob Rose, YN	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Chris Parsons, WDFW	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

#### **ATTENDEES: (\* Denotes PRCC HSC member)**

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Chris Fisher, CCT*	David Morgan, USFWS*
Bob Rose, YN*	Ben Lenz, GCPUD*
Chris Parsons, WDFW*	Denny Rohr, Facilitator*
Debbie Williams, GCPUD	

#### **Distributed Items:**

- **2007 Draft Habitat Annual Report**

#### **Action Items:**

- **Rohr will contact Dresser regarding the proposed McIntyre Dam visit.**
- **Lenz will draft a letter of intent to ONA stating, \$411,000 from the NNI Fund is available for funding of the Okanagan River Restoration Initiative Project (ORRI). Dresser will sign and send the letter.**
- **Fisher will compile a list of questions that Lenz will e-mail to Rich Malinowski for clarification. Lenz will distribute answers to PRCC HSC upon receipt. Members will e-mail Lenz their comments by 3/21/08.**

# Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** - Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. **Agenda Review** - PRCC HSC members discussed a proposed McIntyre Dam visit. **Rohr will contact Dresser regarding the proposed McIntyre Dam visit.** Parsons asked for clarification regarding items relating to the Nason Creek LWD proposal
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** –
  - Feb. 14, 2008 - Approved with edits by WDFW.
- IV. **Action Items Review** - Members reviewed and updated action items.
- V. **Funds Review** - Members discussed Habitat Fund balances and encumbrances. Rose asked for assurances from WDFW that before further Habitat Funds are spent on predator study data collection WDFW redirect their focus on harvest of species such as walleye that have a significant impact to the survival of salmonids in the rivers and reservoirs. Rose stated that predator management responsibility lies with WDFW, not Grant PUD.
- VI. **Project Proposals Status**
  - A **McIntyre Dam** (Chris F. /Lenz) – No discussion took place.
  - B **Blackbird Island** (David M.) – No discussion took place.
  - C **ORRI** (Okanagan River Restoration Initiative) Project - **Lenz will draft a letter of intent to ONA stating, \$411,000 from the NNI Fund is available for funding of the Okanagan River Restoration Initiative Project (ORRI). Dresser will sign and send the letter.**
  - D **Nason Creek LWD** (Lenz) – No discussion took place.
  - E **LiDAR Contract Update** (Rose/Lenz) - Rose explained that USGS would like to produce a research product coinciding with the described PRCC HSC work product. The data being collected for the PRCC HSC could be in areas other than those being looked at by the Bureau Of Reclamation (BOR) or the data products should compliment the BOR's rather than duplicate them. Jones is not doing a comparative study of the BOR images vs. the PRCC HSC images noted Rose. Rose explained to members that LiDAR imagery has the ability to provide three levels of resolution, with each level offering more detail than the first. Jones is currently standardizing the data on the maps that he has and would like members to determine

what formatting they want to see on the finished product. Morgan questioned if Jones has enough hours left on his contract to provide the PRCC HSC with the final product the committee would like to have. Rose stated there are adequate funds left to cover a large amount of LiDAR work. Rose suggested that four Okanogan basin streams on the Canadian side of the border could be added to the priority list for Fisher. Riparian and ground cover data is now using one resolution layer noted Rose. He suggests Jones look at and categorize canopy, ground cover, tree type, then look at flood plains by trying to quantify their effective size or how much relative flood plain that can be gained via reconnection projects. Morgan questioned if Jones can coordinate what the BOR has done so the PRCC HSC doesn't duplicate work. Rose stated he would rather work in areas that members identify as being of interest to the committee like the Okanogan Basin. Rose questioned how much detail members would like to have on the LiDAR maps that have already been done and if the PRCC HSC is interested in acclimation facility sites. Morgan questioned why the habitat subcommittee would look at acclimation sites. Fisher stated there would be benefit in knowing how reactivated channels would be affected; noting short term earthen ponds used for acclimation could be reconnected after use. Rohr questioned if the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee should look at LiDAR. Rose questioned if members would like info on tributaries. Fisher suggested LiDAR be used to look at tributaries that have extremes, pristine vs. disturbed to determine where projects can be completed. Members will request LiDAR maps for the following areas; Suttleworth Creek, Park Rill Creek, Salmon Creek, Inkaneep Creek, and McIntyre Creek. Members would like Jones to show one example of what a hydraulic model at one selected site with a high water event would do and a demonstration of how vegetation densities are shown using different resolutions. Jones has nearly completed Nason Creek, Icicle Creek, Peshastin Creek and Wenatchee River above and below Tumwater Canyon noted Rose. Morgan asked if someone is looking at the larger picture of this area. Rose stated the larger picture needs to be looked at by this committee and others for the future. Rose stated the counties should focus on passage issues and riparian work, and leave the in stream structural work and flood plain efforts to the fish and resource managers. Members agreed that appropriate roles need to be identified so it is known who to disseminate information to in order to complete a project. In the Upper Columbia River, fish co-managers have decision making authority stated Rose, noting that with the influx of habitat monies in the near future, it is imperative that projects be

initiated by groups and brought to the PRCC HSC in proposal form. A list of specific tasks will be developed by the PRCC HSC and given to Joseph Jones to be accomplished. Those tasks should include mapping of side channels, flood plains, and looking closer at riparian terrain.

- F **Cashmere Pond** (Chris P.) – No discussion took place.
- G **Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation** (Lenz) - PRCC HSC members discussed the appropriation of \$40,000 to assist the Cascadia Conservation District (CCD) in completing this project. Lenz explained that the water rights will be placed in a trust. Members questioned if the pumps/infrastructure would be removed from the Entiat River once the irrigation diversion is complete, if there is a way to verify water going into the trust, and who will be evaluating the project. **Fisher will compile a list of questions that Lenz will e-mail to Rich Malinowski for clarification. Lenz will distribute answers to PRCC HSC upon receipt. Members will e-mail Lenz their comments by 3/21/08.**

- VII. **2007 Habitat Annual Report** – CD was distributed to members.
- VIII. **Next Meeting:** Friday, April 11, 2008 - Wenatchee - TBD