



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
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Meeting Minutes

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, April, 10, 2008

11:00 – 4:00

Chelan PUD Auditorium - Wenatchee, WA

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 members)

Dale Bambrick, NMFS*
Chris Fisher, CCT*
Bob Rose, YN*
Chris Parsons, WDFW*
Joseph Jones, USGS

David Morgan, USFWS*
Ben Lenz, GCPUD*
Debbie Williams, CGPUD
Denny Rohr, Facilitator*

Action Items:

- Rohr will e-mail PRCC HSC members an invitation to the WFUFB opening ceremonies on April 30, 2008.
- Jones, USGS will e-mail Park Rill Creek LiDAR jpeg files to Fisher.
- Bambrick will contact WDOT regarding donation of the trees to the PRCC HSC.

Decision Summary:

- PRCC HSC members agreed a site visit to McIntyre Dam wasn't necessary at this time and reaffirmed that Fisher will continue to be the liaison between Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) and the PRCC HSC.
- PRCC HSC members approve \$40,000 from the 603 Habitat Fund to be allocated for the Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation project.

- **PRCC HSC members approved appropriation of funds (a maximum of \$10,000.00) for purchase of large trees with their root-balls intact if they aren't donated by WDOE for the Blackbird Island and possibly other projects.**

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed attendees, and invited all members to the opening ceremonies of the Wanapum Future Unit Fish Bypass on April 30, 2008 @ Wanapum Dam. Rohr welcomed Joseph Jones, USGS to the meeting.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Agenda items were reviewed.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** –
 - March 12, 2008 – Approved by members.
- IV. **Action Items Review** – Members reviewed action items. Members discussed a proposed visit to McIntyre Dam. **PRCC HSC members agreed a site visit to McIntyre Dam wasn't necessary at this time and approved that Fisher will continue to be the liaison between Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) and the PRCC HSC.**
- V. **Funds Review** – Members received Habitat funds spreadsheet via e-mail. No additional discussion took place.
- VI. **Project Proposals Status**
 - A **Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation (Lenz)** – **PRCC HSC members approve \$40,000 from the 603 Habitat Fund be allocated for the Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation project.**
 - B **LiDAR Workshop, Joseph Jones, USGS (Rose/Lenz)** – Jones asked members to determine which geographic areas they would like to have mapped in the future, and explained the capabilities of LiDAR and how he can manipulate the maps to meet the needs of the PRCC HSC. Members discussed using LiDAR to determine riparian volume, and plotting infrared (FLIR) data layers to visualize where temperature changes occur in a water body. Jones stated LiDAR maps can show habitat development opportunities. Property ownership boundaries can then be overlaid onto the LiDAR resulting in a very useful tool for the PRCC HSC. Parsons would like to see the land ownership overlay for the White River completed next, noting a land ownership map was handed out on April 10, 2008 during the HCP meeting prior to the PRCC HSC meeting. LiDAR riparian information can be used to determine if the percentage

of ground cover is less at stream elevation, or greater above stream elevation. Diversity of vegetation should be looked at, noted Jones, to see how much effort and what kind of information can be gathered. Rose explained that the Bureau of Reclamation does have some channel mapping that shows one third of the channels, but they used a much coarser scale than what Jones used. Jones has used a very fine scale that shows a large amount of detail, noted Rose. As an example of the fine scale, the White River LiDAR map would use areas in the 8-10 ft zone so members wouldn't have to worry about flood plains. Bambrick would like to finish the basic coarse scale analysis before moving on with further LiDAR. Jones proposes completing the first course; he will determine how much money is left in the budget before continuing. Jones suggests a terminology change from coarse scale, to basin scale. **PRCC HSC members approved Jones, USGS continue LiDAR mapping on the entire White River, Little Wenatchee River below the falls, Mid Okanagan River - Tonasket to Zosel Dam, Mainstem Methow River – Gold Creek to Weeman Bridge, Twisp River, and the Chewuch River. Property boundaries should be overlaid onto LiDAR maps, and diversity of riparian vegetation should be determined.** . Bambrick approved of the PRCC Hatchery Committee using the LiDAR maps. Jones estimated it would take approximately three weeks to complete all of these areas of work. Rose questioned if the committee would like to do the riparian piece, on a small scale basis. Jones will do riparian work in a couple of local locations that the committee could also take pictures of to compare. Jones noted it could be completed in a few days. Rose suggests the Cashmere Pond area be completed, noting that LiDAR could be used on future Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) projects. Lenz questioned if Jones would be able to complete the project by mid summer. Jones stated he is currently behind on a ground water project, and questioned if the committee would allow him to work intermittently during slow periods of his ground water project, stating he could be finished by late summer, or early fall. PRCC HSC members agreed that timeframe was alright with them. Fisher questioned when LiDAR maps could be released onto the FTP site. Jones stated LiDAR maps must be released to the public all at one time; therefore, the maps can't be released to the PRCC HSC prior to the public release. USGS can distribute the digital data via the USGS LiDAR analysis website. If the maps are downloaded to an internal website, 1.5 terabytes will be needed to hold all of the LiDAR data. **Jones, USGS will e-mail Park Rill Creek LiDAR jpeg files to Fisher.**

- C **Nason Creek LWD (Lenz)** – Lenz informed the committee of his initial conversations via email and phone with individuals of the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit Habitat Subcommittee (WWPUHSC) as suggested by D. Morgan and B. Rose to gain their input on this project. Lenz expressed his frustration with this group and the difficulties in trying to accomplish this and other habitat projects in their jurisdiction given his affiliation with Grant PUD. D. Morgan further suggested continuing pursuing the project through the WWPUHSC to allow them time to digest the details of the project. Lenz agreed.
- D **Cashmere Pond (Chris P.)** – Parsons noted WDFW was approached by Chelan County Natural Resources regarding the Cashmere Pond project. WDFW agreed to review preliminary designs by Jones & Stokes for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB). Parsons would like the PRCC HSC to cost share on this project. An absolute project cost hasn't been determined yet, but noted preliminary estimates place it in the \$400,000.00 range. Bambrick stated the SRFB should be approached for funding of these types of projects before the PRCC HSC is. Parsons will keep members apprised of the process.
- E **McIntyre Dam (Chris F. /Lenz)** – No discussion took place.
- F **ORRI (Okanagan River restoration Initiative) Project** – No discussion took place.
- G **Blackbird Island (David M.)** – Morgan stated the City of Leavenworth approve of the Blackbird Island LWD project. He has contacted the WDOT regarding large trees with root balls attached that have been removed from a local road site that could be used for the LWD project. The City of Leavenworth will allow the PRCC HSC use of city equipment to haul the trees, and also use of a storage site on city property. Morgan estimated the cost of trees at approximately \$200.00 each. **Bambrick will contact WDOT regarding donation of the trees to the PRCC HSC. PRCC HSC members approved appropriation of funds (a maximum of \$10,000.00) for purchase of large trees with their root-balls intact if they aren't donated by WDOE for the Blackbird Island Project.** Morgan explained the City of Leavenworth might be interested in a separate engineered log jam on the mainstem Wenatchee River near Blackbird Island in the future because of trail erosion, but noted, that is not part of this proposal. Parsons suggests the City of Leavenworth contact Gina McCoy, WDFW, for more information regarding project. Fisher questioned why the Blackbird Island Project wouldn't be completed until next year. Morgan explained the Bureau of Reclamation doesn't have

money to support the project this year, but noted they might be able to donate the engineering cost. Mike Rickle, Cascadia Conservation District, could use his own dump truck to transport the trees. Morgan noted the original proposal was for the inside of the bend only, but based on feedback from the City of Leavenworth, it may now include the outside of the bend as well. Morgan stated that sooner or later the trees will be used in a project; he would like to purchase trees to use for future projects as well. **PRCC HSC members approved \$10,000.00 for Large Woody Debris (LWD) tree acquisition.**

VII. **Next Meeting:** Friday, June 13, 2008 – Wenatchee, WA, location TBD