



## Meeting Minutes

### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, August 14, 2008

2:30 – 5:00

Conference Call

#### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

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Dale Bambrick, NMFS  
Chris Fisher, CCT  
Bob Rose, YN  
Dennis Beich, WDFW

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

#### ATTENDEES: (\*denotes PRCC HSC members)

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David Morgan, USFWS\*  
Bob Rose, YN\*(by phone)  
Dennis Beich, WDFW\*

Chris Fisher, CCT\*  
Debbie Williams, GCPUD  
Denny Rohr, Facilitator

#### Action Items:

- **Tracking of funds, invoicing, and cost associated with McIntyre Dam must be closely verified by Lenz. Discussion of expenditure tracking needs to be an agenda item in September.**
- **Morgan will contact Lenz to question what type of accounting and support could be given by Grant PUD to cut back some of the money needed by Cascadia Conservation District for administrative duties.**
- **The Methow Conservancy will be asked to draft a letter regarding the Hardesty property. PRCC Habitat Sub-committee will be sent a draft via email. Comments are to be sent to Morgan.**

#### Decision Summary:

- **PRCC Habitat Sub-committee approved the Mission Creek Habitat Improvement project via an e-mail vote.**

# Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Agenda items were reviewed. Agenda additions include Hardesty property and the Chelan County Natural Resources department.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** –
  - July 10, 2008 – Approved by members.
- IV. **Action Items Review** – Rohr reviewed action items.
- V. **Habitat Funds Review** – Members received Habitat Funds spreadsheets via e-mail. Funds are tracked by Lenz and the Grant PUD accounting department.
- VI. **Project Proposals Status**
  - A **Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation (Lenz)** – No discussion took place.
  - B **LiDAR Update (Rose/Lenz)** – No discussion took place.
  - C **Cashmere Pond (Dennis B)** – Revisions have been made to the scope of the project. It is proposed that islands and barbs be taken out, but that the length of the channel remains the same, explained Beich.
  - D **McIntyre Dam (Chris F. /Lenz)** – Lenz and Fisher met with ONA in July. The consulting firm has provided conceptual updates for the project. 50% designs will be provided by 9/15/08. Designs will be provided one week prior to the meeting for review and comments. Engineers from WDFW, Bruce Heiner, and NOAA, Bryan Nordlund, will review proposed designs. Kari Long, ONA is the new McIntyre Dam project manager. Concerns were voiced in regards to her lack of knowledge with participants and issues. Fisher stated he felt comfortable with her in the position. It is not clear if all of the work can be completed during the month of August. A request to start the project in mid July will be sent to the Dept. of Fisheries. Permits and contracts are all in place to start by mid-July 2009. Fisher hopes that this is the last year sockeye will be jumping into the steel gates at McIntyre Dam. A meeting will be held when designs are at 90%. Rohr and Fisher will attend the 9/15/08 meeting. \$1.7 million to complete the McIntyre Dam project are from the NNI fund. **Tracking of funds, invoicing, and cost associated with McIntyre Dam must be closely verified by Lenz. Discussion of expenditure tracking needs to be an agenda item in September.**

- E **ORRI (Okanagan River Restoration Initiative) Project** – Fisher spoke with Chris Bull, ONA. Dykes will be set back the beginning of October 2008. Construction work will be complete in July and August of 2009.
- F **Blackbird Island (David M.)** – The City of Leavenworth continues to support this project, Morgan stated. Jones and Stokes feels comfortable with their 11/2007 cost estimate of \$100,000. They propose an additional 10% be added for administration, oversight and outreach. Cascadia Conservation District (CCD) has reduced their cost estimate from \$300,000 to 200,000. CCD's budget includes 132 hours for contract review. **Morgan will contact Lenz to question what type of accounting and support could be given by Grant PUD to cut back some of the money needed by Cascadia Conservation District for administrative duties.** RTT members suggest that large woody debris contain fewer large structures with fewer pieces in each structure. CCD would have to go out to bid for all work above a certain value. Jones and Stokes do not have to go out for bid. PRCC Habitat Sub-committee (HSC) will continue to discuss this project.
- G **Hardesty Property** – Location at RM 15 of the Twisp River. The property was purchased in 2007 for \$425,000 with the expectations that the forest service would purchase the property from the HSC and all of the money would be recouped to be spent on future habitat projects. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) contacted the Methow Conservancy (MC) to inform them that because of fire funding, they may not have the money to purchase the land this year, but hoped to eventually. The property was recently appraised for \$250,000 by the USFS. That is the price they are offering to purchase the property if fire cost doesn't exceed their budget in 2008. Morgan stated it's not possible to get the money from the forest service until fire season is complete and they know if budget dollars remain for the land transaction. The HSC should know more in the next fiscal year. The \$250,000 offer from the USFW might be rescinded because of budget exceedences due to fire costs. The MC questions if the HSC want to accept the \$250,000, or if they need to work harder to raise more money. If the property can't be sold to the USFS, the MC would use it as a camping site. The HSC would only recoup 10% of their initial investment if the property isn't sold to the USFS. Morgan explained that the USFS might not reevaluate the proposal to the HSC in the future. Rose explained that this topic will be discussed by the Yakama Nation with the MC, and suggests the HSC wait to decide what to do. MC met with the USFS District Ranger in Winthrop to ensure the property purchased was a priority to the

USFS before purchasing it. Solidarity could be shown by the entire committee meeting with the forest supervisor. **The Methow Conservancy will be asked to draft a letter regarding the Hardesty property. PRCC Habitat Sub-committee will be sent a draft via email. Comments are to be sent to Morgan.**

H **Mission Creek Habitat Improvement (Morgan) – PRCC Habitat Sub-committee approved the Mission Creek Habitat Improvement project via an e-mail vote.** Mike Rickel, Cascadia Conservation District (CCD) is meeting with land owners. Morgan approved the fourth property owner starting his project. Supposedly land owners have valid legal water rights, Morgan stated. Rose abstained from the vote. Lee Carlson voted yes at the July meeting.

I **Department of Transportation site near Dryden Dam (Dennis B)** – RCO presentations regarding water access were last week. The Dryden Dam DOT property will be given a state ranking within the next couple of weeks. Fifteen proposals are vying for the \$2 million dollars set aside for water access property purchase. Once the rank is determined, recommendations will go to the RCO board. The legislature will then vote on which properties will be funded. The final answer will come from the legislature in February or March when the legislative session is finished. If the property ranks 1 or 2, the HSC will probably be able to purchase it. Beich will keep the subcommittee updated at the next meeting. The ROC Board meeting will be in September or October before it goes to the legislature for funding.

VII. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday @ 1:30 p.m., September 30, 2008, Wenatchee, WA – Chelan PUD Auditorium (to be determined).