



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

Meeting Minutes

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Tuesday, September 30, 2008

1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Douglas PUD Auditorium, Wenatchee, WA

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

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)

David Morgan, USFWS*
Dennis Beich, WDFW*
Ben Lenz, GCPUD*
Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Chris Fisher, CCT*
Dale Bambrick, NMFS*
Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Action Items:

1. **Lenz will contact Chris Bulls regarding funding of the ORRI project.**
2. **Rohr will contact Rose regarding his vote on the Blackbird Island project.**
3. **Fisher will send Morgan a sample JARPA.**
4. **Rohr will speak with Hillman regarding December meeting time.**
5. **Williams will e-mail website information to members.**

6. **PRCC HSC members will review the Methow Conservancy letter regarding the Hardesty property appraisal.**
7. **Fisher will look at alternative funding sources and question if this project is eligible for Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funding.**
8. **PRCC HSC members will cast their vote via e-mail regarding funding of the Lower Bonaparte Creek Livestock Exclusion Project after Fisher determines if it-qualifies for other funding sources. Fisher will contact Rose regarding this project.**

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Agenda items were reviewed.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** –
 - August 14, 2008 – Approved by members.
- IV. **Action Items Review** – Rohr reviewed action items.
- V. **Habitat Funds Review** – Lenz explained that the Habitat Funds update didn't include encumbrances of \$25,000 for the Mission Creek Project.
- VI. **Project Proposals Status**
 - A **Entiat River Knapp/Wham-Hanan Detwiler Irrigation System Consolidation (Lenz)** – No discussion took place.
 - B **LiDAR Update (Rose/Lenz)** – Lenz explained that today, September 30, 2008 is the official end of the federal fiscal year and the end of the LiDAR contract with USGS.
 - C **Cashmere Pond (Dennis B)** –Chelan County will be the administrator. The HSC Tributary committee will consider action regarding this project at their December meeting.
 - D **McIntyre Dam (Chris F. /Lenz)** –Fisher attended a project meeting on September, 15, 2008. Fisher explained that overshot gates will be inserted into the current structure. Riffle designs are under development. The next project meeting will be held in November. Work may be started earlier than expected in July 2009. Some components may be installed at low flow in March 2009.

- E **ORRI (Okanagan River Restoration Initiative) Project** – Fisher explained that the fish and water managers have some differences regarding some issues, but are continuing to work through them. Dykes will be set back the beginning of November 2008. **Lenz will contact Chris Bulls regarding funding of the ORRI project.** Expectation is for construction work will be completed in July and August of 2009.
- F **Blackbird Island (David M.)** – Morgan, Grant PUD, and Jones and Stokes have developed a cost estimate to complete project designs. Because of design and permitting timelines, it is important that the PRCC HSC take action on this project soon. In October, while the river water levels are low, structure location and size should be determined. Members discussed cost, tasks and phases of construction to be approved or denied. Bambrick stated he would approve the project if expenditures are limited to \$87,000 for design, but would appreciate it if the cost could be decreased with Grant PUD's and Morgan's work. Lenz, Fisher, and Beich agreed. **Rohr will contact Rose regarding his vote on the Blackbird Island project. Fisher will send Morgan a sample JARPA.**
- G **Hardesty Property – Methow Conservancy drafted a letter regarding appraisal issues with the US Forest Service.** John Sunderland, Methow Conservancy believes the appraisal conducted by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) was below fair market value. Bambrick stated the PRCC HSC should cut their losses and take the offer made by the USFS if there is a legitimate fair market value appraisal conducted. Bambrick stated he would approve of the PRCC HSC selling the property to recoup committee money. **PRCC HSC members will review the Methow Conservancy letter regarding the Hardesty property appraisal.** This will be discussed further at the next meeting.
- H **Mission Creek Habitat Improvement (Morgan)** – PRCC Habitat Sub-committee approved the Mission Creek Habitat Improvement project via an e-mail vote after the last meeting.
- I **Department of Transportation site near Dryden Dam (Dennis B)** – If RCO funding stays the same as it has for the last couple of years, Beich explained that the committee will probably not get any money to purchase the Dryden Dam property from WDOT because it was ranked at level 9. Beich will continue to speak to WDOT regarding other funding sources for this property.

- J **Lower Bonaparte Creek Livestock Exclusion Project –**
Fisher explained that the Okanogan Conservation District has been working with land owners at Bonaparte Creek to exclude livestock from watering in the creek except for one hardened rock watering point. A well would be drilled to furnish water for five stock tanks. 1,200 feet of creek bank would be protected if the project is approved. **Fisher will look at alternative funding sources and question if this project is eligible for Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) funding.** Beich suggested that phase one of this project be looked at as a pilot project, with the understanding that if it's successful, phase two would be conducted. **PRCC HSC members will cast their vote via e-mail regarding funding of the Lower Bonaparte Creek Livestock Exclusion Project after Fisher determines if it qualifies's for other funding sources. Fisher will contact Rose regarding this project.**

- VII. **Next Meeting:** Friday, December 19, 2008 @, Wenatchee, WA – (time and location to be determined).