



## DRAFT Meeting Minutes

### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, March 12, 2009  
 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
 Chelan PUD Auditorium

#### **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
Dennis Beich, WDFW	

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

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Dale Bambrick, NMFS*	David Morgan, USFWS*
Chris Fisher, CCT*	Dennis Beich, WDFW*
Lee Carlson, YN*	Ben Lenz, GCPUD*
Alyssa Buck, GCPUD	Debbie Williams, GCPUD
Denny Rohr, Facilitator	

#### **Action Items:**

1. Rohr will send the Habitat Plan electronically to HSC members.
2. Lenz will discuss the timeliness of the Habitat Plan extension with Dresser.
3. Fisher will send comments to the Skookumchuck EIS to HSC members.
4. Morgan will draft a list of questions regarding the ORRI project and send them to Fisher.

## Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Members agreed that draft meeting minutes be sent to Habitat Subcommittee members only prior to distribution to the larger group. Committee members briefly discussed the Chelan County Large Woody Debris (LWD) Workshop which was held on February 22, 2009. Two more LWD meetings will be held in early spring or later summer. Pioneer Irrigation District will be dropped from the Habitat Agenda until further action is required.

### III. Approval of Meeting Minutes –

- February 12, 2009 meeting – Rohr explained that the minutes reflected overlap with the HCP Tributary meeting minutes. – Approved with edits by Morgan.
- March 02, 2009 Conference Call – Approved with edits by Morgan.

### IV. Action Items Review – Action items were reviewed and discussed.

### V. Habitat/NNI Funds Review – Rohr distributed and reviewed the Habitat Account spreadsheet. Rohr updated members on the Predator Study. A scope of work has been developed, literature review has been completed, and field work has started. No further funding requests have been made for the predator study.

### VI. Habitat Plan – Lenz distributed the draft Priest Rapids Project Habitat Plan. **Rohr will send the Habitat Plan electronically to HSC members.** He asked HSC members to review the plan and provide comments and edits by April 03, 2009 or earlier if possible. Edits should be sent electronically in Track Changes format. Lenz explained that Grant PUD would like to file an extension of time with FERC until May 01, 2009. The PRCC will be reviewing the NNI Fund portion of the Habitat Plan because they authorize NNI Fund expenditures. Tom Dresser, Grant PUD Fish, Wildlife and Water Quality Manager asked Rohr to send the NNI Fund portion to the PRCC for review, explaining that the entire Habitat Plan will be discussed at the PRCC meeting on March 25, 2009. The coordination of the Hatchery and Habitat Subcommittees will be addressed by WDFW in their comments. **Lenz will discuss the timeliness of the Habitat Plan extension with Dresser.** Lenz will draft an extension letter for committee review at the next Habitat SC meeting on April 9, 2009.

### VII. Beaver Creek – Morgan is waiting for a response to questions sent to Aaron Penvose, Washington River's Conservancy, regarding this project. No further discussion.

### VIII. WDFW Livestock Grazing Plan – Kittitas County –

- A Skookumchuck** – Bambrick did not draft a letter to WDFW because he subsequently found out that grazing was not going to be allowed on the Skookumchuck property purchased through the Habitat Sub-committee. Fisher explained that the two parcels above this property will be grazed on every 4<sup>th</sup> year. He had concerns that if grazing happens in the area, there is a possibility of impacts being transmitted downstream. Fisher and Lenz drafted comments to the draft Environment Impact Statement (EIS). **Fisher will send comments to the Skookumchuck EIS to HSC members.**

### IX. Project Status

- A Cashmere Pond** – No discussion took place.
- B McIntyre Dam** – Fisher updated members on the McIntyre Dam project. The last subcommittee meeting was held on March 02, 2009. Designs are

100% complete. At first, the Water Management Ministry was concerned about the stability of the stream bed the dam was originally built on if gates were altered. They questioned if alterations would cause a catastrophic event to occur. After assessing the situation, they felt the stream bed was stable enough, and hope to get all gates installed prior to the spring run off. One gate at a time will be installed.

An in stream structure will be created to allow fish enough room to jump over the structure. The structure will be installed between the middle of July to the end of August. The Town of Oliver Irrigation District is modifying their irrigation intake screens and installing them this fall. Fisher suggested the committee visit the project. 100,000 plus fish are expected to return to the area this year in mid to late September. 11 kilometers upstream of McIntyre Dam will be new habitat. Beich reminded members that WDFW has a travel freeze right now. Rohr explained that PRCC members are discussing reimbursement of travel expenses by Grant PUD.

- C ORRI (Okanagan River Restoration Initiative Project) – Project is moving along. Fisher explained the new channel design of the project. Morgan will draft a list of questions regarding the ORRI project and send them to Fisher.**
- D Blackbird Island – Morgan will distribute Special Use Permit (SUP) to members electronically.** Morgan explained that the SUP is needed to get equipment on city property. This permit requires insurance. On Tuesday, Morgan attended a city council meeting, and he believes they reached a compromise. City of Leavenworth agreed to drop the use fee. A termination clause was deleted. Based on this updated information, the Habitat Subcommittee approved moving forward with the project.

**X. Next Meeting: April 9, 2009.**