



## MEETING MINUTES

### PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, July 9, 2009  
 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
 Chelan PUD Auditorium  
 Wenatchee

**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

**Meeting Attendees:**

---

David Morgan, USFWS  
 Dennis Beich, WDFW  
 Casey Baldwin, WDFW  
 Bob Rose, YN

Chris Fisher, CCT  
 Ben Lenz, GCPUD  
 Dale Bambrick, NMFS  
 Denny Rohr, Facilitator

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Lenz will explore for possible activities that may be taking place in Nason Creek near the Squadroni property and discuss with Committee Members at the next Hatchery SC meeting.
2. Lenz will follow up regarding additional information needed for Cashmere Pond.

**DECISIONS:**

1. Committee Members agreed to receive monthly the Habitat Funds and Expenditures Year-to-Date Report, and receive quarterly, starting in January of each year, a more detailed report including account balances, expenditures, encumbrances, and balance after encumbrances.
2. Committee Members affirmed their email vote approving the Habitat Plan to be sent to FERC.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Rohr called the meeting to order and welcomed all participants.
- II. **Agenda Review:** two subjects were added to the agenda - the committee requested the addition of an update regarding scheduling information of a Large Woody Debris Workshop.
- III. **Approval of meeting minutes:** committee members approved the following meeting minutes as presented. Accordingly, Rohr will request these final minutes be posted to the Grant PUD website.
  - A. March 12, 2009 – approved
  - B. April 9, 2009 – approved
  - C. May 14, 2009 – approved
  - D. May 26, 2009 conference call – approved
  - E. Rohr noted that the June 11, 2009 Habitat Subcommittee meeting was canceled.
- IV. **Action Items Review:** All action items listed for the meeting were discussed; no additional action was taken.
- V. **Habitat / NNI Funds Review:** The Habitat Funds and Expenditures Year-to-Date report was discussed. Additionally, Lenz talked with Committee Members about the scheduling problems to produce detailed monthly reports. **Accordingly, after further discussion, Committee Members approved of receiving monthly reports of the Habitat Funds and Expenditures Year-to-Date, and receiving on a quarterly basis the Reports showing additional details of the Habitat Funds-to-Date, including information listing account balances, pending invoices, outstanding commitments, balance after commitments, and other specific information. The quarterly reports will begin in January of each year.** The current Habitat Funds and Expenditures Year-to-Date Report was sent electronically by Rohr to each Committee Member.
- VI. **ACTION ITEM: Affirmation of Email Vote/Approval of Habitat Plan (Denny R.):** Habitat Committee members affirmed their approval by email vote of the Habitat Plan. Rohr informed Committee Members that the Habitat Plan was also approved by the PRCC, and the Habitat Plan was sent to FERC on June 30<sup>th</sup>. A final copy of the Habitat Plan will be posted to the Grant PUD website.
- VII. **Review/Discussion of the Nason Creek Site (Ben L.):** Lenz distributed copies to Committee Members of the Project Specifications Sheet for the project titled “Habitat Rehabilitation of Nason Creek at Squadroni Property: Phase 1” (Project Proposal), with Grant County PUD listed as the Project Sponsor.

Committee Members commented that currently the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is proposing a similar project in this immediate area that explores various alternatives to reconnect the large oxbow thru the railroad grade. These discussions are materializing at this time and the project discussions have not come to conclusions. Additionally, the Chelan Co. DNR, in coordination with BOR, has similar project interests in this area. Accordingly,

Lenz agreed to have additional discussion with BOR to get some clarification of their possible interest and intent. Lenz will also consult with the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit Habitat Subcommittee (WWPUHSC) regarding involvement they may have in the area.

Committee Members approved \$40,000 for initial design work for the Project Proposal, with the understanding that Lenz will have additional discussions with entities mentioned above. Cost sharing for the work to be done will be explored by Lenz and he will report back to the Committee at the next Habitat Subcommittee meeting.

- VIII. **Dryden DOT Property Purchase (Dennis B.):** Beich commented that a question has surfaced regarding Chelan PUD facilities at this location possibly encroaching upon the Dryden Department of Transportation (DOT) Property under discussion. A meeting has been scheduled between Beich, Chelan PUD, and DOT to discuss this issue. Accordingly, Beich commented that activity to purchase the property has slowed pending clarification of this issue.

Lenz commented on Grant PUD's interest in possibly using this site for fish acclimation purposes. Beich stated it is his understanding there is ongoing discussions between Grant and Chelan PUDs of possibly using the left bank property (across the Wenatchee River from the DOT property which is on the right bank of the river) for fish rearing facilities. Beich also commented that discussions are ongoing between WDFW and the Yakama Nation, and between WDFW and the DOT, regarding possible use of the DOT property. At this time, no conclusions have been reached and discussions are continuing. Lenz requested Grant PUD attendance at future meetings regarding the planned use of this property for fish husbandry and habitat restoration purposes.

- IX. **Johnson Creek Discussion (Ben L.):** Lenz requested that this subject be removed from the agenda. It was noted that Johnson Creek is located on the right bank above Wanapum Dam in the Getty's Cove area. Committee Members discussed the subject briefly with no conclusions.

- X. **Discussion of SRFB and HCP Tributary Committee Project Proposals (Casey B.):** Baldwin commented that several projects in the SRFB and HCP Tributary Committee current funding process remain unfunded. Baldwin asked the Committee Members if the Committee should be more proactive regarding consideration of funding these remaining projects.

Committee Members discussed that the Habitat Subcommittee project funding process is different from the SRFB and HCP processes. The Habitat Subcommittee process requires project sponsors to contact Committee Members with proposals for Committee consideration. If Committee Members determine the proposals are worthy of funding, action to fund will be taken, and visa versa for those not felt worthy of funding. Bambrick stated he is very comfortable with how the process is working. Further, there was consensus among Committee Members that good projects will be funded.

- XI. **Discussion of Project Development and Long Term Pumping Costs (Denny R.):** The PRCC raised the question with Rohr regarding how the Habitat Subcommittee would handle a proposal that contained long term pumping costs. Rohr brought this question to the Committee for discussion.

After discussion, Committee Members agreed that long term pumping costs would be the responsibility of the project sponsor. Further, Committee Members commented they anticipated long term costs such as these could be discussed and taken care of in the initial funding details.

**XII. Project Status Updates:**

- A. **Cashmere Pond (Dennis B.):** Lenz is following up on additional information needed for this project.
- B. **McIntyre Dam (Chris F. / Ben L.):** Fisher commented that a question surfaced regarding ownership of the Dam. This question impacts decisions regarding who is authorized to approve specific work being done on the Dam, such as the installation of the overshot gates. Accordingly, time taken to resolve this question slowed the work to be done. While the work is expected to be completed as outlined, the work schedule may be extended by a couple of weeks.

Committee Members will discuss specifics at the next Habitat Subcommittee meeting regarding touring the project in late September or early October of this year.

- C. **ORRI (Okanogan River Restoration Initiative) Project (Chris F.):** The project continues to move forward. Water flow details are being developed.
- D. **Blackbird Island (David M. / Ben L.):** Lenz stated that a Small Works Contract Bid Process is needed to comply with state contracting law in order to select a construction contractor for this project. The final selected bid and contractor may be different than previously discussed, meaning the final cost may be more or less than the previously approved amount. A follow-up conference call may be needed prior to the August 20 mtg. to discuss the selected bid.

XIII. **(Agenda addition) Update Regarding Large Woody Debris Workshop:** a planning meeting was held several weeks ago to discuss development of a workshop. No additional information has been received.

XIV. **Next Meeting:** Thursday, August 20, 2009, 1:00 – 4:00, Wenatchee. Committee Members changed the meeting date from the regular meeting date of August 13th.

A. **Agenda items for next meeting:**

- Beich requested a discussion regarding coordination of the Habitat and Hatchery Subcommittees.
- Discussion of logistics regarding touring of McIntyre Dam and ORRI projects.
- Follow up discussion of the Nason Creek (Squadroni) site activities.
- Continued discussion of the Dryden Property Purchase activities.

(Meeting minutes prepared by D. Rohr & Associates; approved August 20, 2009, Habitat SC Meeting)