



FINAL MEETING MINUTES

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee

Thursday, September 10, 2009

1:00 p.m. Conference Call

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Chris Fisher, CCT

Bob Rose, Lee Carlson, YN

Dennis Beich, Casey Baldwin, WDFW

David Morgan, USFWS

Ben Lenz, GCPUD

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Meeting Attendees:

David Morgan, USFWS

Dennis Beich, WDFW

Casey Baldwin, WDFW

Lee Carlson, YN

Becky Gallaher, CCPUD

Tracy Hillman, BioAnalysts

Chris Fisher, CCT

Ben Lenz, GCPUD

Dale Bambrick, NMFS

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Keith Truscott, CCPUD

Richelle Beck, DRA

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Rohr to revise Aug. 20 minutes and resend to committee members for their review.
2. Lenz to contact the landowner of the Squadroni property and suggest they work with Brandon Rogers of Yakima Nation.
3. Fisher to send Rohr list of questions regarding the Dally-Wilson property. Rohr to forward the list to Committee members for additions or changes.
4. Lenz to discuss with Cascadia Conservation District the issue of amending their permit for the Knapp-Wham Irrigation Project and will get a detailed breakdown of how the \$30K would be spent.
5. Fisher to provide Rohr with Oct 7-8 McIntyre Dam tour itinerary and agenda. Rohr to forward information to Committee participants.

COMMITTEE DECISIONS:

1. Committee agreed the White River Nason View property remaining 15% cost should come from Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB).

- **Welcome and Introductions:** Rohr called the meeting to order and welcomed all participants.
- **Agenda Review:** There were no new items added to the agenda.
- **Approval of Meeting Minutes, Aug. 20:** Some comments were received late and had not yet been incorporated into the minutes. Rohr reviewed the comments with the Committee and they were agreed upon. Rohr will revise and resend the Aug. 20 minutes for final approval at the next meeting.
- **Habitat/NNI Funds Review:** Rohr stated he had not yet received a Habitat Funds Report for the month of August and agreed to forward it to the group once in hand. Rohr reminded the group that the more detailed funding report is to be provided quarterly so the Committee should see something in October.
- **Nason Creek Site (Squadroni Property) (Ben L):** Lenz stated he talked with the Chelan County DNR (CCDNR) about taking the lead on this project as they feel appropriate. He informed the landowner as well about his comments to CCDNR. The Committee suggested Lenz call the landowner and let him know he should contact Brandon Rogers at Yakima Nation.
- **Dryden DOT Property Purchase (Dennis B):** After the August Habitat SC meeting, Beich met with Washington State DOT and Chelan PUD to review information both agencies had gathered in regards to possible encroachment across property lines. Discussion regarding this issue is continuing. Beich mentioned an environmental assessment was done regarding possible lead contamination on the property, but he has not yet heard the results of the assessment. More on this issue at the next meeting.
- **Project ID 2009-1, White River Nason View (Chris F):** At the August meeting, the Committee approved the funding request of \$388,790 to be applied toward purchase of this property. This is 85% of \$457,400, which is the total need for funding. The Committee members had some questions regarding the \$457,400 funding amount and requested clarification on the spec sheet regarding how the amount was derived. Also, the Committee discussed funding of the remaining 15% and was informed that it would be shared between the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and the HCP funds. The Committee felt it unnecessary to involve the HCP Tributary Committee and suggested the remaining 15% be requested from the SRFB fund. The committee decided to use money from the NNI Fund for this funding request, and also agreed the awarding of the \$388,790 was contingent upon the SRFB funding the remaining 15%. It was noted by committee members that use of the NNI Fund requires approval by the PRCC. Rohr will follow up with the PRCC and keep the committee members apprised.
- **Dally-Wilson Acquisition Proposal (Ben L):** The Committee members discussed the proposal from the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) regarding a funding request of \$168,000 for a conservation easement on this property. The proposal was originally considered in 2005 by the Chelan HCP Tributary Committee, but the owners of the property were apparently not ready at that time to participate. The owners are now ready to discuss a conservation easement and are currently asking for approximately \$10K per acre. Committee members commented that the highest price paid per acre in 2002 for purchased property was \$4K per acre. The Committee members discussed the possibility of purchasing this property and what it would mean financially to the NNI fund availability for other properties, as the Dally-Wilson property would cost \$168K out of the NNI Fund. They also

questioned whether an appraisal had been made, stating they could not pay any price above the appraisal value. With several outstanding issues still needing clarification, the Committee agreed to delay their decision and hold a conference call in early October, prior to Oct. 12, to further discuss the subject after more information is gathered. It was noted that if the Committee decides at that time to move forward, the proposal could then be taken to PRCC for final approval on Oct. 28, which is required when using NNI funds. In the meantime, Fisher agreed to e-mail a list of questions to Rohr that will need answers before the Committee can make a final decision. Rohr will forward the list to the Committee members who agreed to review the list and make additions or changes. Accordingly, this proposal will be revisited.

- **Knapp-Wham Irrigation Consolidation Project (Ben L):** The Committee clarified they want to protect the pool proposed to be developed in this proposal. Accordingly, the decision at the August 20, 2009 committee meeting was approval to fund the requested \$30,000, and the funding was contingent upon not having any habitat funds associated with the excavation in digging the pool, unless the project was designed to maintain the pool. Some committee members questioned if it was necessary to develop a pool. The committee also discussed that changing the design may require an amendment to the permit. Furthermore, the Committee questioned the validity of the \$30,000 funding request if a pool is not in the design. After further discussion, the Committee stated they would like to know exactly how the \$30,000 is to be used. Lenz agreed to talk further to CCD and report back to the committee.
- **Discussion of Libby Creek Land Acquisition (Dennis B):** Previously, this acquisition was approved for funding with NNI funds. However, after additional Committee discussion, the Committee is now considering alternate funding options such as the Settlement Agreement Fund. Lenz noted he had been contacted by Ken Bevis and he and Terrie Preston are working out some details such as line items, appraisal costs, etc. Once those details have been worked out, the funding process can then move forward.
- **Trinidad Creek Property Purchase (Ben L/Dennis B):** There are several issues surrounding the purchase of this property. First, Lenz discussed the landowners issue with WDFW taking 9 plus months to finalize the purchase of the property. The landowner does not wish to wait 9 months. The Committee suggested Lenz propose to the land owner a down payment to see if this will help him during the waiting period. Lenz agreed to contact the land owner. The second outstanding issue is what the typical O&M costs for this particular piece of property will be. Beich stated he did not yet have that information but is working on gathering it. He stated that providing a set number is difficult because every piece of property comes with its own unique set of problems, ie. invasive plants, public access, etc. There is general agreement within the Committee to provide O&M funding, but they need to know how much that would be prior to making a final decision. The Committee approved an earnest money application for a portion of the \$50K while the O&M details are worked out. Lenz will contact the landowner and come back to the Committee next month for further discussion and consideration of approval of the proposal. .
- **Coordination with PRCC Hatchery SC (Denny R):** Rohr stated he is still working on this.
- **Discussion of Details Regarding Touring of McIntyre Dam and ORRI Project:** Fisher reviewed the tour details. Additional information will be forwarded to the Committee members regarding more specific details.
- **Project Status Updates:**

- Cashmere – Lenz stated he can find nothing in the formal paperwork suggesting that Chelan County DNR needs \$70K at this point. Grant PUD let them borrow some seining nets.
- McIntyre Dam – Fisher stated there is nothing to report. The project looks good and should be completed by next week.
- ORRI – Fisher stated this project is done with the exception of some landscaping on the disturbed site planned for the fall. At this time, there is no indication this site will need further funding.
- Blackbird – Beich, Lenz, a representative from the City of Leavenworth, a contractor, and the consulting group had a meeting scheduled Sept. 11 to discuss their plan for construction starting next week. Lenz agreed to keep the Committee apprised.

Next Meeting: McIntyre Dam and ORRI Tour, October 7, 8, 2009; additionally, November 12, 2009.

Meeting adjourned.

(Meeting Minutes Prepared by D. Rohr & Associates)