



MEETING MINUTES

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Meeting
Thursday, April 8, 2010
1:30pm
Chelan PUD Auditorium

PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Members

Dale Bambrick, NMFS	David Morgan, USFWS
Chris Fisher, CCT	Ben Lenz, GCPUD
Bob Rose, Lee Carlson, YN	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Dennis Beich, Casey Baldwin, WDFW	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Meeting Attendees:

Dale Bambrick, NMFS	Ben Lenz, GCPUD
Chris Fisher, CCT	Lee Carlson, YN
Dennis Beich, WDFW	Denny Rohr, Facilitator
Richelle Beck, D. Rohr & Assoc (by phone)	

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Rohr will continue discussions with the PRCC regarding the Tall Timber proposal and keep the Habitat subcommittee members advised.
2. Bambrick agreed to contact Bob Bugert of the Chelan Douglas Land Trust regarding coordination possibilities with the Habitat Subcommittee, and to invite Bugert to the next Habitat Subcommittee meeting to discuss the concept in more detail.

COMMITTEE DECISIONS:

1. Committee members declined approval of the Vertical Drop Structure 13 proposal.

I. Welcome and Introductions: Rohr welcomed attendees.

II. Agenda Review: The meeting agenda was reviewed and no additional agenda items were requested.

- III. Approval of March 11, 2010, Meeting Minutes:** The subcommittee members approved the March 11, 2010, meeting minutes, subject to final review and approval by Ben Lenz. If any changes are made, the minutes will be brought back to the group before finalizing. If no changes by Lenz, the minutes will stand approved as presented.
- IV. Action Items Review:** All Action Items will be covered within the existing meeting agenda. There was no additional discussion.
- V. Habitat / NNI Funds Review:** There was no new information available. Lenz anticipates new information will be available prior to the next meeting, and he will forward to Rohr for distribution to committee members.
- VI. Nason Creek LWP Floodplain Reconnection Assessment:** An Action Item from the March 11th Habitat SC meeting was for Lenz to contact Kaputa, Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) and request full details of exactly what CCNRD needs to move forward with the design plans. Lenz stated he sent Kaputa an e-mail, and Kaputa confirmed they needed more money for a variety of actions needed to move forward. Carlson commented that at a recent public meeting, CCNRD stated they did still need another \$200K to complete the project design. What that \$200K is actually still needed for remains unclear. The project design team continues to study what is needed for this project's success. They are studying the proportion of flows within the channels and have concluded the culvert proposal will not be effective and are now studying the bridge option. It is also becoming evident that being fully permitted by summer 2011 is not going to be a realistic goal. Meetings with the design team and some subcommittee members are taking place and discussion will continue. More information should be available at the next Habitat SC meeting. Committee members expressed some concern over the lack of specific information for this proposal. Some committee members had previously mentioned meeting with the involved BNSF railroad people, and some committee members still support that consideration. Lenz reminded the group that Grant PUD cannot pay for work or products purchased prior to the signing of a contract. Lenz agreed to make this clear to CCNRD right away. Overall, the group is still supportive of this effort but need much more information before any further decisions can be made. More on this issue at the next meeting.
- VII. Update of White River Nason View Property Proposal:** Rohr confirmed with the subcommittee members that at the last meeting, the Habitat subcommittee affirmed their approval of the White River Nason View proposal. The subcommittee members confirmed that affirmation. Rohr stated that the PRCC has also approved this proposal so this transaction is complete. It was noted that Bugert has been alerted. Rohr also informed the committee members as a point of interest that the White River Working Group would be meeting on April 20th.
- VIII. Update of Tall Timber Proposal:** Rohr stated there has been some confusion over whether the intent of the Habitat subcommittee and PRCC regarding the Tall Timber proposal would preclude acclimation. Both have confirmed that their intent was to not

preclude acclimation but instead to assure there is language that keeps the option of acclimation sites open. Further investigation will determine if acclimation is even an option on this site. As this proposal includes NNI Funding, Rohr will discuss this proposal in more detail with the PRCC and keep the Habitat subcommittee members advised. This proposal will remain on the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting.

- IX. Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) Coordination – Update Discussion:** Committee members continued their discussion regarding the possibility of CDLT providing investigation work for the Habitat Subcommittee relative to habitat protection proposals. Lenz stated he did some investigating at the PUD regarding the question of how the coordination issue might be handled with the CDLT. After some discussion of various ways that the coordination might work, Lenz suggested that CDLT include additional funds in their proposals to cover any expenses they incur. This would provide them with some funding to cover the costs of the investigations they are conducting. Subcommittee members agreed this may work. Bambrick agreed to discuss this concept with Bob Bugert of CDLT, and also to request that Bugert attend the next meeting to discuss the concept in more detail.
- X. Vertical Drop Structure 13 Proposal:** Fisher reviewed the VDS 13 project proposal. After committee members discussion, some members expressed concern that funding this project may lead to other VDS modification funding requests, and committee members favor these structures being removed rather than modified. Overall, the group felt there are more effective improvements or projects to be done up in the area and declined approval of this proposal. There was some discussion regarding the unscreened diversion on Vaseux Creek. Some committee members expressed interest in learning more about the unscreened diversion on Vaseux Creek, and Fisher agreed to keep the group apprised of any movement on this issue.
- XI. Project Updates:**
- McIntyre Dam – There was a recent meeting held to discuss how to operate the dam to facilitate fish passage as optimally as possible. There was discussion of possibly installing a live camera to operate the gates remotely for fish passage.
 - ORRI Project and the \$90K Overage – Fisher stated as an FYI that money for the overage has not been requested. Lenz stated he looked at the exchange rate and there is still quite a bit of information missing from the breakdown.
- XII. Other:** Rohr brought up the question of Habitat and Hatchery subcommittee coordination, seeking opinions from the subcommittee about more coordination through additional meetings and such. It is stated in the Habitat Plan that the committees will coordinate as needed. Rohr stated at the last PRCC meeting he was asked to look into scheduling a Habitat/Hatchery/PRCC joint meeting and to discuss the concept further with the Habitat subcommittee members. Subcommittee members discussed the concept and agreed to coordination as needed, but also committee members were unable to identify any issues that they felt needed coordination at this time, except for the White River Nason View issue, which is now resolved. Accordingly, subcommittee members

decided a joint meeting at this time was not warranted. Rohr will discuss the subject in more detail with the PRCC at the next meeting.

- XIII.** The next meeting of the Habitat Subcommittee is Thursday, May 13. There will be no HCP morning meeting, and therefore the committee members decided to hold the next meeting in Ephrata and start at 1:00 pm.