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## Memorandum

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**To:** Mike Schiewe  
**From:** Tracy Hillman  
**CC:** Tributary Committees  
**Date:** 20 June 2013  
**Re:** HCP Tributary Committees Meeting Progress Report

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The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans Tributary Committees met at Chelan PUD in Wenatchee, Washington, on Thursday, 13 June from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm.

### Small Projects Program Applications

In May, the Committees reviewed two Small Projects Program Applications, both from Trout Unlimited-Washington Water Projects. The first one was titled *Beaver Creek Late Season Well Installation Project*. The purpose of this project was to determine the feasibility of removing a landowner from a surface diversion on Beaver Creek during the period 1 August to 15 September. The sponsor proposed to install a well and conduct a pump test to assess the production of the well. If the conversion from surface water to well water is successful, a total of about 0.3 cfs could be saved permanently in trust. The total cost of the project was \$16,396.72. The sponsor requested \$16,396.72 from HCP Tributary Funds. After review of the proposal in May, the Tributary Committees were unable to make a funding decision, because additional information was needed from the sponsor. Following the May meeting, the sponsor responded to the Committees questions. After evaluating the proposal and the response to questions, ***the Tributary Committees elected not to fund this project***. The Committees would like to see the ditch shut down and the point of diversion removed.

The second proposal was titled *Antoine Creek Feedlot Relocation Project*. The purpose of this project was to improve water quality and riparian conditions in Antoine Creek, a steelhead stream in the Okanogan River basin, by moving an existing feedlot about 1.5 miles away from the stream. This action would significantly reduce nutrient loading and habitat degradation along 3,450 feet of Antoine Creek, and increase instream flows by about 18.2 gpm from October through February. The total cost of the project was \$97,533. The sponsor requested \$37,533 from HCP Tributary Funds. In May, the Tributary Committees decided to table the proposal, because there was a possibility that the Colville Confederated Tribes would fund the entire project. Following the May meeting, the Tribes elected to fund the entire project.

### Budget Amendments

In May, the Wells Tributary Committee received a budget amendment request from Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (CCFEG) on the Methow/Chewuch Shallow Groundwater Monitoring Project. The sponsor indicated that a Cultural Resource Survey was not necessary for this project and therefore asked if they could move the funds from that line item to Sponsor Salaries and Benefits, and Contract Labor. In May, the Wells Committee was unable to approve the amendment request without additional information. Following the May meeting, ***the Wells Committee received the information they requested and approved the budget amendment***.

The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee received a budget amendment request for Chelan-Douglas Land Trust on the Nason Creek Lower White Pine Alcove Acquisition Project. Because the appraisal was greater than estimated, the sponsor asked the Rocky Reach Tributary Committee for an extra \$27,300. Thus, the Committee's total contribution to this project is \$72,000. ***The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee approved the cost increase.***

### **Contract Extensions**

Because of unforeseen delays in permitting, Trout Unlimited asked the Rocky Reach Tributary Committee for a contract extension on the Chewuch River Instream Passage Project. The project was scheduled to end on 30 June 2013. The sponsor requested an extension to 31 December 2013. ***The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee approved the contract extension.***

Because of unforeseen delays on the Twisp River Well Conversion Project, Trout Unlimited asked the Wells Tributary Committee for a contract extension. The project is scheduled to end on 30 June 2013. The sponsor requested an extension to 31 October 2013. ***The Wells Tributary Committee approved the contract extension.***

### **General Salmon Habitat Program Pre-Proposals**

The Committees received 13 draft proposals for the 2013 round of the General Salmon Habitat Program. The Committees identified four projects that did not warrant a full proposal, because they were either inconsistent with the intent of the Tributary Fund or did not have strong technical merit. The Committees solicited full proposals from the remaining nine projects, which are due on Friday, 12 July. The proposed projects are located in the Okanogan, Methow, Entiat, and Wenatchee basins.

### **Meeting Schedule Changes**

The Committees changed their August and November meeting dates. The Committees will meet on Thursday, 15 August (not 8 August). Because of an Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Science Conference on 13-14 November, the Committees moved their meeting to Friday, 15 November (not 14 November).

### **Next Steps**

If necessary, the next meeting of the Tributary Committees will be on Thursday, 11 July 2013 at Chelan PUD in Wenatchee.