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## Memorandum

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**To:** Mike Schiewe  
**From:** Tracy Hillman  
**CC:** Tributary Committees  
**Date:** 17 November 2014  
**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 Douglas PUD in East Wenatchee, Washington, on Thursday, 13 November 2014 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

### **Small Projects Program Application: Clear Creek Fish Passage and Instream Flow Enhancement Project**

The Committees reviewed a Small Projects Program application from Trout Unlimited titled, *Clear Creek Fish Passage and Instream Flow Enhancement Project*. The purpose of the project is to improve flows within the lower 0.65 miles of Clear Creek by removing two irrigation diversions (partial fish barriers) and replacing them with a well. This will increase flows in Clear Creek by 0.45 cfs during the irrigation season (15 May through 30 September) and 0.25 cfs throughout the year. These actions will improve spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon. The total cost of the project was \$96,116. The sponsor requested \$69,500 from HCP Tributary Funds. ***The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee approved funding for this project.***

### **Small Projects Program Application: Lehman Riparian Restoration Project**

The Committees reviewed a Small Projects Program application from the Methow Conservancy titled, *Lehman Riparian Restoration Project*. The purpose of the project is to restore a 75-foot-wide riparian zone in four areas near RM 44 on the Methow River (M2 Reach) by planting over 700 stems consisting of black cottonwood, ponderosa pine, and Pacific willow. The sponsor will protect the plantings by placing a 7.5-foot-tall deer fence around the four areas. The sponsor will weed and monitor the site each year through 2018. The total cost of the project was \$40,267. The sponsor requested \$9,053 from HCP Tributary Funds. ***The Rock Island Tributary Committee approved funding for this project.*** As part of the funding for this project, the Committee requires that the sponsor provide annual reports through 2018 describing the success of the project.

### **Okanagan Project Tours**

On 8 and 9 October, the Committees toured habitat restoration projects on the Okanagan River in Canada. They toured ORRI 1 and 2, Vertical Drop Structure 13, McIntyre Dam, Shuttleworth Creek, Skaha Dam, Shingle Creek Dam, the Penticton Channel, and Trout Creek. The Committees were pleased with the progress that is occurring in the lower Okanagan Valley in Canada.

## **Entiat River Restoration Projects Presentation**

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) and their consultant, Natural Systems Design, gave the Committees a presentation on restoration actions proposed for the Entiat River Gray and Stormy Reaches. Although the final list of actions will likely be funded by the Bonneville Power Administration, the Committees need to review and approve the proposed actions because some are located on properties acquired by the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust with funds from the Tributary Committees. That is, restoration actions proposed on lands acquired (or protected) with Plan Species Account Funds must be approved by the Committees, even if the Committees are not funding the restoration actions.

The BOR and their consultant described the process by which they developed the conceptual plans, the different types of large wood designs, and side channel and alcove designs. They then showed the location and proposed actions (conceptual plans) for each project area. The Committees will review the conceptual plans and provide comments to the BOR by 5 December. The Committees will have additional opportunities to provide comments on the 30% and 60% designs.

## **Upper White Pine Presentation**

Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD), Interfluve, and the BOR gave a presentation to the Committees and the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee on updated information on the proposed approach for the Nason Creek Upper White Pine Restoration Project. The presentation included updated information on soil sampling, 2D modeling (including both water depth and velocity projections), and changes in the design concept. CCNRD would like to move the power lines in 2015 and construct the channel in 2016. The total cost of the project is about \$2.6M; they have already secured \$780,000 from Ecology. They intend to ask the Tributary Committees and the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee for about \$1.2M. The Committees provided CCNRD and the BOR with several comments. CCNRD will likely submit a proposal to the Committees sometime soon.

## **Next Steps**

The next meeting of the Tributary Committees will be on Thursday, 11 December 2014 at Grant PUD in Wenatchee.