

# Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCP Tributary Committees Notes 13 February 2014

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**Members Present:** Dale Bambrick (NOAA Fisheries), Lee Carlson (Yakama Nation), Jeremy Cram (WDFW), Chris Fisher (Colville Tribes), Steve Hays (Chelan PUD), Tom Kahler (Douglas PUD), and Tracy Hillman (Committees Chair).

**Members Absent:** Kate Terrell (USFWS).<sup>1</sup>

**Others Present:** Becky Gallaher (Tributary Project Coordinator), Justin Yeager (NOAA Fisheries), Jeff Osborn (Chelan PUD), Dave Duvall (Grant PUD), and Denny Rohr (PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Chair).

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The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans Tributary Committees met in the Chelan PUD Auditorium in Wenatchee, Washington, on Thursday, 13 February 2014 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

## **I. Review and Adopt Agenda**

Tracy Hillman welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Committees adopted the proposed agenda.

## **II. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes**

The Committees reviewed and approved the 9 January 2014 meeting notes.

## **III. Monthly Update on Ongoing Projects**

Becky Gallaher gave an update on funded projects. Most are progressing well or had no salient activity in the past month.

- Nason Creek Upper White Pine Reconnection – No new update.
- Mission Creek Fish Passage – No new update.
- Chewuch River Instream Passage Project – The project is complete and the sponsor (Trout Unlimited) will submit a final report soon.
- Nutrient Enhancement Assessment Project – Ecology has still not issued the administrative order for the Chiwawa nutrient enhancement work. However, there should be a recommendation by 13 February 2014. The recommendation will then be forwarded to the Program Management Team for a meeting on 18 March. If all goes well, a decision should be made by 25 March.
- Large Wood Atonement Project – The Sponsor (Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group; CCFEG) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have held two conference calls with the engineering firm (Natural System Design) and the contractor (Gravity Environmental). The team is confident the approach will work. Preliminary designs should be completed by the end of February and permits will be submitted by 14 February 2014.

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<sup>1</sup> Kate provided her vote on decision items before and after the meeting.

- Silver Protection Project – The Sponsor (WDFW) is soliciting bids for an appraisal for an 81.19-acre conservation easement (CE) on a portion of the Hill property (Silver Side Channel). The CE will ensure the option to implement habitat restoration.
- Coulter Creek Barrier Replacement Project – The project sponsor (CCNRD) provided no update on this project.
- Wenatchee Levee Removal and Riparian Restoration Project – The project sponsor (Chelan County Natural Resources Department; CCNRD) asked the Rock Island Tributary Committee if they would suspend indefinitely the Wenatchee Levee Removal and Riparian Restoration Project (see Attachment 1). Because the sponsor completed the removal of the levee, which was the primary intent of the project, the Committee elected to close the project rather than suspend the contract indefinitely. If the landowner decides to convert to an irrigation well, which will improve stream flows, then the sponsor can submit a new proposal for Committee review.
- Upper Beaver Habitat Improvement Channel Restoration Project – The project sponsor (Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation; MSRF) continued to monitor icing at the new diversion and throughout the reconstructed channel on a weekly basis. Additional monitoring was implemented along the constructed berms, and upstream and downstream from the diversion to document encroachment of ice.
- Lower Foster Creek Steelhead Habitat Enhancement Project – In January, the Wells Committee sent the Foster Creek Conservation District a letter stating that they will not enter into a contract with the District on this project. CCFEG indicated that they would like to take on the project if they have enough resources.
- Twisp River-Poorman Creek Wetland Habitat Acquisition – During the January meeting, the Wells Committee agreed to rescind the grant funding for this project because the scope had changed dramatically. The Committee invited the Sponsor (MSRF) to submit a new proposal with a revised scope of work. The sponsor indicated that they would submit the application during the 2014 SRFB/Tributary Committees funding round.
- Shingle Creek Fish Passage Project – Chris Fisher reported that the contractor (Westhills) has completed the staging of materials onsite. The engineer is on his way to the project site to make sure the contractor has staged the right materials. Construction is scheduled to begin mid-July. Re-vegetation work will occur during autumn 2014.
- Methow/Chewuch Shallow Groundwater Monitoring Project – Pressure transducers continue to record data. Results from the pump test at Burns-Garrity will be sent to the Committee soon.
- MVID Instream Flow Improvement Project – The Tributary/Sponsor Agreement is ready to be signed. Dale Bambrick and Chris Fisher noted that the Bureau of Reclamation is now involved with the design and the cost of the project has increased to about 16-18 million dollars. Dale noted that the project will not happen if the cost exceeds about 10 million dollars.
- Silver Side Channel Design Project – CCFEG (sponsor), USFWS, and WDFW are working together to select an engineering firm. They have tentatively decided on a firm, but will hold off on selecting the firm until they complete a follow-up interview.
- Twisp to Carlton Reach Assessment Project – The project sponsor (CCFEG) coordinated with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board on the RFP for conducting the reach assessment. The RFP was sent to several firms in early February.
- Similkameen RM 3.8 Project – No new update.

- Entiat Stillwaters Gray Reach Acquisition – Appraisals have been ordered for all four parcels; Bockhoven (north), Bockhoven (south), Crone, and Price. The Tributary/Sponsor Agreement is ready for signature.

**IV. Review of Policies and Procedures Documents**

During the last meeting, the Committees directed Tracy Hillman to provide draft language to the Policies and Procedures document for their review. The purpose of the draft language is to open the General Salmon Habitat Program (GSHP) to receive proposals at any time during the year. Currently, the schedule for the GSHP is coordinated with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) process. That is, GSHP draft proposals are received in early May and final proposals are received in late June. The proposed change would allow project sponsors to submit GSHP proposals at any time during the year. Tracy modified language in Sections 3.4 (The General Salmon Habitat Program), 5.1 (Draft Proposal Review), and 5.3 (Final Review). The Committees approved the edits and recommended that Tracy add additional language that indicates that the Committees will accept the Salmon Recovery Funding Board application for projects where Plan Species Account Funds are included as cost shares in SRFB proposals. For proposals submitted outside the SRFB process, project sponsors will use the Committees’ GSHP application. The Committees directed Tracy and Becky to inform project sponsors of the new policy.

**V. Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Action Plans for 2014**

Becky Gallaher provided the Committees with the Draft Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Tributary Committees Action Plans for 2014. The 2014 Action Plan for both Rocky Reach and Rock Island Tributary Committees is as follows:

- Plan Species Account Deposit: January 2014
- GSHP Project solicitation: January through December 2014
- GSHP Project Approval: January through December 2014
- GSHP Project Implementation: Ongoing
- Small Project Review and Approval: January through December 2014
- Small Project Implementation: Ongoing

*The Rocky Reach and Rock Island Tributary Committees approved the Rocky Reach and Rock Island Action Plans for 2014.*

**VI. Information Updates**

The following information updates were provided during the meeting.

1. Approved Payment Requests in January and February:

Rock Island Plan Species Account:

- \$1,222.80 to Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Twisp to Carlton Reach Assessment Project.

Rocky Reach Plan Species Account:

- \$1,332.26 to Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Silver Side Channel Design Project.
- \$6,200.14 to the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation for the Upper Beaver Habitat Improvement Channel Restoration Project.

## Wells Plan Species Account:

- \$814.00 to Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group for the Methow/Chewuch Shallow Groundwater Project.
  - \$190.49 to the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation for the Twisp River-Poorman Creek Wetland Habitat Acquisition Project. This was the final payment on this project.
  - \$6,072.53 to the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation for the Upper Beaver Habitat Improvement Channel Restoration Project.
2. Tracy Hillman reported that Matt Shales (CCFEG) asked if he could give a presentation to the Tributary Committees on the Silver Side Channel Design and the monitoring work they have conducted on the Methow/Chewuch Shallow Groundwater Monitoring Project. The Committees agreed to have Matt present to the Committees in March.
  3. Tracy Hillman reported that the PUDs deposited funds into each of the Plan Species Accounts at the end of January. Chelan PUD deposited \$698,905 into the Rock Island Account and \$331,015 into the Rocky Reach Account. Douglas PUD deposited \$253,775 into the Wells Account. As of the end of January 2014, the unallocated balance for each account is \$4,074,020 in the Rock Island Account, \$1,745,241 in the Rocky Reach Account, and \$1,228,313 in the Wells Account.
  4. Becky Gallaher said that Mickey Fleming (CDLT) asked if the Committees cover the cost of appraisal reviews. The Committees cover the cost of the appraiser, but it was not clear if the Committees also cover the cost of the review. The Committees confirmed that they cover both the cost of the appraisal and the cost of the review.
  5. Tracy Hillman and Becky Gallaher shared with the Committees the draft Upper Columbia SRFB/TC/BPA Funding Schedule (see Attachment 2). Draft proposals will be delivered to the Tributary Committees on 28 April or 2 May and the Committees will review the draft proposals during their May and June meetings (8 May and 12 June). Project tours are scheduled for 14-15 May (Methow and Okanogan) and 21-22 May (Wenatchee and Entiat). This year there will be no presentations. In the past, project sponsors gave presentations to both the Regional Technical Team (RTT) and the Tributary Committees. This year the RTT will meet on 4 June to discuss and develop detailed comments that will be sent to the sponsors. This means that the RTT will not meet on 11 June. Final proposals will be delivered to the Tributary Committees on 24 June. The Committees will make funding decisions on 10 July. This gives the Committees about three weeks to review the final proposals.

**VII. Next Steps**

The next meeting of the Tributary Committees will be on Thursday, 13 March 2014 at Chelan PUD in Wenatchee.

Meeting notes submitted by Tracy Hillman ([tracy.hillman@bioanalysts.net](mailto:tracy.hillman@bioanalysts.net)).

## Attachment 1

### Letter from CCNRD on the Wenatchee Levee Removal and Riparian Restoration Project



Chelan County Natural Resource Department  
316 Washington Street, Suite 401, Wenatchee, WA 98801  
Phone (509) 667-6640 Fax (509) 667-6527

RE: Wenatchee Levee Removal and Riparian Restoration Project (2012-04RI)

Dear Rock Island Tributary Committee Fund,

Chelan County Natural Resource Department (CCNRD) agrees with the Committee's recommendation that the landowner should work with an expert in water law to better inform them of current and past water use and future water needs and would like to ask the Committee to indefinitely suspend funding for this project. By allowing additional time for the landowner to better understand their water right claim and current and future water use/needs they will be able to make a more informed decision about installing an irrigation well.

The original intent of the project was to remove the 300ft long levee, restoring natural function, and restore the riparian area (see pictures below). The levee has been successfully removed and the riparian restoration will take place this spring using funding from another source. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff have inspected the existing intake structure and determined all fish screening criteria are being met. CCNRD will provide the Committee with a final project report once the riparian restoration portion has been completed.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lee P. Duncan'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Lee P Duncan

Natural Resource Specialist.



Before



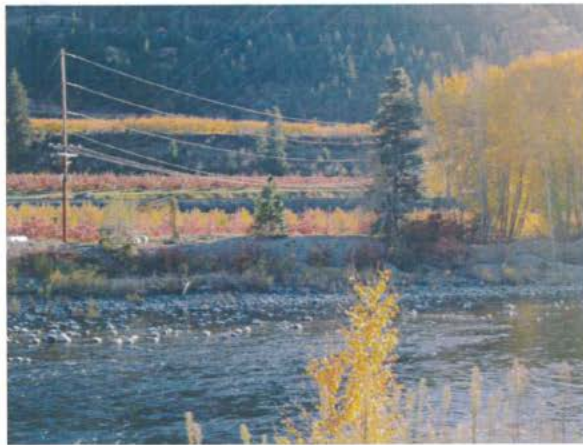
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Before



After



Before



After

Attachment 2

Proposed 2014 SRFB/GSHP/BPA Process Schedule

<b>DRAFT UPPER COLUMBIA SRFB/TRIB/BPA 2014 FUNDING SCHEDULE</b>				
DATE	ACTIVITY/MILESTONE	PARTICIPANTS	LOCATION	FACILITATOR/ COORDINATOR
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
Feb 13	Meeting: <b>2014 Debrief</b> and 2014 Planning Meeting	Sponsors, RCO	Chelan, WA. Fire District	LE/RTT Chair
Feb 21	Meeting/WebEx Optional: <b>HWS training</b>	Sponsors	WebEx	LE
<b>MARCH</b>				
TBD	Meeting/Workshop: <b>NEW Species lifecycle workshop</b>	Sponsors, Monitoring Groups	Wenatchee, TBD	LE
March 12	Meeting <i>Optional</i> : <b>NEW RTT project preview</b>	Sponsors, RTT, TRIB	Wenatchee, TBD	RTT Chair
March 25	Meeting: <b>SRFB/TRIB/BPA Kick-Off Meeting</b>	LE, RTT, TRIB, BPA, Sponsors, RCO	Chelan, WA. Fire District	LE/RCO
March 26	Meeting/Webinar <i>Optional</i> : <b>Salmon Recovery Grants Workshop</b>	Sponsors, RCO	Online Webinar	RCO
March 31	<b>Deadline:</b> All projects updated in HWS	<b>Sponsors</b>	<b>HWS</b>	<b>LE/WATs</b>
<b>APRIL</b>				
<b>MAY</b>				
April 28 <sup>th</sup> or May 2	<b>Deadline: Draft proposals due</b>	<b>Sponsors, LE, RCO, SRP, RTT, CAC, TRIB, BPA</b>	Prism	LE
May 14 & 15	<b>Meeting/Tours/Presentations:</b> SRFB/TRIB/BPA Project Tours	<b>Sponsors, LE, RTT, TRIB, BPA, SRFB SRP</b>	TBD	LE
	~14th Okanogan (Wed)			
	~15th Methow (Thur)			

<b>DRAFT UPPER COLUMBIA SRFB/TRIB/BPA 2014 FUNDING SCHEDULE</b>				
<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/MILESTONE</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>FACILITATOR/ COORDINATOR</b>
<b>May 21 &amp; 22</b>	<b>Meeting/Tours/Presentations:</b> SRFB/TRIB/BPA Project Tours	<b>Sponsors, LE, RTT, TRIB, BPA, SRFB SRP</b>	TBD	LE
	~21th Wenatchee (Wed)			
	~22th Entiat (Thur)			
<b>JUNE</b>				
<b>May 28 - June 5</b>	Action: <b>SRP provides comments</b>	SRP	Email via LE	RCO
<b>June 4</b>	Action: <b>RTT provides comments</b> following tours	RTT	Email via LE	RTT Chair
<b>June 11</b>	Meeting/ <b>Project Discussions:</b> Opportunity to discuss projects with RTT if needed	<b>Sponsors, RTT, CAC, LE, TRIB</b>	RTT Meeting TBD	RTT Chair
<b>June 12</b>	Action: TRIB reviews draft proposals	TRIB	TRIB	TRIB
<b>June 16</b>	Action: RTT provides additional comments if needed	RTT	Email via LE	RTT Chair
<b>June 20</b>	Action: <b>TRIB provides comments</b>	TRIB	Email	TRIB
<b>June 24, Monday</b>	<b>DEADLINE: Final proposals due for <u>Regional Review</u></b>	<b>Sponsors, LE, RTT, CAC, TRIB, BPA</b>	Prism	LE
<b>JULY</b>				
<b>July 9</b>	Action: <b>RTT technical scoring</b>	RTT, CAC, LE, BPA, BOR	RTT Meeting (TBD)	RTT
<b>July 10</b>	Action: TRIB reviews final proposals	TRIB	TRIB	TRIB
<b>July 20</b>	Action: <b>TRIB Decisions</b>	TRIB	Email/Letter	TRIB
<b>July 22 &amp; 24</b>	Meeting/ <b>Presentations CAC:</b> Chelan CAC - August 22th Okanogan CAC - Aug 24nd	<b>Sponsors, CAC, RTT, LE</b>	Wenatchee Reclamation Dist. & River Bank, Twisp	LE



<b>DRAFT UPPER COLUMBIA SRFB/TRIB/BPA 2014 FUNDING SCHEDULE</b>				
<b>DATE</b>	<b>ACTIVITY/MILESTONE</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>FACILITATOR/ COORDINATOR</b>
<b>July 29 &amp; 31</b>	Meeting: <b>CAC Project Rankings</b> Chelan CAC - August 29th Okanogan CAC - Aug 31th	CAC, LE	Wenatchee Reclamation Dist. & River Bank, Twisp	LE
<b>AUGUST</b>				
<b>August 6</b>	Meeting: joint CAC approves <b>Final Ranked Project List</b>	Joint CAC, LE	Chelan PUD, Chelan WA	LE
<b>August 15</b>	<b>Deadline: RCO PRISM upload, Regional List</b>	<b>Sponsors, LE</b>	<b>Prism</b>	<b>LE/RCO</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>				
<b>Sept 5</b>	<b>Deadline: Regional Submittal</b>	<b>LE</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>LE</b>
<b>OCTOBER</b>				
<b>Oct 4</b>	Action: SRP provide comments	SRP	Email via LE	SRP
<b>Oct 15</b>	<b>Deadline: Response to comments from project sponsors to SRP</b>	<b>Sponsors, LE</b>	<b>Email via LE</b>	<b>LE</b>
<b>Oct 21-24</b>	Meeting/ <b>Presentations:</b> Sponsors present projects to SRP ( <i>only projects identified</i> )	Select <b>Sponsors,</b> LE	Olympia, Washington	RCO
<b>Oct 30</b>	Action: SRP finalizes comments	SRP	Email via LE	SRP
<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
<b>November</b>	Final report by SRP to SRFB	RCO		RCO
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
<b>December</b>	Action: <b>SRFB Decisions</b>	SRFB	Olympia, WA	RCO

### Acronyms

CAC- Citizen's Advisory Committee  
 BPA- Bonneville Power Administration  
 LE- Lead Entity Coordinator/Program  
 RCO- Recreation and Conservation Office

RTT- Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team  
SRP- State Review Panel  
SRFB- Salmon Recovery Funding Board  
TRIB- Tributary Committee  
UC- Upper Columbia Region  
UCSRB- Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board

<b>Timeline Legend</b>	
Meetings	Blue
Deadlines	Red
Actions	Black