



Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCP Tributary Committees Notes 11 January 2018

Members Present: Jeremy Cram (WDFW), Chris Fisher (Colville Tribes), Tom Kahler (Douglas PUD), Brandon Rogers (Yakama Nation), Kate Terrell (USFWS), Catherine Willard (Chelan PUD), Justin Yeager (NOAA Fisheries), and Tracy Hillman (Committees Chair).

Others Present: Becky Gallaher (Tributary Project Coordinator), Jenni Novak (WDFW), Aaron Penvose (Trout Unlimited), Shawn Stanley (WDFW), Denny Rohr (PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Facilitator), and Dave Duvall (Grant PUD) joined the meeting for the presentation on the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and City of Leavenworth Fish Screens.

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans Tributary Committees met at Grant PUD in Wenatchee, Washington, on Thursday, 11 January 2018 from 10:00 am to 1:00 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 November 2017 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.

- Clear Creek Fish Passage and Instream Flow Project – The sponsor (Trout Unlimited; TU) is preparing to re-advertise the construction work. The sponsor is also working with the landowner to secure an additional \$40,000-\$50,000 for the project.
- Barkley Irrigation – Under Pressure Project – The sponsor (TU) is working on the bid package. The sponsor has prepared three proposals hoping to secure funds to close the gap in Phase 1 of the project.
- Icicle Boulder Field Project – The sponsor (TU) facilitated a review of the geotech report with the engineers and provided comments back to the consultant. In addition, the sponsor, working with the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, facilitated a meeting with the Action Agencies to discuss project implementation and how to best encourage support from the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and the City of Leavenworth. The meeting was productive and led to decision targets.

- Peshastin Creek RM 10.5 PIT-Tag Detection Site Project – The sponsor (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; WDFW) will submit the second-year monitoring report on work conducted in 2017.
- Permitting Nutrient Enhancement Project – The sponsor (Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group; CCFEG) did not provide an update this month.
- Burns-Garrity Design Project – The sponsor (CCFEG) did not provide an update this month.
- Beaver Fever Project – The sponsor (TU) reported there was no new activity on this project.
- Wenatchee Sleepy Hollow Floodplain Acquisition Project – The sponsor (Chelan-Douglas Land Trust; CDLT) reported there was no new activity on this project.
- M2 Mid-Sugar Acquisition Project – The sponsor (Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation; MSRF) reported there was no new activity on this project.

IV. Review of Tributary Committees' Policies and Procedures

Policies and Procedures for Funding Projects

The Committees reviewed their Policies and Procedures document and made edits to clarify language in Sections 3.2 (General Salmon Habitat Program), 3.6 (Permits), 4.2 (Eligible Projects and Elements), 6.5 (Site Inspections), 6.7 (Project Reimbursements). In addition, the Committees rearranged some sections to reflect a more logical order.

Tributary Committee Operating Procedures

The Committees reviewed and updated their operating procedures. Chelan PUD designated Catherine Willard as their voting member and Scott Hopkins as the alternate on the Rock Island and Rocky Reach Tributary Committees. The Yakama Nation designated Brandon Rogers as the alternate on all three committees.

V. General Salmon Habitat Program Proposal

Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and City of Leavenworth Fish Screens Project

The Committees received a General Salmon Habitat Program proposal from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife titled: *Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and City of Leavenworth Fish Screen Project*. In addition, Jenni Novak, WDFW, with support from Shawn Stanley, WDFW, and Aaron Penvose, TU, gave a presentation to the Committees regarding the screening project (see Attachment 1). The purpose of this project is to bring both the Icicle-Peshastin Irrigation District and City of Leavenworth screens into compliance to protect all fish species and life stages from injury, entrainment, and mortality. The diversions are located at RM 5.8 on Icicle Creek. The proposed work will complement the Icicle Creek – Boulder Field – Wild Fish to Wilderness Project. The total cost of the screening project is \$2,468,000. The sponsor requested \$476,000 from HCP Plan Species Account Funds.

Although the Committees support fish passage at the boulder field and screening the intakes, they found the application incomplete and requested that the sponsor provide the following information:

1. IPID and the City of Leavenworth need to demonstrate that they are financially committed to the project by covering at least 25% of the overall project cost. Their contribution can be “in-kind” (contributing workers, equipment, etc.) or dollars or both. Regardless of the form of contribution, the Committees would like to see IPID and the City’s contributions as line-items in the budget.
2. There can be no strings attached to the funding and implementation of the screening project. That is, in their letter of support, IPID stated: “This agreement would have to have an incidental take permit and hold harmless agreement to cover our continued diversion with our current screens

until our new screens are constructed at no cost to the Districts.” This is unacceptable and for the Committees to consider funding the screening project, they would need a letter from IPID stating that installation of the screens is not contingent on any other agreements.

Once the Committees receive the additional information, they will reevaluate the proposal.

VI. Information Updates

The following information updates were provided during the meeting.

1. Approved Payment Requests from November to January:

Rock Island Plan Species Account:

- \$162.50 to Clifton Larson Allen for Rock Island financial administration in November 2017.
- \$21,600 to Chelan County Natural Resources Department for the Poison Canyon Restoration Project. This was the final payment request.
- \$78.00 to Clifton Larson Allen for Rock Island financial administration in December 2017.
- \$360.69 to Chelan County PUD for project coordination and administration during the fourth quarter of 2017.

Rocky Reach Plan Species Account:

- \$162.50 to Clifton Larson Allen for Rocky Reach financial administration in November 2017.
- \$78.00 to Clifton Larson Allen for Rocky Reach financial administration in December 2017.
- \$361.50 to Chelan County PUD for project coordination and administration during the fourth quarter of 2017.

Wells Plan Species Account:

- \$275.89 to Chelan County PUD for project coordination and administration during the fourth quarter of 2017.
- \$4,979.94 to Trout Unlimited for the MVID Instream Flow Improvement Project.

2. Tracy Hillman reminded the Committees that the Upper Columbia Science Conference, which is hosted by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board, will be on 24 and 25 January 2018 in Wenatchee.
3. Tracy Hillman reported that he and Becky Gallaher completed Section 2.3 (Tributary Committees and Plan Species Accounts) for the Annual Report of Activities under the Anadromous Fish Agreement and Habitat Conservation Plan for each hydroelectric project. Tracy said he sent the draft reports to Anchor QEA, who is compiling the draft annual reports. The draft reports will be sent to the HCP Coordinating Committees for review. The PUDs will submit the final reports to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in April.
4. Last year, members of the Committees began identifying possible funded projects they would like to visit. Given the long list of possible projects that the Committees generated last year, Tracy Hillman asked each member to identify five projects they would like to visit. Tracy will then compile the list and the Committees will select projects to tour in 2018. The tour is to take no

more than two days (one day for Okanogan/Methow projects and one day for Entiat/Wenatchee projects).

5. Tracy Hillman said the Tributary Committees will continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month in 2018. Those meeting dates are as follows:

- Jan 11
- Feb 8
- Mar 8
- Apr 12
- May 10
- Jun 14
- Jul 12
- Aug 9
- Sep 13
- Oct 11
- Nov 8
- Dec 13

VII. Next Steps

The next meeting of the Tributary Committees will be on Thursday, 8 March 2018 at Grant PUD in Wenatchee. The Committees will not meet in February.

Meeting notes submitted by Tracy Hillman (tracy.hillman@bioanalysts.net).

Attachment 1