

Tributary Committees Update

The Tributary Committees did not meet in December but received a time extension request and a budget amendment request, which they reviewed in December.

I. Time Extension

Nason Kahler Instream Complexity Project

The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee received a time extension request from Chelan County Natural Resources Department on the Nason Kahler Instream Complexity Project. Because of changes in the FEMA no-rise policy and the fact that the project will occur in a regulated floodway, the sponsor will need to prepare a Letter of Map Revision with FEMA. This will require additional time to complete modelling and analyses. In addition, because of the short in-water work window in 2022 (30 days), construction may need to extend into the 2023 in-water work window. Therefore, the sponsor requested a time extension from 31 December 2021 to 31 December 2023. The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee agreed to extend the contract period to 31 December 2023.

II. Time Extension and Budget Amendment

Chumstick Baseflow and Riparian Enhancement Project

The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee reviewed a time extension and budget amendment from Cascadia Conservation District on the Chumstick Baseflow and Riparian Enhancement Project. Because of staff shortages and FEMA issues, the sponsor requested a time extension from 31 December 2021 to 31 December 2022. In addition, to account for new permitting requirements, the sponsor asked to move funds from Salaries and Benefits and Indirect/Overhead/Admin to a new line item (Professional Services). After review, the Rocky Reach Tributary Committee approved the time extension and budget amendment. The total budget for the project will not change as a result of this amendment.

III. Small Projects Program Applications

Methow 3R Floodplain Restoration Feasibility Study Project

The Committees received a Small Projects Program application from the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) titled, Methow 3R Floodplain Restoration Feasibility Study Project. The purpose of the project is to complete a feasibility study to evaluate potential restoration opportunities along the Methow River between river miles 46.0-47.3. This reach of the Methow River has multiple

opportunities to reconnect side channels and floodplains, increase thermal refugia, and enhance instream complexity while working with engaged landowners. The sponsor proposes to work closely with the Tributary Committees to identify feasible alternatives. The total cost of the project was \$59,238. The sponsor requested \$54,238 from HCP Plan Species Account Funds. The Wells Tributary Committee elected to contribute \$54,238 to the feasibility study.

IV. Next Meeting

The Committees next meeting will be on 13 January 2022.