

Attendees: Dave Myra, Heather Simmons-Rigdon, RC&D; Richard Visser, Jennifer Scott, WDFW; Becca Wassell, Mid-Columbia RFEG; DJ Shook, Anna Lael, Kittitas County CD; Mike Tobin, Justin Bader, Brian Schmidt, North Yakima CD; Angie Begosh, YBFWRB; Pat Monk, USFWS; David Child, YBJB; Jason McCormick, WWT; .Ken Schuster, Stan Isley, Ecology; David Gerth, KCT; Henry Fraser, YN.

1. ADMINISTRATION

- a) Approve Agenda ✓
- b) Approve December 08 Minutes ✓
- c) SOW Format – Sow information received from KCT, NYCD, MCRFEG & YN – KCCD complete after Manager's review
- d) Project Submission – A total of 18 projects have been submitted so far for the 09-10 YTAHP funding cycle – Some projects are Expense budget only due to their riparian restoration activities.
- e) Budget Discussions – The 08-09 budgets need to be reviewed for potential changes and if there are any need to be dealt with ASAP due to this budget cycle closing 3/31/09. The 09-10 budget will need to be massaged considerably in order to accommodate the increased request in project participation. All potential projects need to be carefully scrutinized and evaluated in order to determining their opportunity for installation in the upcoming budget cycle. A meeting was scheduled for 1/28 at the WDFW offices in Ellensburg to work on which projects would be included in the upcoming SOW.

2. UPDATES

a) NYCD (MT, JB)

Shelly Ward Drilled Well Project The ringwell was decommissioned on December 31st. The entire project of drilling and decommissioning the wells came in \$2,100 under the original bid from Arcadia Well Drilling. If all goes well with output from both irrigation wells, the next step will be to abandon the diversion on Rattlesnake Creek.

North Fork Ahtanum Gauge A geomorphic analysis was released by Barry Southerland and we have met with Alex representing the lead entity funding source and Richard representing WDFW, to discuss the report and how to interpret the data based on views and concerns of WDFW and requests of the SRFB. We are currently addressing some specific questions regarding permitting and engineering before we hold another TWG.

Fines Diversion We recently had contact from the landowner's business manager, who expressed his willingness and agreement that easement issues needed to be resolved between the landowner and irrigator. Hopefully this means that the two will sit down and come to some agreement that will provide access for the irrigator. This will probably include, realignment and piping of the irrigation ditch from the diversion to the fields, which mean we may be able to plug in the Irrigation Efficiencies Program into this project.

Pump Screen Projects We currently have three pump screen projects out to bid. The bidding window closes on the 6th of Feb. and we plan on implementation by mid March.

Cowiche Creek Water Users Association and Yakima Tieton Irrigation District Hookup The Bureau is currently working with YTID to absolve any concerns that is has over the hook-up.

Wenas Creek Projects Based on comments from December YTAHP Core Team meeting:

Using SSHEARS data collected during the summer of 2007, aerial photography, as well as field investigations, It is determined that there are no barriers to fish passage from the mouth of Wenas Creek to the upstream end of the Swart property.

The main goal/objectives of this project are to:

1. Improve riparian habitat and water quality with the implementation of riparian fencing and plantings.
2. Improve water quality, protect property and sprinkler system infrastructure, and protect new fence and plantings through implementation of bank and instream stabilization structures.
3. Install a hardened crossing for stock and vehicle access to the north side of the property for access to irrigation diversion and pump.

Engineering/surveying for this project is estimated at approximately \$16,000 for around 853 feet of stream bank.



Overview of Swart Property



Problem area, excess erosion on vertical bank



Close-up of cut-bank

b) KCCD (DJ, AL's notes)

Currier Creek Diversion Project – A lot has been happening with this project lately. We received one bid from MRM for the hypalon sheet repair in late December. The bid was for a little over \$17,000. Before we accept that bid the board decided to have a project meeting and give the main contractor a look at what we are proposing and see if they had any ideas. The special meeting is scheduled for Thursday January 22nd. The engineer will attend the meeting via phone. The well drilling project is in construction. The well driller should have the last well installed tomorrow. The Ellensburg Water Company needs to clean out the streambed gravel in front of the fish screen prior to any dewatering. The screen cleaning brush is currently buried in gravel, there is only one inch of screen exposed in places, and there is stream bed gravel where the stop logs go. Larry, from EWC, will need to get an emergency HPA to have this area cleaned out.

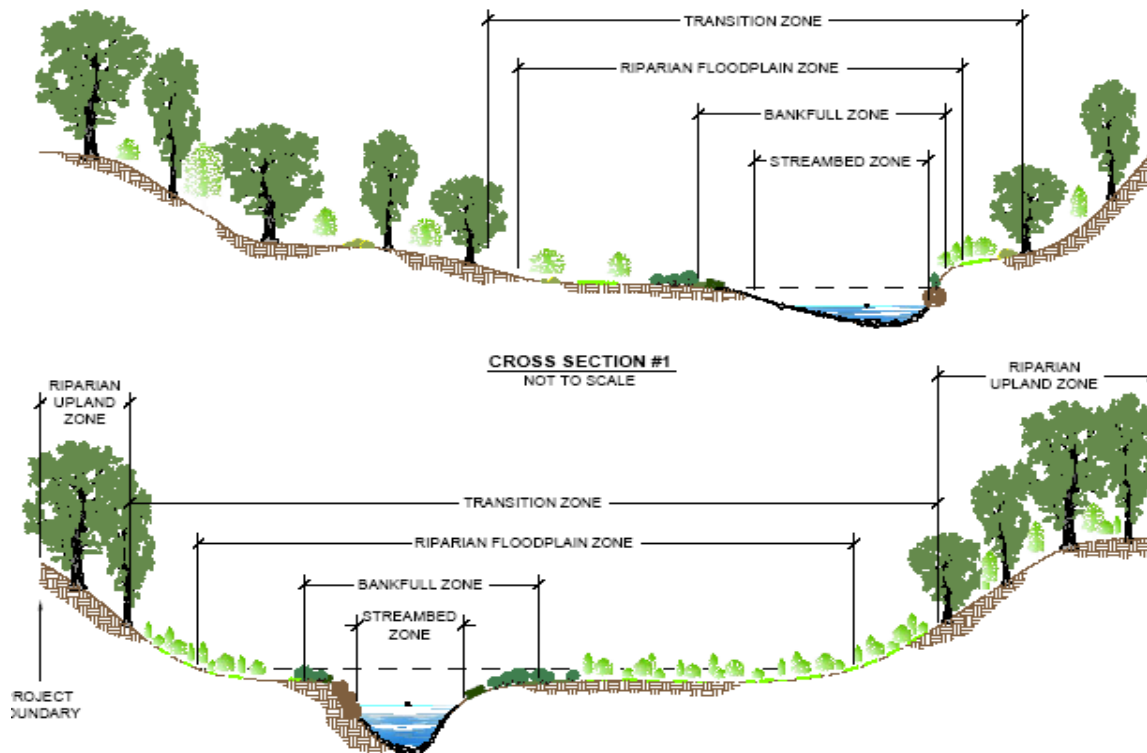
c) KCT (DG)

CURRIER & REECER CREEKS Pautzke Diversion: (Currier Creek): On December 22, 2008 the contractor (Thayer Excavating) mobilized at the site on the right bank of Currier Creek. The next day the diversion structure was de-constructed and removed from Currier Creek and all debris hauled off.. The concrete was so thick that Thayer will need to rent a boom mounted hydraulic chisel to break the concrete pieces into recyclable chunks (at an additional cost). They estimated 20 - 25 tons of concrete was

removed. The procedure was so clean that re-vegetation will not be necessary. The hay grower (Eason) was on site during the diversion removal.

Currier Creek Restoration Plan: *GeoEngineers* has delivered a 41-page aquatic and riparian habitat restoration plan for the Deneen property between Hiway 10 and Town Canal. Three segments are described in great detail for meander creation, instream habitat and grade control structures, and riparian and near upland re-vegetation plans.

Currier Creek is now *barrier free* from Reecer Creek to Town Canal and beyond!



KCT plans to collaborate with D.J. Shook on plant purchases in early 2009 when native vegetation plantings are a good value. Talks are underway with the landowner about land protections in the Currier Creek corridor of 100 ft. each side of the OHWM.

TANEUM CREEK PASSAGE PROJECTS **Bruton Diversion:** Paul Tappel (Fish Consultants, Inc.) has been contracted to design a roughened channel fish passage solution at Bruton. The Bureau of Reclamation is working on a water deal with the Bruton people that would allow either partial or complete removal of the Bruton Dam. A meeting is set for Jan. 27, 2009 in Thorp with the Bureau, WWT, and KCCD to talk next steps.

Taneum Canal Co. Diversion: Design at TCC awaiting solutions for Bruton to be finalized.

CLE ELUM RIVER ENGINEERED LOG JAMS: US Forest Service, Wenatchee-Okanogan National Forest, Cle Elum Ranger District will share the NEPA Lead Agency role with US Fish & Wildlife (Wenatchee and Leavenworth). Jen Scott is orchestrating the permit acquisition process. Staging of root-wad logs is planned for June – Sept. and construction is scheduled to begin in autumn 2009. Additional construction funds have been requested from WA Dept. of Ecology, *Watershed Plan Implementation Program*.

SWAUK CREEK RESTORATION: *Herrera Environmental* has delivered a restoration plan for 8,000 feet of stream in the project area (Ranch on Swauk Creek). The plan includes conceptual and site

specific habitat improvement actions for on-the-ground implementation. The Yakama Nation (Hank Fraser) has requested funding from the Dept. of Ecology *Water Quality Program* to support plan implementation and reduce water temperatures in Swauk.



d) RC&D (CR)

Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration Displayed project poster at e³ event on Saturday in Ellensburg. Held monthly project meeting (going to be regular from here through fall, at least). Attended flood post-mortem organized by Scott Nicolai, YN. Preparing SRFB invoice. Met with RC&D re invoicing in anticipation of multiple funding sources and monthly voucher submittals. Attended two presentations to Ellensburg City Council re project boundaries and survey points.

e) Mid Columbia Fisheries (BW)

Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration Working with Gina McCoy and Anchor Environmental to provide information for City Council meetings.

3. PROJECT MONITORING (JS)

No updates given.

4. ITEMS OF INTEREST

a) Lower Cowiche Group DM gave a report on the meeting he and Dave Brown had with the City of Yakima Engineer regarding the bridge replacement on Powerhouse Rd. where it crosses Cowiche Cr.. The City does not have plans at this time to follow-up on replacement as the County had planned. The City did agree to participate in further meetings of the group working on Lower Cowiche Cr. Issues.

b) Cowiche Plan RV indicated he had not had the opportunity to do any further work on the plan due to other commitments but will be following up on the process and time allows.

c) SHPO – MOA Beth Dodrill and Paul Sadin are on contract with BPA to develop a “Historical picture of irrigation in the Yakima Valley”. This was considered necessary due to the work YTAHP is doing eliminating irrigation structures which are more than 50 years old and therefore considered to be of historical significance. Their work is intended to develop a “Historical Context Statement” which will help in satisfying the SHPO concern of the impact to these perceived “artifacts”.

Beth and Paul gave an update of their activities to this point and then asked the group for further ideas as to sources they may investigate for further historical information. They also set appointments with representatives from the CD’s to visit representative structures in the field. They thanked Jen S. for assistance and communication to this point in their work.

5. NEXT MEETING: February 18, 2009, 9:30 a.m, Yakima
Location: USDA Service Center Conference Room
1606 Perry St. Yakima (454-5736 x 128)

Project Discussion

a. Update on Bruton Project Pat M. and Stan Isley provided an update on activities related to the BOR work with the water users group on the Bruton project as well as an update on other matters related to the proposed project. A water users meeting was held to engage the landowners served by the water from the diversion point. One of the water users voiced opposition to the proposed change of method of providing water to the acreage served. This landowner only has 3 ac. And it would be feasible to install a small lift pump to provide their delivery. Also of concern was the need to provide stock water during the non irrigation season.

Pat reported working with the landowner who would be asked to provide right of way for the piping being proposed from the canal. The landowner indicated he would be willing to work with the Bureau in provided needed access. Pat had also visited with the DOT about accessing under I-90 and was told it would probably be allowable to route the pipe through an existing culvert.

Next step is another landowner meeting on Tuesday, January 27 at the Thorp School. KCCD, WWT and BOR will participate in the meeting with the landowners.

b. Swart Property NYCD provided further information regarding developing a project on this property. A discussion was held regarding the merit of the project due to it being located in the Wenas. The group decided to support the project due to the fact that it is connected to other properties with riparian improvements in place and have a direct connection to the Yakima mainstem. It was felt the improved habitat could be valuable for off-channel rearing and feeding. Additional information from NYCD is included.