

Attendees: Dave Myra, Carol Ready, RC&D; Jennifer Scott, WDFW; Becca Wassell, Mid-Columbia RFEG; Anna Lael, Mark Crowley, Kittitas County CD; Mike Tobin, Justin Bader, North Yakima CD; Scott Nicolai, Henry Fraser, YN; Pat Monk, USFWS; Richard Visser, USFWS; David Child, YBJB.

1. ADMINISTRATION

- a) Approve Agenda ✓
- b) Approve Minutes ✓ With Jen Scott amendments
- c) Budget Discussion – Jan, Feb, Mar Vouchers are remaining to zero out budgets.
- d) River Rat – scheduled today – may be able to reschedule. Must pay our own way.

2. UPDATES

a) NYCD (MT, JB)

Swart: Wildlands was awarded the contract for planting at the property. They will begin site prep and planting in the first of February. They anticipate the entire project will take approximately two weeks. Fencing of the buffer will begin in April by the WCC crew.

North Fork Ahtanum Gauge: A technical work group was held on the 14th where Inter-fluve presented design alternatives and their preferred choice. The TWG agreed with the preferred alternative of gauge removal and construction of a roughen channel.

Cowiche Creek Water Users Association and Yakima Tieton Irrigation District Hookup: On January 21st a YTID user informational meeting was held where NYCD and YTID presented the project to around 30 attendees. Several users voiced concerns over the Federal Government requiring YTID to supplement Cowiche Creek with irrigation water during drought years if ESA species were established in the creek, citing the events in Klamath Basin as an example. The YTID board will vote on the project on the 11th of February. NOAA and the Yakima Basin Joint Board Biologists have both submitted letters of support for the project.

Matson: Jack Myrick with the Conservation Commission is currently designing the pipeline for this project. We will begin permitting as soon as designs are submitted to us.

Fines Diversion: A third party has showed interest in purchasing the parcel that the diversion is on to build a residential development. Ahtanum Ridge Business Park has developed a residential development plan for the parcel where the diversion exists. As part of their plan, they are proposing to move the current diversion upstream and pipe the water into a 5 acre pond to serve as a water feature to the development before going underground to serve the original place of use.

We will not expend any more resources on this project until the land owner and irrigator have figured out what is going to happen to this parcel and any associated potential water rights modifications or changes have been worked out.

Cowychee Ditch: Our engineers have begun designing the fish screen, water meter, and pipeline for this project. We are currently working to get cultural resource permitting completed. We will continue to explore possibilities to get all the users off the ditch and using alternate sources of water in the future. We will also develop a suite of alternatives tailored to each user on the ditch that provides different ways to get their water as well as the approximate cost/value for potential buyout.

b) KCCD (DJ, AL's notes)

Coleman Creek (Nisbet) – We are continuing to work with the contractor to monitor work at the site- especially fixing the conduit. Schedule the riparian planting work.

Coleman (Burris)- We are working with the landowner and neighbors to address the problems with the irrigation system and to determine whether or not a screen will need to go in the creek.

Coleman (Ringer) – We received a complaint from irrigators at this site regarding their fish screen. They say that it doesn't function. WE will be contacting the Screen Shop and setting up a site visit before irrigation season starts.

Greer Ditch- We are finalizing the bid package and plan to advertise the project and conduct a pre-bid meeting on Feb 5.

Olson Ditch/Dry Creek- We have a cost estimate for the design of siphon. We need to contact DOT regarding potential funding for the engineering and design work.

3M Ditch- The SRF grant was effective 1/15/10. We need to acquire permission to access forms signed by all landowners and get the cultural resources surveys underway.

Jack Creek and Indian Creek- We will be reminding the contractor to patch the last of the holes at Indian Creek. We are also waiting for final releases from state agencies for the retainage.

Red Bridge and Lambert Road – We will be setting up a TWG to include Al Potter, landowners, WDFW, USBR, BPA to review Al Potter's designs and decide how to move forward.

Acheson Flood Fence Project- We are waiting on the permits for this project, but still hopeful that we can construct this spring.

c) KCT (DG, HF) See also February 2010 Meeting Notes

Taneum Diversion: HF, DG, KR, Pat Monk, Scott Kline (BOR), Paul Tappell (Engineer) looking into design, including automation of headgate(s). Need more survey work. Project engineering for TCC fish passage project is contracted with Fisheries Consultants, Inc. (Paul Tappel) using YTAHP funds passed through the KCCD. The reimbursement contract is in place with a not to exceed \$ 22,792 as shown below for Items 1-8. The contract runs through March 31, 2009. The TCC fish passage component is part of an integrated project to make the diversion, screens and fish passage a better system. Partners include BOR, USFWS, KR, Taneum Canal Co., Ecology, SRFB, YN.

Taneum Canal Co. has invited KCT and others involved in the TCC project to attend their annual meeting on March 13, 2010 in Thorp. After that meeting and when Design documents are complete a YTAHP TWG meeting will be scheduled (late March).

CLE ELUM RIVER ENGINEERED LOG JAMS: YTAHP administrators Myra and Ready and KCCD reveg staff Brent visited the ELJ site on the east bank on Feb. 24, 2010. Brent gained a greater understanding of the tasks he inherited from D.J. Shook.

Swauk: Riparian Restoration Plan (Herrera), Ecology CWA funding pending. Permanent solution to 2 screens is in the works. A Request for Proposals for engineering and construction oversight services was distributed to four qualified firms: Herrera Environmental, InterFluve, GeoEngineers, and ENTRIX. The RFP was distributed by Yakama Nation, the recipient of the Dept. of Ecology Water Quality grant that is funding the project. Responses are due to HF by March 24, 2010 in Ellensburg. HF is exploring Cultural 106 permit processes and expects to call for a YTAHP TWG meeting soon. Flood damage to existing screen, which has been transferred to WDFW shop (Pat S) for repair.

Currier Creek A SRFB Amendment request (05-1573C) has been submitted to move remaining funds from the Pott/Pautzke project reach to the adjacent upstream reach (Deneen/Green). The proposed actions include creating stream meanders, instream complexity with LWD, extensive plantings of semi-mature trees and shrubs, and facilitating natural restorative instream processes. ENTRIX (Tim Abbe) has been contracted for stream modeling, technical exhibits, and preliminary design/build tasks. Construction planned for 2010.

Reecer Creek: – 4 screens; Pautske and upstream.

Little Creek: Upgrade existing screens (with Pat Schille)

Comment – Need Work Element under BPA-YTAHP to do permitting (now only associated with projects constructed with YTAHP dollars).

d) RC&D (CR)

CR is looking for funding to support the Reecer floodplain project and general YTAHP riparian (expense) projects or elements of larger projects. Only about \$124,000 of YTAHP dollars can be expended on expense work (vs capital).

e) Mid Columbia Fisheries (BW)

Yonker: Done in Oct, Nov planting. Little water is in the channel, but it will remain a highwater refuge. In 2010 it provides a mini-flip-flop for redds. While not designed for it, it may be spawning habitat.

Cowiche: Dike removal and planting, weed spraying. There is beaver activity noted.

Jack Creek Floodplain: Interfluvial meeting to look at draft CWA plus USFWS funding applications.

USFS: NEPA, GIS query. Clear Elum wood replacement.

Reecer Creek Floodplain: Can we add this project to the YTAHP scope of work? Reecer floodplain project is consistent with the YTAHP strategic plan, but is largely expensive. Comment regarding BPA (Jay Marcotte, Peter Lofie) could possibly cover elements addressing scour protection.

3. PROJECT MONITORING (JS)

NMFS 4(d) reduces steelhead take in 2009. ~2,000 fish saved. FYI – USFWS proposed to change bulltrout critical habitat listing – the entire Yakima Basin. Our project may not change much. Public comments: Wenatchee Public Meeting Feb 23, 6-8:00 pm.

WDFW fish passage/diversion prioritization manual (~old SSHEAR, A & B analysis) training?

ACOE New ESA Programmatic for Upper Columbia/Yakima “SPIF”

RCO – On-line Survey; Limit 8, ACOE + Forest Service BLM (not cover bull trout)

4. ITEMS OF INTEREST

a) Scott Nicolai – shared some “eye candy” coho at Holmes, a video by William Meyer.

Presentation on forestry and an assessment of Taneum Creek wood recruitment. GeoEngineers have done an assessment. Phase I implementation –recruit and replenish trees manually with grip hoist (4,000-16,000 lbs). Wood was from thinning adjacent upland. Fresh cut trees are heavy with moisture and less buoyant; ~ 12 month work window. Phase II will be to use large equipment on 2 sites - Heart K and state owned land. Desire to essentially thin forest and improve stream conditions. Looking at 300-500 stems. Should fit under ACOR programmatic. SN is asking for YTHAP permitting assistance.

After 2009 flood outcome on existing work, approx. 71% of 250 pcs remained in channel, com on floodplain, some broken.

b) River Restoration NW – JS attending, early Feb 2010

5. NEXT MEETING: Feb17, 2009, 9:30 a.m. – noon in Yakima