



UCSRB MEETING

Chelan County Commissioners
Meeting Room
400 Douglas Street
Wenatchee, WA 98815

Thursday, December 20, 2007
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Bill Towey, Colville Confederated Tribes
Paul Ward, Yakama Nation
Bud Hover, Okanogan County
Mary Hunt, Douglas County
Ron Walter, Chelan County

Julie Morgan, UCSRB Executive Director
James R. White, UCSRB Data Steward
Barbara Carrillo, UCSRB Admin. Assistant

Others Present: Char Beam, Okanogan County; Dennis Beich, WDFW; Dan Boettger, Okanogan PUD; Lee Carlson, Yakama Nation; Britt Dudek, Foster Creek Conservation District; Steve Kolk, Bureau of Reclamation; Lynn Hatcher, NMFS; Chuck Jones, Alliance Consulting Group for Douglas County; Phil Miller, GSRO; Chris Parsons, WDFW; Chuck Peven, Chelan PUD; Michael Rickel, Cascadia Conservation District; Jason Scott, GeoEngineers; Keith Vradenburg, City of Entiat; Sarah Walker, Cascadia Conservation District.

Action Items

1. Julie will research and review scheduling an all-day Board meeting regarding H-integration.
2. The UCSRB will send a letter to the Governor around the first of the year to support funding for fisheries in the Upper Columbia.
3. Julie and Derek will develop recommendations for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council with UCSRB staff at their meeting on January 8th. The comments to the Council will be based on guidance received at today's meeting. Staff will develop comments to the Council on their Fish and Wildlife Program amendments and bring them back to the Board on January 24th for review and approval.
4. Based on guidance from the UCSRB, Lee and Julie will develop the narrative for the briefing handout for the Board member's DC trip in March. Staff will bring the draft language for the briefing handout to the next UCSRB in January.
5. Staff will meet on January 8th and the RTT will meet on the 9th to work on information for the regional short-term priority list. A finalized list will be presented to Board on January 24th for review and approval.
6. Julie will coordinate with Brian Lipscomb on comments submitted to the Council on their Fish and Wildlife Program amendments.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chair Bud Hover.

Welcome and Introductions (Bud Hover).

Bud welcomed the group and introductions were made around the room.

1. Revised agenda approval and approval of Board minutes for October 25, 2007.

Paul Ward made a motion to approve the revised UCSRB agenda for today's meeting. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Paul Ward made a motion to approve the UCSRB meeting minutes from October 25, 2007. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

2. Adaptive Management Narrative Update (Nelle)

- Pamela Nelle gave an update regarding the revised sections of the adaptive management narrative. Bill Towey suggested adding to the narrative a description of the coordination of these efforts with the other H's. Julie noted that the Board will need to make a decision regarding coordination of the H's and that a formal discussion will need to occur in the near future. Chuck Peven mentioned that a report card previously created for the integration of the four H's could be used. Mary Hunt noted that since the adaptive management narrative is habitat specific, it should be rephrased in the introduction. Pamela Nelle then noted she would revise the title area and the introduction to reflect that change. Bill Towey mentioned that the adaptive management plan needs to coordinate in an all H-integration manner to work with other agencies. Julie said she will make that a major part of her work plan in 2008. Bill Towey noted that we need to have a full-day session regarding H-integration, out-of-basin effects, specificity, staff involvement, resources, time and the effects on the implementation team structure and the organization. Paul Ward noted that H-integration should be a discussion item for the DC trip.

3. Entiat Landowner Support Letter (Carlson and Walker)

- Lee Carlson gave an overview of the letter to Robert Lohn, Regional Administrator of NOAA Fisheries. Lee also noted that the responsibility of establishing a fishery in the Entiat lies primarily with the WDFW. Dennis Beich, WDFW, then reviewed with the group that a permitting request went into NOAA a year and a half ago requesting the establishment of a fishery. To date, WDFW has not received a response from NOAA. Dennis also said that WDFW recently hired an individual to assist in working with NOAA to streamline the permitting process. Lynn Hatcher encouraged sending the letter to NOAA to keep the issue in the forefront.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the NOAA Fisheries letter. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- Dennis Beich informed the group that he included \$214,000 in his budget for Upper Columbia fisheries. Dennis said that the Governor did not include funding for creel monitoring and related efforts to open sports fisheries in her budget for the next couple of year. The legislature will reconvene in mid-January. The UCSRB agreed to send a letter to the Governor around the first

of the year in support of funding for sports fishing opportunities in the Upper Columbia.

4. Council's Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment Process (Karier, Horton and Morgan)

- Tom Karier and Stacy Horton gave an update on the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's request for recommendations to amend the Council's *Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program*. Tom discussed the Council's expectations, requirements and a schedule for the amendment process and noted that the Council is taking comments until February 1st. Tom also informed the group that Larry Cassidy is stepping down from his position on the Council. Stacy Horton said that the Council is looking to improve and streamline its RFP's and are looking at things such as performance standards and targeting of projects. She asked the Board for advice on how to reduce the enormity of applications for projects. Julie asked the Board for guidance regarding areas that the Board would like to respond to, and that she and Derek will discuss with staff at their meeting on January 8th. Julie will summarize UCSRB recommendations to the Council and bring those back to the Board on January 24th. Bill noted that we can provide guidance on monitoring and evaluation for the Council's program. Phil Miller also encouraged all four regions to submit recommendations and to share with each other. Bill agreed that we should coordinate with other regional boards and provide consistent priority messages to the Council. James White suggested discussing data management in regards to monitoring for coordination. Chuck suggested highlighting the need for consistency to the recovery plan, using it for updating subbasin plans and implementation of subbasin plans.

5. DC Coordination (Carrillo, UCSRB, Morgan, and Carlson)

- Barbara asked the Board to look at the scheduling template for Board member meetings with legislators while in DC, March 3-5, 2008. Discussion then ensued regarding who to meet with and topics for discussion. Lee and Julie will organize the topics for discussion while Barb coordinated the scheduling of the DC meetings. Some topics for discussion include pinnepedes, estuaries, H-integration, funding and progress since last year's visit.

6. Regional Short-Term Priority List Update (Miller and Jones)

- Phil Miller gave an update on the short-term priority action template for the regions. Bill asked for more information regarding lead responsibility. Phil will report back to the Board at the next meeting January 24th. Julie presented the UCSRB's draft short-term priorities list and said that Chuck will work with the staff workgroup and the RTT to complete the list. A draft finalized list will be presented at the January 24th Board meeting for approval.

7. Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) Briefing (Lipscomb)

- Brian Lipscomb from the CBFWA gave a presentation on the Northwest Power Act. Brian reviewed the relation between the Northwest Power Act and the Endangered Species Act. He reviewed the *2005 Status of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the Columbia River Basin*. He noted that monitoring and evaluation are a major priority at this time. He also reviewed the 2007/2008 program amendment process of which the UCSRB is included. He noted that

the Bonneville Power Administration is looking for information relating to local level linkages, what goes on between strategies, limiting factors and species. Brian and Julie will coordinate regarding UCSRB priorities and comments submitted to the Council. ☑

8. Programmatic Permitting (Hatcher)

- Lynn Hatcher gave a programmatic permitting process update and discussed permit streamlining and revisions to the permitting process.

9. FCRPS Bi-Op Update (Miller)

- Phil Miller gave an update regarding the draft 2008 FCRPS Biological Opinion Implementation Memorandum of Agreement and informed the group the Judge has granted an extension to March 18th for a final BiOp, and has also extended the comment period to January 4th. Phil noted that the BiOp is well over 3,000 pages with supporting documents. Phil also told the group that the table of Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives (85 pages) is of particular interest.

10. Management, Logistics and Updates (Miller)

- **UCSRB Budget Update (Morgan)** - Julie gave a fiscal overview and budget update to the Board.
- **SRFB Update (Hover and Morgan)** - Julie informed the Board that we received all of our allocated funding from the SRFB of \$2.75 million.
- **2008 Meeting Calendar (Morgan)** - Julie presented a draft 2008 Board meeting schedule for the Board to review. Ron Walter noted that meeting monthly in 2008 is important at this time especially because of H-integration. Paul Ward also agreed. For 2008, Paul Ward will be the Chair of the UCSRB and Ron Walter will be the Vice Chair.
- **Methow Monitoring Coordination (White)** - James White gave an update on monitoring flow and data management. He informed the group that a meeting was held in the Methow on November 29th to coordinate communication regarding monitoring coordination. They also discussed principles of data management and identifying tools and next steps in data management and reporting.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjourn Meeting

Bud Hover adjourned the meeting at 2:54 PM.

Summary of Motions

Paul Ward made a motion to approve the revised UCSRB agenda for today's meeting. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Paul Ward made a motion to approve the UCSRB meeting minutes from October 25, 2007. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the NOAA Fisheries letter. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.

BHC