



## **UCSRB MEETING**

Winthrop Barn  
51 North Highway 20  
Winthrop, WA 98862

Thursday, October 23, 2008  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

## **DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

### **Board Members Present:**

Paul Ward, Yakama Nation  
Bud Hover, Okanogan County  
Mary Hunt, Douglas County  
Mike Kaputa for Ron Walter, Chelan County  
Bill Towey via conference call

Julie Morgan, UCSRB Executive Director  
Derek Van Marter, UCSRB Associate Director  
James R. White, UCSRB Data Steward  
Barbara Carrillo, UCSRB Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:** Casey Baldwin, WDFW and RTT Chair; Ken Bevis, WDFW; Susan Crampton; John Crandall, Wild Fish Conservancy; Gary Dailey, USBR; Julie Grialou, Methow Conservancy; Lynn Hatcher, NMFS; Chuck Jones, Alliance Consulting Group for Douglas County; Greg Knott, MSRF; Ed Lyon, USBR; Todd Maguire, USBR; Joy Michaud, Herrera Environmental; Jennifer Molesworth, USBR; Jason Paulsen, Methow Conservancy; Jeff Peterson, USBR; Char Schumacher, Okanogan County; Ken Sletten, Okanogan County Farm Bureau; Hans Smith, Pacific Biodiversity Institute; Bob Steele, WDFW

### **Action Items:**

1. Staff will coordinate a public hearing in conjunction with the board meeting on December 18, 2008 regarding the implementation schedule update.
2. Staff will coordinate the 2009 RTT Analysis workshop planning and secure co-sponsors as directed by the board.
3. Staff will coordinate a conference call on November 20 for the board to review and approve the revised comment letter to the NPCC Fish and Wildlife Program.
4. Staff will schedule a discussion at a future board meeting regarding tribal MOA's.
5. Staff will prepare talking points regarding potential SRFB funding gaps through state and federal allocations and will bring that back to the board at the December 18 meeting.
6. Staff will report at the December 18 board meeting regarding the outcome of the "Working in Water" November 4 workshop sponsored by the Office of Regulatory Affairs.

**The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Chair Paul Ward.**

### **Welcome and Introductions (Ward)**

Paul Ward welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for a round of introductions.

**1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes (Ward)**

Paul asked for approval of the minutes of the August 28, 2008 Board meeting.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the Board minutes from the August 28, 2008 meeting, as drafted. Chuck Jones (for Mary Hunt) seconded the motion and all approved.

**2. Process for Updating the Implementation Schedule (Derek Van Marter and Julie Morgan)**

Derek Van Marter and Julie Morgan asked for approval of the process to update the Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan Implementation Schedule as outlined in an August 5, 2008 memo to the board. Julie added that Board approval of the process is important so that updates can be completed annually. Julie noted that a public hearing would be scheduled in December during the next board meeting. UCSRB staff will coordinate the public hearing.

Chuck Jones made a motion to approve the process for updating the implementation schedule. Bud Hover seconded the motion and all approved.

**3. RCO/GSRO Check-In Overview (Morgan and Miller)**

Julie briefed the board regarding a regional organization review meeting that UCSRB staff had with representatives from the GSRO and RCO on September 16, 2008 in Wenatchee. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress on major implementation milestones, evaluate successes and obstacles, examine adaptive management needs, identify issues for discussion and explore opportunities for the RCO and GSRO to support regional efforts. Julie presented the following contract deliverables to the Board:

- Support collaborative decision-making,
- Refine and manage recovery plan,
- Coordinate implementation and reporting,
- Coordinate monitoring and adaptive management,
- Communicate with public, tribes and agencies,
- Develop financing plan for operations, implementation and monitoring,
- Financial fund and disbursement status

Bud said that the Board should pursue adequate resources from NOAA fisheries for staffing. Phil said that the RCO was impressed with the UCSRB's approach to funding coordination and implementation. He said RCO recognizes the need for continuing base support from the SRFB, but also realize there is additional funding that is needed. Phil reiterated the importance of pursuing other funding sources as well. Julie said there were some board priorities identified in the meeting with RCO that organization capacity cannot currently meet, such as establishing and managing an Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Forum. Phil added that BPA was very impressed with the three-year implementation schedule. He said that Brian Abbott from RCO will submit a regional review report based on the regional review meetings to the SRFB in the next few months. Phil said that NOAA is looking at the board staff and our organization as a model for other areas and noted we are setting the mark with R, M & E, especially with the data management program.

#### **4. RTT Analysis Workshop in November of 2009 (White)**

James White presented the Board with a draft timeline in preparation for the 2009 RTT analysis workshop. He reviewed a copy of the adaptive management cycle, reviewed implementation of projects and reporting, the analysis workshop critical paths matrix and loading the historic ISEMP data. James asked for approval of the work path process for the 2009 workshop. He said that at the November 12 RTT meeting there will be a discussion regarding what analyses are being planned and what analyses have been done. Mike Kaputa asked when the region will be able to demonstrate whether the appropriate habitat actions are being implemented. James noted that many years of data are needed to have an accurate analysis. By November 2009, Casey noted that the ISEMP in the Entiat will have completed the first five years to check and detect if a change has occurred. Julie encouraged the UCSRB Staff Work Group to attend the RTT meeting on November 12 to have a better understanding of where the analysis workshop is heading.

Julie then presented the Board with a draft budget for the 2009 RTT analysis workshop. Julie said that potential sponsors include OBMEP, PNAMP, Yakama Nation, Colville Tribes, ISEMP and the PUD's. Julie asked for approval of the budget and the critical paths analysis, and said that staff will proceed with planning.

[Bud made a motion to approve the work path and draft budget for the 2009 RTT Analysis Workshop. Mary seconded the motion and all approved.](#)

#### **5. NPCC Fish and Wildlife Program (Miller and Van Marter)**

Phil Miller briefly presented background information on the NPCC Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process. The NPCC has asked for a new round of comments to its latest draft. Phil noted Julie has been engaged in discussions with staff at the Council and Washington Council members, Tom Karier and Dick Wallace. Julie asked the board to review and approve the new comment letter from the board to the NPCC for the Fish and Wildlife Program amendments. The due date for the latest round of comments is December 1.

Derek and Julie presented a summary of the main points in the draft letter. For example, the letter seeks acknowledgement from the Council on how it will clearly incorporate the Recovery Plan in the amended program. After a brief discussion, the Board agreed to schedule a conference call for November 20, 2008 to review and approve a revised comment letter to the Council. The Board also agreed to include tribal MOA's as a discussion item at a future board meeting.

#### **6. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Reach Assessment Presentation (Van Marter, Lyons, and McGuire)**

Derek introduced and welcomed Ed Lyons and Todd McGuire, USBR. Ed and Todd gave a presentation regarding the Big Valley reach assessment in the Methow River for the fall of 2006 and the summer of 2007. The primary objective of the reach assessment was to identify projects based on environmental baseline conditions, and to develop an overall reach-based implementation and sequencing strategy to inform subsequent monitoring and adaptive management activities. The implementation and sequencing strategies are based on findings of the reach-based ecosystem indicators (REI), a scientific synthesis of data collected from several individual/independent parameter-based investigations. Concurrently with the Big Valley reach assessment, a collaborative effort was conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation to develop REIs to

document environmental baseline conditions that are utilized for project identification, implementation and monitoring. Based on the analysis performed for the Big Valley reach assessment, about 50 percent of the reach-based ecosystem indicators were in an adequate condition and 40 percent were in an at risk condition for the Big Valley reach. They also reviewed other reach assessment projects on-going in the upper Columbia.

**7. Okanogan County Overview (Char Schumacher, Chris Johnson and Jennifer Molesworth)**

**Okanogan County Lead Entity Overview (Schumacher)**

**WAT – Methow Restoration Council Overview (Johnson and Molesworth)**

Char Schumacher, Okanogan County, briefed the board that her office is now operating the lead entity program in the County, while the Colville Tribe is coordinating the watershed action team for the Okanogan Sub-basin.

Jennifer Molesworth reviewed the membership of the Methow Restoration Council (MRC). Chris Johnson noted the purpose of the MRC is to collaboratively develop projects at a local level, and to get local input and involvement before breaking ground. Jennifer reviewed the Methow sub-basin spawning locations, spring Chinook brood stock returns, wild spawning versus hatchery and bull trout redds numbers. Jennifer also reviewed the MRC Strategies including local coordination of actions, assessment and implementation, restoration access, protection, monitoring, education and outreach. Jason Paulsen, Executive Director of the Methow Conservancy, gave an overview of other projects and identified areas of protection, landowner education and outreach, protection of quality habitat and the importance of working collaboratively with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and other organizations in the Methow to provide protection of key areas targeted for future restoration efforts. Greg Knott, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF), gave an overview of the last ten years in the evolution of habitat restoration and protection improvements and relationships between agencies, landowners and other stakeholders in the Methow.

**8. Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) 2008 Project Review Update and Science Review Panel Presentation (Baldwin and Van Marter)**

Derek provided an update on the 2008 SRFB regional timeline, and the final regional ranked list for the 8<sup>th</sup> Round of funding. He also briefed the Board on the meeting with the State Technical Review Panel, which addressed technical questions and issues regarding projects. He said that there are currently two draft projects of concern on the regional list. Derek noted the effectiveness of the process regarding review and projects of concern is a large benefit and noted the process is to balance efficiency and effective with getting the right projects started on the ground.

**9. SRFB Request for Funds (Morgan, Commissioner Hunt, and Commissioner Hover)**

**State Funds for 2009-2011 Biennium (Morgan and Commissioner Hunt)**

**Federal PCSRF Request Update (Commissioner Hover)**

Julie gave the Board a briefing on the status of SRFB funds through state and federal allocations, and noted the potential for funding to decrease. She shared slides regarding regional recovery plan habitat projects and funding gaps and the state's evaluation of funding needs derived from the recovery plans. Julie suggested that implementation must continue, but that funding is could decrease. Mary Hunt said that we need the funding to accomplish what the state and federal government has

mandated the region do. Julie said that the UCSRB staff has been working with various groups to develop a grass roots mailing campaign to the Governor and the Office of Financial Management in support of the full SRFB funding request. Julie and Derek have presented the information to the Lead Entity Advisory Group (LEAG), the UCSRB staff work group and the watershed action teams. Julie asked for direction from the board regarding educating state representatives. Bud agreed that the UCSRB should educate state representatives on the need, as well as the Natural Resources Committee. Mary said that this is a national issue that Congress mandated and they have indicated that the ESA needs to be dealt with. Staff will develop talking points based on Mary and UCSRB's main points, and will bring that back to the board in December.

**10. Management, Logistics and Updates (Morgan, Van Marter and Carrillo)**  
**Budget Update (Morgan)**

Julie reviewed the latest UCSRB profit and loss report to the board and there were no comments.

**Upper Columbia Permitting Workshop on November 4<sup>th</sup> (Van Marter)**

Derek gave an overview of the regional Permitting workshop entitled "Working in Water" to be held November 4<sup>th</sup> in Chelan at Campbell's Resort coordinated by the Governor's Office of Regulatory Assistance. He reviewed agenda items from the workshop including the requirements of permitting as well as streamlining and efficiencies needed to collaborate more effectively between agencies. Derek will facilitate the meeting and invited everyone to attend who could benefit from the information. Derek will report back at the December 18<sup>th</sup> board meeting regarding the outcome of the workshop.

**Sand Canyon Clean Up (Jones and Carrillo)**

Chuck Jones gave an overview of the local work day scheduled for October 25<sup>th</sup> for cleanup of Sand Canyon in East Wenatchee and invited everyone to attend.

**Contract with Fiscal Agent (Carrillo)**

**Decision – Approve contract renewal with UCSRB Fiscal Agent**

Barbara reviewed the new contract for the UCSRB fiscal agent, Carol Cowling, and asked the board for approval of the contract.

The board approved the fiscal agent contract with the amendment of including an end date. Staff will amend the contract to include an end date and facilitate processing the document. The effective dates for the contract will be July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

Bud made a motion to approve the fiscal agent contract with an end date. Mike Kaputa (for Ron Walter) seconded the motion and all approved.

**Washington D.C. (Hunt)**

Mary Hunt briefly asked the board about traveling to Washington, DC this next year. Discussion followed and the Board decided that with the administration changes taking place that it would be helpful. Julie and Barb will begin planning and coordination for the visit.

**Public Comment**

Ken Sletten, Okanogan County Farm Bureau, discussed impediments to small restoration projects such as archeological background checks, backlogs, and cost of backhoe biodegradable hydraulic fluid. He also discussed his comments to the Methow Implementation Schedule and noted that he sees land acquisition lease items as a red flag. He urged the board to eliminate the words "land acquisition." He also noted he was disappointed to not see aquifer recharge information included that could potentially benefit fish and urged emphasis on that item. Paul Ward thanked Ken and assured him staff will go over his comments and look at incorporating those.

**Adjourn Meeting**

Paul thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

**Summary of Motions**

*Bud Hover made a motion to approve the Board minutes from the August 28, 2008 meeting, as drafted. Chuck Jones (for Mary Hunt) seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Chuck Jones made a motion to approve the process for updating the implementation schedule. Bud Hover seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Bud made a motion to approve the work path and draft budget for the 2009 RTT Analysis Workshop. Mary seconded the motion and all approved.*

*Bud made a motion to approve the fiscal agent contract with an end date. Mike Kaputa (for Ron Walter) seconded the motion and all approved.*

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