



UCSRB MEETING

Red Lion Hotel
1225 N. Wenatchee Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Wednesday, September 23, 2009
2:30 PM – 4:00 PM
Thursday, September 24, 2009
8:30 AM – Noon

MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Ron Walter, Chelan County, Chair
Lee Carlson for Paul Ward, Yakama Nation
Bud Hover, Okanogan County
Mary Hunt, Douglas County
Bill Towey, Colville Tribes

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; Heather Bartlett, WDFW; Dennis Beich, WDFW; Ken Bevis, WDFW; Bob Bugert, Chelan Douglas Land Trust; Lee Carlson, Yakama Nation; Tracy Hillman, BioAnalysts, Inc.; Chuck Jones, Alliance Consulting Group for Douglas County; Joy Juelson, J&J Environmental; Mike Kaputa, Chelan County; Steve Kolk, USBR; Phil Miller, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office/RCO; Jennifer Molesworth, USBR; Pamela Nelle, ISEMP/Terraqua; Char Schumacher, Okanogan County; Kate Terrell, USFWS

Action Items

1. Staff will draft a letter for Board review to BPA, CBFWA, NMFS, and NPCC regarding the Board's monitoring priorities in regards to the Columbia Basin-wide Monitoring Strategy development for the Columbia Basin for presentation at the next UCSRB meeting.
2. Julie and staff will coordinate a public review in early 2010 of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan's Appendix Q to obtain comments and collate those comments.

DAY 1

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 PM. by Chair Ron Walter.

Welcome and Introductions (Chair Ron Walter)

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

1. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes (Ron Walter)

Ron Walter asked for approval of the meeting minutes from Thursday, June 25, 2009 and they were approved as drafted.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the conference call minutes from June 25, 2009. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

2. All-H Integration/Coordination (Julie Morgan)

Julie reviewed the All-H coordinating and reporting position with the Board and asked them to approve the position, contingent upon securing funds from the Yakama Nation and the Colville Tribes. She also asked for permission for staff to work with the co-managers to modify the position description and pursue funding, as needed.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve a position for the All-H Coordination and Reporting position contingent on securing funds from the Yakama Nation and the Colville Tribes. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Julie reviewed the All-H Integration/Coordination decision summary with the Board and asked them to approve the summary as presented. She also sought approval for staff to pursue funding to implement the decision summary.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the staff to continue pursuing funds, both short-term and long-term, to implement the UCSRB decision summary related to All-H Integration/Coordination. This is inclusive of the All-H Coordination and Reporting position, modeling for report purposes, and professional services related to report card development. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Julie reviewed the proposed formation of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Forum (UCSRF) with the Board and asked it to approve the formation of the Forum and to begin work on drafting the All-H report card. Lee Carlson and Ron Walter suggested creating the draft report card soon and then initiating the Forum. Bill Towey provided additional discussion regarding report card development, matrices, displays and possible dashboard functions on the UCSRB website. The Board then discussed tracking information and the various ways to engage a policy Forum.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the formation of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Forum during the current biennium, contingent on approval from the UCSRB on the composition of the UCSRF and draft All-H report cards. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

3. Project and Funding Coordination (Bill Towey, Ron Walter, Derek Van Marter, Lee Carlson, and Julie Morgan)

Julie Morgan and Derek Van Marter discussed project and funding coordination and a challenge facing the effort: the issue of predicting funding three years or more into the future for the Watershed Action Teams (WATs). Chris Johnson mentioned that the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) does currently plan three years in advance but also mentioned that many funders do not currently operate that far in advance. Kate Terrell suggested working through Congressional and agency service

heads to facilitate longer term funding opportunities, and to continue sending the message that restoration takes time.

Julie then mentioned that the Board currently has an opportunity with BPA for non-accord funds. She presented the UCSRB Staff Work Group recommendation paper to the Board regarding a programmatic funding approach with BPA (non-accord) funds, and then asked for approval to move forward regarding negotiations with BPA.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper regarding programmatic approach for BPA (Non-Accord) funds. Bill Towey seconded the motion and all approved.

Funding Coordination with BPA for Non-Accord Funds (Derek Van Marter)

Julie then said that BPA has set aside \$20,000 for the development of the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) narrative. She asked the Board for approval for the UCSRB to contract with BPA to develop a programmatic approach to funding consistent with the on-going project and funding coordination effort. The proposal for a programmatic approach would then be reviewed by the ISRP.

Derek mentioned that the Implementation Team supports the project and funding coordination initiative and the implementation of programmatic funding from BPA. The Board discussed BPA's commitment to maintain an annual or bi-annual contracting process with the UCSRB. Julie said she would like to see the funding process developed in a way that directs the money to the highest biological priorities for the WATs.

The Board also engaged in a discussion about the expert panel process through the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp), and the difference of the information between the first and second round due to more accuracy and better information the second time. Many in the group reiterated the need for maintaining certainty and flexibility in the negotiations with BPA. It is also important to clarify that BPA funds from different pots can be combined on a single project.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve entering into a contract with BPA to develop the ISRP narrative to implement the programmatic funding approach as outlined in the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Subcontract to Develop the ISRP Narrative (Julie Morgan)

Julie then presented a contract with J & J Environmental to the Board. She explained that the contract is to assist the UCSRB in developing the ISRP narrative. She then asked the Board for approval to enter into the contract with J & J Environmental to develop the ISRP narrative to implement the programmatic funding approach as outlined in the UCSRB Staff Work Group recommendation paper. The Board discussed timing, process, budgets and outcomes. Roy Beaty mentioned that the agreement can be amended as necessary to approve additional funds for coordinating the funding process.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the subcontract with J & J Environmental to develop the ISRP narrative to implement the programmatic funding approach as outlined in the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper contingent on securing a contract with BPA. Bill seconded the motion and all approved.

4. Management, Logistics, and Updates

Update on SRFB/Trib Fund Project Selection Process (Derek Van Marter)

Derek Van Marter reviewed the final regional ranked list of projects for the 2009 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and Tributary Fund process. Derek noted that the SRFB allocated \$1.95M to the region. He said there were fifteen final proposals submitted in the region. On October 12, 2009, Derek, Casey, and others will travel to Olympia to testify before the State Technical Review Panel on these projects and the overall regional process.

Update on M & E Sub-Regional Workshop (James White)

James White provided an update on the monitoring and evaluation sub-regional workshop sponsored by Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Association (CBFWA) in conjunction with BPA, NPCC, and NMFS. James said that CBFWA and others are looking for a coordinated monitoring and evaluation (M&E) strategy across the Columbia Basin. They are reviewing status, trend and effectiveness monitoring by region and subbasin in relation to the FCRPS BiOp. In response to the ensuing discussion, James, Julie and the Board reiterated that the message from the UCSRB is that existing monitoring is the highest priority. Julie then asked the Board to direct the staff to write a letter to CBFWA, BPA, NMFS, and NPCC regarding M&E priorities in the Upper Columbia. The Board approved her request. Julie and staff will prepare a draft letter for Board review at the next appropriate UCSRB meeting. ☑

Bud Hover made a motion to direct staff to draft a letter for Board review at the October UCSRB meeting that would provide comments on the Columbia Basin-Wide monitoring strategy development. Bill Towey seconded the motion and all approved.

The Board recessed for the day at 4:00 PM.

DAY 2

Board Chair Ron Walter re-convened the meeting at 8:30 AM.

5. Habitat Work Schedule and Implementation (Derek Van Marter)

Presentation on the HWS and Projects in Okanogan County (Joy Juelson)

Joy Juelson gave a presentation on the Habitat Work Schedule (HWS), and the work she recently completed to input projects from Okanogan County. Joy also briefed the Board on the development of the Lead Entity Habitat Work Schedule databases in Okanogan and Chelan counties. Casey Baldwin mentioned presenting this information to the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). Phil Miller, RCO, agreed this would be important to do since the UCSRB has taken a lead in using the HWS to track implementation regionally.

Lead Entity Contracts and Continuation of Populating the HWS Discussion (Lead Entities and Derek Van Marter)

Derek Van Marter then briefed the group regarding next steps and timelines to continue populating the regional HWS database. He explained that the information in the Lead Entity databases rolls up into the regional database. He presented the Board with a memo that had also been distributed to Lead Entity Coordinators and the Implementation Team. The memo describes the process to develop the regional HWS database, and identifies milestones for completing the transition to an on-line implementation tracking system. Lee Carlson asked about gaining access for his staff to enter data. Ron Walter discussed the need for collaboration between entities. Additional discussion surrounded quality control and a standardized approach to entering data. Mary Hunt said that she would like to see the RCO continue to support the use of this system.

**6. Monitoring in Chelan County (Pamela Nelle and Casey Baldwin)
Wenatchee Subbasin Monitoring Implementation Strategy**

Pamela Nelle and Casey Baldwin briefed the Board regarding the need to officially adopt as an appendix to the UCSRB's "Monitoring Strategy for the Upper Columbia Basin," Appendix A: An Implementation Strategy for Wenatchee River Subbasin Monitoring. The appendix was prepared for Bonneville Power Administration, NOAA Fisheries and the Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team on March 16, 2009. After discussion, the Board agreed to approve the appendix.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the "Appendix A: An Implementation Strategy for Wenatchee River Subbasin Monitoring" (dated March 16, 2009) as an official appendix to the UCSRB's adopted "Monitoring Strategy for the Upper Columbia Basin" (dated August 1, 2006). Mary Hunt seconded the motion and all approved.

Pamela Nelle then briefed the Board regarding the Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) currently being implemented in the Entiat. She explained that it is an experimental approach to implementing habitat restoration actions that support detailed effectiveness monitoring at the subbasin scale. She explained that the treatment schedule will begin in 2011, and discussed the benefits of treating reaches on a 3-year schedule thereafter. Julie Morgan then briefly reviewed the proposed letter to Chris Jordan from the Board in support of proceeding with the Entiat IMW. The Board approved the letter.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the letter of endorsement for the Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) approach for the Entiat Subbasin. Mary seconded the motion and all approved.

**7. UC RTT Analysis Workshop (James White)
Review Draft UC RTT Analysis Workshop Agenda (James White and Casey Baldwin)
Review UC RTT Analysis Workshop and State of the Science Budget (James White and Julie Morgan)
Funding Commitments
Estimated Budget for Events
Key Product – Synthesis Paper**

James White, Casey Baldwin and Julie Morgan briefed the Board regarding the agenda, budget and funding commitments for the UC RTT Analysis Workshop scheduled for November 3-4, 2009. Julie then asked the Board for approval to enter into a subcontract with Terraqua, Inc. to develop the synthesis paper for presentation at the Upper Columbia State of the Science conference scheduled for April/May 2010. She explained that the synthesis paper is a technically synthesized document, and will be an outcome of the UC RTT Analysis workshop.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the subcontract with Terraqua, Inc. to develop the synthesis paper based on the UC RTT Analysis Workshop in November 2009 and for presentation at the UC State of the Science Conference in April/May 2010, contingent on securing a contract with the Yakama Nation and securing a purchase order from NMFS. Mary Hunt seconded the motion and all approved.

8. Habitat Adaptive Management Narrative for the Recovery Plan (Julie Morgan and Tracy Hillman)
Review of Section 2.4 Monitoring Section of Appendix A (Tracy Hillman)
RIST Review
Next Steps (Julie Morgan)

Tracy Hillman presented the Draft of Appendix Q, the Habitat Adaptive Management Framework for the *Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan* dated November 16, 2008, which was recently reviewed by NOAA's Recovery Implementation Science Team (RIST). He reviewed some of the comments from the RIST, and said that there were no "red flags" from the RIST in reviewing our adaptive management framework.

Julie proposed providing a public review of Appendix Q sometime early next year before final approval by the Board, and official amendment to the Recovery Plan.

9. Steelhead Management Plan and Hatchery Genetic Management Plan (HGMPs) Presentation (Heather Bartlett, WDFW)

Heather Bartlett, WDFW, gave a presentation regarding a new regional All-H plan for steelhead. She said the Department's long-term focus is on conservation of wild steelhead populations. The State's Steelhead Management Plan will be vetted in the next year or two and a report will be issued to the State Fish and Wildlife Commission in 24-36 months. The report outlines the scientific foundation for steelhead management, and the development of a steelhead management plan. The Board discussed the near- and long-term economic implications to local communities of turning the state's focus to wild populations.

10. Management, Logistics, and Updates
Budget Update (Julie Morgan)
2009-2011 Biennium Set Up
Request for Temporary Position (Julie Morgan)
Request to amend Alliance Consulting Contract (Julie Morgan)
Decision – approve the amendment to the Alliance Consulting Professional Services agreement.

Julie gave a budget update to the Board. She also asked the Board to approve a temporary position in order to catch up on outstanding projects. Julie asked for approval to allocate an amount not-to-exceed \$12,000 to hire a temporary employee. Julie also asked the Board for approval to amend the Alliance Consulting professional services agreement so that Chuck Jones can provide assistance to the UCSRB on an on-call basis, and for an amount not to exceed \$5,000.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the temporary position for outstanding projects as well as to amend the Alliance Consulting Professional services agreement for Chuck Jones to assist on an on-call basis not to exceed \$5,000.

Public Questions and Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjourn Meeting

Chair Ron Walter thanked everyone for attending, and adjourned the meeting at 12:30 PM.

Summary of Motions

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the conference call minutes from June 25, 2009. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve a position for the All-H Coordination and Reporting position contingent on securing funds from the Yakama Nation and the Colville Tribes. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the staff to continue pursuing funds, both short-term and long-term, to implement the UCSRB decision summary related to All-H Integration/Coordination. This is inclusive of the All-H Coordination and Reporting position, modeling for report purposes, and professional services related to report card development. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the formation of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Forum during the current biennium, contingent on approval from the UCSRB on the composition of the UCSRF and draft All-H report cards. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper regarding programmatic approach for BPA (Non-Accord) funds. Bill Towey seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve entering into a contract with BPA to develop the ISRP narrative to implement the programmatic funding approach as outlined in the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper. Lee Carlson seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the subcontract with J & J Environmental to develop the ISRP narrative to implement the programmatic funding approach as outlined in the UCSRB Staff Work Group Recommendation Paper contingent on securing a contract with BPA. Bill seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to direct staff to draft a letter for Board review at the October UCSRB meeting to Bonneville Power Administration, Washington Department of Ecology and NMFS regarding the Board's monitoring priorities in regards to the M & E Sub-Regional Workshop strategies by Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Association and Bonneville Power Association. Bill Towey seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the "Appendix A: An Implementation Strategy for Wenatchee River Subbasin Monitoring" (dated March 16, 2009) as an official appendix to the UCSRB's adopted "Monitoring Strategy for the Upper Columbia Basin" (dated August 1, 2006). Mary Hunt seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the letter of endorsement for the Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) approach for the Entiat Subbasin. Mary seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the subcontract with Terraqua, Inc. to develop the synthesis paper based on the UC RTT Analysis Workshop in November 2009 and for presentation at the UC State of the Science Conference in April/May 2010, contingent on securing a contract with the Yakama Nation and securing the purchase order from NMFS. Mary Hunt seconded the motion and all approved.

Bud Hover made a motion to approve the temporary position for outstanding projects as well as to amend the Alliance Consulting Professional services agreement for Chuck Jones to assist on an on-call basis not to exceed \$5,000.

BHC