

## Methow Restoration Council

January 19, 2016

### Participants:

| Name                | Organization/Affiliation     |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Derek Van Marter    | UCSRB                        |
| Jennifer Molesworth | Bureau of Reclamation        |
| Jessica Goldberg    | MSRF                         |
| John Crandall       | MRC                          |
| Ken Muir            | US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| Kristin Kirkby      | CCFEG                        |
| Lynda Hofmann       | WDFW                         |
| Ryan Fortier        | WDFW                         |
| Sam Israel          | Public                       |

### Meeting Notes:

**John Crandall – Methow Model Watershed Program Update:** We started the Model Watershed program around five years ago. It's an agreement between Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) and Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF). It's a 10-year partnership that MSRF is leading on behalf of the MRC; it is a basin-wide watershed approach to restoration and also looks at the social context in which salmon restoration occurs. A longer-term approach. The Model Watershed program started around 15 years ago; the Entiat is also a model watershed. Mostly in the Columbia River Basin, a few other places, spread out. We developed strategies to meet our restoration targets, conservation planning. We went through the process and have a conceptual model, and developed a list of strategies that we are working under. This has been going along for several years. The overall goal is to improve watershed health and function over a period of ten years. One of the strengths is the social and outreach component.

BEF is now revamping the program into a Model Watershed 2.0, and they have been developing a revised approach to the program and they are increasing the temporal scale of the effort. This is a recognition that things are changing and we may not be able to get back to the historic condition, but focus is on what is achievable in the face of changing conditions. They also recognize that all of the watersheds do not have the resources to do everything that needs to be done. The Methow is a little atypical in that we are well coordinated and relatively well-funded.

Kristen Kirkby – how does this work with working with the various management agencies and other interested organizations?

John – the grant runs through MSRF, which works with different groups and programs, but it is difficult to get the attention of some of the agencies like hatchery folks

John – BEF is looking at a multi-decade approach, and they want to be innovative in how they approach watershed restoration. The MRC is a group of different agencies and nonprofits, etc.; we all have our different goals, but we do a lot of work together to try to meet our restoration goals. Another part of Model Watershed 2.0 is looking at climate change. We will be looking at ways to involve more organizations.

Discussion – what BEF has been funding so far - a lot of outreach and education, bull trout surveys, coordination between organizations and agencies.

Derek Van Marter – the first round was a way to change the paradigm in how people invest in the watershed.

The 2.0 is looking at longer-term investment. At the higher level, they are looking at focusing on the social level

John – they are also bringing in examples from other watersheds; if you are interested in participating talk to John

**John Crandall – Outreach and Education Update:** I plan to have the results of the water quality survey in February. Plan is also to update the Outreach and Education plan in February as well. If people are planning

education and outreach events this year, let John know – the more specific information the better. We also do a look back at what we planned to do. It's a great way to keep track of what we are doing. We need to have the update done by February.

We have the Salmon in the Classroom going on in the sixth grade classrooms; we have alevins now; we had our stakeholder town hall meeting that Derek facilitated. It gets better every year. Challenge is to present the issues on salmon recovery in a way that sixth graders can understand; very complicated. Better organized this year, and it was really great. Plan to have a pdf document on the process that people can take to use in other watersheds.

Jennifer Molesworth – I recently helped the sixth graders carve block prints with Methow Arts; not as many fish prints this year, but a lot of great wildlife ones

**John Crandall – Monitoring Update:** February 23<sup>rd</sup> we are going to have a monitoring support workshop. Through MaDMC, every year we try to have a monitoring coordination workshop where we describe the different monitoring work so that people understand what is happening and where to maximize efficiency, share data, and prevent redundancies. It's an inventory of what we are doing for monitoring, and it is useful, but it can get to be a really long day. Last year we tried to get different speakers and then have several presentations, and that worked better. We developed the programmatic monitoring worksheet, and we need to update it every year. So all of the subbasins have a lead person, and I'm the person from the Methow who is responsible for updating the worksheet. I will send it out through the MRC. This year the second half of the meeting will have a series of speakers addressing topics, this year will be PIT tags, will have someone from PTGIS, a clinic on new queries, also something on scientific integrity and how to use the data. We will also have someone who will talk about scientific communication and reporting, and something looking at remote sensing and GIS. Three topics. Don't know where the meeting will be yet; probably will be in Chelan. Will be all day on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are developing a science integration strategy for the Methow with Phil Roni; will look at the key management questions, how are we doing in terms of the information that we are collecting in a spatial and temporal scale. Think there is a lot of crossover with Appendix C, but not sure.

Derek – Phil is now with Cramer Fish Science, has a vision for a simpler way to collect information on the ground, to help inform decisions on implementation and then be able to go back and track it. Went to the SRFB for funding, and they are interested, but haven't funded it yet, but the Upper Columbia may be a pilot program.

John – at the MaDMC meeting, we thought we may have a lot of the information already, and may need to expand. Stay tuned.

**Derek Van Marter – UCSRB Updates:** Science Conference is next week, 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Everyone who registered gets a customized Kleen Kanteen bottle. An excellent lineup of speakers; keynote is Sara LaBorde with Wild Salmon Center. Over 350 participants are registered so far.

**Derek Van Marter – Suction Dredging** [Presenting for Crystal Elliot, who could not be present]: there are two bills on suction dredging in this short legislative session. House Bill (HB) 1162 is the one from last year that is still alive, but it may not go anywhere. 1162 is about tightening the regulations, and to commission a study to look at the impacts. HB 2467 is the new bill dropped this year, and it focuses more on regulatory fairness; deals with the HPAs and the process to get HPAs. It does also look at the state to monitor where this is happening. Interesting thing about the timing is that just last year, the last of the surrounding states limited the activity, so the thought is that out of state prospectors will see WA as free and open.

[Video – see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DloISTqiBxA> to watch the video]

Discussion – bills wouldn't eliminate dredging, goal is to understand what is happening and when, and the effects.

Discussion – not a lot in the Methow, but some seen in the upper Methow, Twisp River

Derek – the challenge in a short legislative session is the movement through the various committees. We will see how much traction either bill gets. Joel Kretz is a key person to contact, rep from our region. Has not signed onto the bill. Contact Crystal Elliot for more information.

From Crystal (via email): We are in the process of working to get a hearing on both bills (although focusing mostly on 2467) in the House Ag and Natural Resources Committee, and we're close to getting a sponsor for a companion bill in the Senate. It will be really important for folks to reach out to their legislators on this in the next couple weeks.....particularly Rep. Kretz and others on the House Ag and Nat. Res. Committee (<http://leg.wa.gov/House/Committees/AGNR/Pages/MembersStaff.aspx>) and once a bill hits the Senate, it would be HUGE if folks could reach out to Sen. Parlette and members of the Senate Nat. Res. and Parks Committee (<http://leg.wa.gov/Senate/Committees/NRP/Pages/MembersStaff.aspx>). If the bill makes it out of committee, it will be a mad dash to get support from any and all legislators we can. We will keep you posted on hearing dates as soon as we hear about them. Anyone interested in getting regular updates should email Gregg Bafundo, our campaign lead, at [gbafundo@tu.org](mailto:gbafundo@tu.org). Any help you can provide/garner on this front would be much appreciated!!!!

### **Roundtable**

Jarred Johnson (via email): The YN has decided to proceed with a Reach Assessment on Beaver Creek. We will be flying the RFP in the next month and hopefully getting the majority of field work done this summer. The project area will be from the Lightning Creek (RM 11) confluence to the Methow Confluence. Outreach to landowners will begin soon.

Derek Van Marter - Expert Panel Update: Will be February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in Wenatchee. Will have a completely different look and feel, new people running this for the action agencies. Think they are taking a lot more ownership on this. They have hired a consultant team from Cardno to facilitate.

John – will there be homework before?

Jennifer – this is the look back; we have already entered a lot of the information

Derek – the first session is the lookback workshop, participants will be able to look at this ahead of time; a paired down representation, from watersheds and the MOAs; there will be about 12 members on the expert panel.

Derek – Forest Health Collaborative Update: January 20 there is a public meeting at the Grange 6-8, facilitating the Northwest Forest Health Collaborative, the meeting is about the Mission Project in Libby and Buttermilk creeks. A forest restoration strategy, and it has an aquatics component.

Ryan Fortier – WDFW: Methow remains closed to fishing, Okanogan is open, but cold so catch rates pretty low

Kristen Kirkby – CCFEG: not much new, will be hanging out in the classrooms in the next few months, working on projects

Lynda Hofmann – WDFW: we had an ice dam in the Twisp River, and we had really great coordination; if we have high flows we would like to coordinate again so that we can get really good outcomes.

John – who do people have to talk to?

Lynda – with me, the HPA is verbal in emergencies

Discussion – also Army Corps. Can provide more information, maps, support for decisions and resources

Sam Israel – Local Citizen: new to valley; interested in conservation planning and restoration. Have a background in forest ecology

John Crandall – Lamprey Enthusiast: remember Lamprey, think about them early and often. We have lamprey guides available. Zero lamprey were counted crossing Wells dam this year. Will be presenting on lamprey at the science conference

**Next MRC February 16**

| <b>Definitions of Commonly used Acronyms</b> |  |
|--|--|
| AEM  | Action Effectiveness Monitoring  |
| ANS  | Aquatic Nuisance Species   |
| AREMP  | Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program                          |
| BACI   | Before, After, Control, Impact (study design type)                             |
| BEF  | Bonneville Environmental Foundation  |
| BO/BiOp                                      | Biological Opinion   |
| BPA  | Bonneville Power Administration  |
| CAC  | Citizens Advisory Committee (for SRFB funding applications)                    |
| CAO  | Critical Areas Ordinance   |
| CBFWA  | Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (pronounced “cubfwah”)              |
| CCFEG  | Columbia Cascade Fisheries Enhancement Group                                   |
| CCT  | Colville Confederated Tribes   |
| CHaMP  | Columbia Habitat Monitoring Program  |
| CMZ  | Channel Migration Zone   |
| CREP   | Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program                                       |
| CSF  | Community Salmon Fund  |
| EDT  | Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment  |
| ESA  | Endangered Species Act   |
| FCRPS  | Federal Columbia River Power System  |
| FFFP   | Family Forest Fish Passage Program   |
| FIA  | Forest Inventory and Analysis program (USFS)                                   |
| Four “H”s                                    | The four factors affecting salmon recovery: Hatchery, Hydro, Habitat, Harvest  |
| HACCP  | Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point                                     |
| HGMP   | Hatchery Genetic Management Plan   |
| HPA  | Hydraulic Project Approval   |
| HSRG   | Hatchery Scientific Review Group   |
| HWS  | Habitat Work Schedule  |
| IMW  | Intensively Monitored Watershed  |
| IS   | Implementation Schedule  |
| ISEMP  | Integrated Status and Effectiveness Monitoring Project                         |
| ISRP   | Independent Scientific Review Panel  |
| IT   | Implementation Team  |
| LW/LWD                                       | Large Wood/Large Woody Debris  |
| M2   | Middle Methow (a project area defined as the reach between Winthrop and Twisp) |
| MaDMC  | Monitoring and Data Management Committee (pronounced “madmac”)                 |
| MOA  | Memorandum of Agreement  |
| MOU  | Memorandum of Understanding  |
| MRC  | Methow Restoration Council   |
| MSRF   | Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (pronounced “em-surf”)                       |
| MVRD   | Methow Valley Ranger District  |
| MWC  | Methow Watershed Council   |
| MYAP   | Multi-year Action Plan (also sometimes called the 3-year workplan)             |
| NFF  | National Forest Foundation   |
| NMFS   | National Marine Fisheries Service  |
| NOAA   | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration                                |

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| NPCC          | Northwest Power and Conservation Council   |
| OCD           | Okanogan Conservation District   |
| OBMEP         | Okanogan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program   |
| OWL           | Okanogan Wilderness League   |
| PCSRF         | Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (pronounced "Pacsurf")                                      |
| PIBO          | PACFISH/INFISH* Biological Opinion   |
| PNAMP         | Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership   |
| PUD           | Public Utility District  |
| QAQC          | Quality Assurance, Quality Control   |
| RA            | Reach Assessment   |
| RCO           | (Washington State) Recreation and Conservation Office  |
| REI           | Reach-based Ecosystem Indicators (used in Reach Assessments)                                     |
| RFEG          | Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group   |
| RFP           | Request for Proposals  |
| RM            | River Mile   |
| RPA           | Reasonable and Prudent Alternative(s)  |
| RTT           | Regional Technical Team  |
| SEPA          | State Environmental Policy Act   |
| SMP           | Shoreline Management Plan  |
| SOAL          | State Owned Aquatic Lands  |
| SOW           | Statement of Work  |
| SPIF          | Specific Project Information Form (used with the Corps ESA programmatic)                         |
| SRFB          | (Washington State) Salmon Recovery Funding Board (pronounced "surfboard")                        |
| SRP           | State Review Panel (for SRFB funding applications)   |
| STEM Database | Status, Trend and Effectiveness Monitoring database at NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center |
| UCSRB         | Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board   |
| TRT           | Technical Recovery Team (NOAA)   |
| USFS          | US Forest Service  |
| USGS          | US Geological Survey   |
| VSP           | Viable Salmonid Population   |
| WAT           | Watershed Action Team (the MRC is our WAT)   |
| WDFW          | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife   |
| WDNR          | Washington Department of Natural Resources   |
| WNFH          | Winthrop National Fish Hatchery  |
| WWP-TU        | Washington Water Project of Trout Unlimited  |
| YN            | Yakama Nation  |

\*PACFISH/INFISH The PACFISH/INFISH Biological Opinion (PIBO) Effectiveness Monitoring Program was initiated in 1998 to provide a consistent framework for monitoring aquatic and riparian resources on most Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands within the Upper Columbia River Basin.