

Methow Restoration Council

July 17, 2018

Participants:

| Name | Organization/Affiliation |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Chris Johnson | MSRF |
| Greer Maier | UCSRB |
| Jacqueline Wallace | TU |
| Jennifer Molesworth | Reclamation |
| Jessica Goldberg | MSRF |
| Kristen Kirkby | CCFEG |
| Paul Wagner | Colville Tribes |
| Pete Teigen | UCSRB |
| Susan Crampton | Local Citizen |
| Tara Gregg | MSRF |

Meeting Notes

SRFB and UCSRB Update:

Pete Teigen – RTT provided comments and rankings to those who have submitted applications. Final proposals due in PRISM on August 9th, but this needs to be confirmed. Dollar cutoff is \$1.9 million. There is a desire to work with sponsors to reduce the number of projects/applications being submitted.

Discussion – if the CAC follows the RTT scores, only 4 projects will be funded this year

Chris Johnson – can the maximum amount of money per project submitted through this process be reduced? There are more funding sources for larger projects, but fewer options for smaller projects.

Greer Maier – we need a prioritized list of projects, and then we could coordinate with the different funding options to determine which funding options work the best for each project to get the greatest number of projects funded.

Chris – I would like to see a debrief after the rankings are published.

Jessica Goldberg – can the match percentage be increased from the Trib Committees, so that more money is available for other projects on the list?

Chris – I would like to see comments sooner. Should be on the same timeframe as BPA so that projects can be developed faster.

Pete – there has been talk of limiting the number of projects each sponsor can submit. There is also discussion of prescreening application abstracts to see how they fit into the biological strategy. Projects that fit into the strategy would then be invited to submit full applications.

Discussion – sponsors didn't ask for a debrief last year, but may want to discuss the process after this year

Discussion regarding working the Forest Service:

Geer Maier – the USCRB wants to integrate the projects better with the Forest Service.

Chris – one of these difficulties is the timeframe that we can work on relative to the FS. We would need to have longer secure funding in order to work with the FS timeframe. The tribal Accord holders have longer secure funding, which allows them to work with the FS.

Greer – what is BPA's policy with regard to work on the FS?

Paul Wagner – my understanding is that projects closer to the water that provide a fish benefit hold more interest to BPA.

Fish Passage Prioritization Tool:

Greer – CCFEG received funding to do a barrier prioritization process for Wenatchee. The tool developed could be used for the Methow barrier assessment. Crews are out in the Twisp Watershed doing data collection regarding barriers this summer and the plan is to incorporate the Twisp data into this tool. Crews are surveying all barriers, not just barriers in existing WDFW database. Barriers in the WDFW database are being resurveyed so that survey methodologies are consistent. This tool can inform the barrier removal board, and there is discussion on how it can be incorporated. The goal is this tool would have statewide or region-wide coverage and can be used to identify high priority barriers. RTT will be discussing this at their next meeting and will likely adopt the strategy. This tool was developed with technical assistance from multiple organizations.

Greer – I would have liked to involve the Forest on this so that the barrier prioritizations developed by this tool are consistent with what they see as their priorities. I have involved the Forest in the email coordination, but they have not been active participants.

Jennifer Molesworth – does this help with high-risk culverts that may present as barriers in the future?

Greer – the metrics were selected based on their ability to distinguish fish passage projects that had a high biological benefit and would contribute the most to recovery of listed fish. Categories included recovery/species indicators (major and minor spawning areas, how close barrier is spawning area, number of species using area); habitat indicators (area of potential habitat upstream, habitat quality upstream, areas sensitive to climate change); and barrier indicators (complete or partial barrier, number of barriers downstream, pass ability of barriers downstream for 6 inch trout (WDFW).) The Forest Service has a tool that may do a better job at identifying risk culverts.

Kristen – I think that the depth of fill over the culvert is a collected metric.

Greer – as barriers are addressed and updated in the WDFW database, this tool will update the barrier list from WDFW and rerun the prioritization tool. The tool results are currently presented in a excel spreadsheet and an ArcGIS online interface. The fish distribution layer will be added to the online interface.

Greer – I'm reaching out to partners for review. Comments should be submitted to me prior to the end of the month. A tiering system has been developed to prioritize barrier removal projects for sponsors.

Habitat Work Schedule:

Greer – I conducted a QAQC in the schedule to identify gaps. There is a guidance document on the website. Entering proposed projects and dollar amount is very important. It is used to report to funders and legislature. GSRO will be pulling all of our project data of the next couple of weeks. I will pull all projects completed in 2017 for this report. Sponsors should make sure their projects are entered with the correct completion date and all the data is complete. I will send this out and can work with folks to make sure their project information is entered correctly. Once familiar with the process this should take about 5 min (steps outlined in guidance document). This is now linked to PRISM so that the data from PRISM can be used to populate your projects data in the habitat work schedule. Data that is updated in PRISM will be updated automatically in the Habitat Work Schedule.

Roundtable:

Jenny Molesworth – Bureau of Reclamation: We're developing Twisp Floodplain and Barkley Bear Projects. We had an invite to visit the Grande Ronde at the end of the month for a project tour. Starting development of a project at Sugar.

Paul Wagner – Colville Tribes: On July 30th our annual contract ends. We have provided the money to purchase the Barkley Pipe for TU. Also working on various projects in the Methow and local youth education with Rob Crandall.

Susan Crampton – I'm interested in the use of technologies, but am glad to see that data is still being field verified.

Jacqueline Wallace – TU: Crystal is working on the suction dredging regulations and BDA work for Mission. TU is moving forward on Barkley Irrigation. We finished up the removal of two surface diversions (converted to well) in the lower Methow. Working on a water trust with a landowner on Beaver Creek and another on the mainstem Methow near Carlton. We will be updating the water trust handbook. Here is a link to the current handbook:
<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrdocs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/landownerguide-2009-2ndEd.pdf>

Kristen Kirkby – CCFEG: Burns Garrity is working on 60% design. The barrier removal project on Benson Creek may be delayed due to high bids. I'm coordinating the barrier removal survey team, and I developed an outreach video about project actions that will be available in August. John Crandall developed a complementary handbook with similar information.

WDFW has expressed an interest in holding a public outreach meeting to educate landowners regarding restoration actions.

Chris Johnson – MSRF: We're moving forward on Twisp River Floodplain Phase II. We finalized the purchase of the floodplain property for that project. We are working on cow ranging issues in the project area. Continuing to support the Barkley/MVID project by negotiating the easements with DOT. Barkley Bear project scope has been narrowed and is working on 80%. Working on final acquisition of the last property at the Sugar Levee.

Greer Maier – UCSRB: I'm working on outreach, including a brochure on where to observe spawning salmon. There is now an events calendar on the UCSRB website that has meeting information and agendas. I would like to incorporate the MRC meeting times, agendas and notes into this.

Tara Gregg – MSRF: John Crandall is finishing up the initial survey data for the Lower Methow Reach Assessment. This data will be incorporated into GIS and then verified in the field over the next few weeks.

Next MRC August 21

| Definitions of Commonly used Acronyms | |
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| AEM | Action Effectiveness Monitoring |
| ANS | Aquatic Nuisance Species |
| AREMP | Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program |
| AU | Assessment Unit |
| BACI | Before, After, Control, Impact (study design type) |
| BDA | Beaver Dam Analogue |
| 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 (newer acronym is CTCR – see below) |
| CTCR | Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (older acronym is CCT – see above) |
| CHaMP | Columbia Habitat Monitoring Program |
| CMZ | Channel Migration Zone |
| CREP | Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program |
| CSF | Community Salmon Fund |
| DEM | Digital Elevation Model |
| EDT | Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment |
| EQIP | Environmental Quality Incentives Program |
| ESA | Endangered Species Act |
| FCRPS | Federal Columbia River Power System |
| FFFPP | 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 |
| ISAB | Independent Science Advisory Board |
| ISEMP | Integrated Status and Effectiveness Monitoring Project |
| ISRP | Independent Scientific Review Panel (reviews BPA projects) |
| 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 |

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| MWC | Methow Watershed Council |
| 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") |
| PHABSIM | Physical Habitat Simulation |
| 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 |
| Snerd | Fish Capture-Snorkel Herding |
| 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 |

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