

Methow Restoration Council

November 17, 2015

Participants:

Name	Organization/Affiliation
Mary Sutton Carruthers	UCSRB
John Crandall	MRC
Joy Juelson	UCSRB
Julie Grialou	Methow Conservancy
Kristen Kirkby	CCFEG
Susan Crampton	Local Citizen
Jennifer Molesworth	USBR
Chris Johnson	MSRF
Derek Van Marter	UCSRB
Makary Hutson	BPA

Meeting Notes:

The Upper Columbia Science Conference will be January 27th and 28th. You can sign up on the UCSRB website at <http://www.ucsrb.org/>

John Crandall – Monitoring Update: John has stepped into the chairperson role for MaDMC. The goal is to continue with monitoring programmatic worksheets so that folks can be more knowledgeable of the monitoring programs in the Methow subbasin. These worksheets will include information regarding project name, type of monitoring, status and trend summary, and project lead contact information. This information will be available on the UCSRB website. The hope is that this increases the interaction and coordination of monitoring and restoration efforts between agencies. **Action:** John will provide an update next month.

Hopefully the programmatic update will encourage more extensive use of acquired data sets. There is an extensive network of temperature monitoring between the MSRF and Beaver Project crews. Combining these data sets will provide a detailed longitudinal temperature profile. Temperature data is currently available through ecology's EIM website. Pit tag antenna data also offers a data set that is more detailed and inclusive of multiple species than is currently being utilized. The data collected could be used as a driver for developing projects and identifying effectiveness.

John presented a paper discussing how the addition of large wood increases feeding opportunities for young fish entitled *Quantifying the role of woody debris in providing bioenergetically favorable habitat for juvenile salmon*. **Action:** A pdf of this paper will be sent out with the notes.

Fish Passage- http://www.fpc.org/adultsalmon_home.html shows the number of fish that have passed over the dams. The following summarizes the passage data for adults over Wells dam.

Chinook =97626

Chinook Jack = 5732

Coho = 1125

Coho Jack =48

Steelhead = 9143

Wild Steelhead =3552
Sockeye = 187055
Pink =0
Chum =0
Lamprey =0
Shad =0

Spring Chinook redd counts and locations were similar to last years.

John Crandall – Outreach Update: The *Salmon Recovery* education program has started in the 6th grade classroom. Last year we bought a fish tank for one of the 6th grade classroom, but there is a desire for a second tank for the other classroom. The fish tank has been very popular. As part of the Salmon Recovery education curriculum the students are separated into groups. These groups will work with community volunteers who represent various roles involved in salmon recovery, including a fishing guide, farmer/rancher, conservationist, tribal representative, and fish recovery agency representative. These representatives will help guide students in a discussion of how to develop and implement a “mock” salmon recovery project.

Action: John will provide an update regarding comments on water quality data.

Chris Johnson - Art project update: We pulled 23 cars out of the Methow this summer. Some of these will be utilized as art projects. We have also produced a Calendar with Methow Arts that will be here prior to the Holidays. The intention of these art projects is to increase communication and collaboration with the community through public projects. If folks have ideas for installations or installation locations let Chris know.

Jenny brought up the Twisp River Park as a key location for outreach. Chris has been working on a trail linkage between Twisp Ponds and Twisp Park. The property owner adjacent to the Twisp Park has expressed an interest in working with Chris to develop a trail along the river on this property. The goal is to focus on developing interest hubs and then work with the public to develop the linkage.

Salmon Celebration is not happening at this time, but it would be good to have some sort of fish happening.

Informational river safety signs have been installed at the Winthrop Barn.

Kent Woodruff – Beaver Project Update: The project continues to thrive and the project relocated 44 beavers this year. This was one of the best years for relocations, but one of the worst years for establishment. We have records of beavers moving on average about 40 miles. One beaver moved about 120 miles this summer based on pit tag array data. The project has started doing DNA analysis to looking at the relatedness and isolation of beaver populations. Projects in Yakama and Skykomish are doing similar work. Multiple beavers were removed from Conconully Lake. Roughly half of the Beavers that move get picked up on the Spring Creek array.

Chris - Small woody structures were established in Frazer creek with the hope that it will decrease the amount of incision of the channel. Approximately 3500 linear feet of creek was treated. The work was permitted through WA Fish and Wildlife and the Corps.

Kent – Bridge Creek, near Prineville is a well-established study location looking the use of small manmade wood structures (beaver dam analogs) to entrap sediment and reduce degradation. The hope is the structures will attract beavers who will then take over the maintenance of the dams.

Chris-Live cuttings were used in the Frazer Creek dams to help reestablish to food network to support the hoped for beaver population. Monitoring cameras will be established to monitor beaver interest. Our permits required that the structures meet fish passage requirements.

Jenny- Regrowth in the many of the fire areas is rapid.

Kent-The base work structure of the installed wood posts in these structures differs from the natural engineering of a beaver dam. As the posts rot out or under high flow conditions these dams can blow out. However, if they have attracted beavers there is a high likelihood that the beaver will rebuild. Multiple folks are looking at using the Beaver Project as a platform for graduate studies. Public education and landowner collaboration is a key component to this project.

Joy Juelson – UCSRB Updates: SRFB Grant Process update- We had small number of projects this year. We started with 14 and 9 went through the process. At this time six of these will be funded (2 in the Methow and 4 in the Wenatchee). A debrief of the review process will be held on December 1st in Wenatchee. A brief analysis was done of the selected projects to summarize the metrics of project benefits. A focus has been placed on implementing projects in areas identified as priorities in the biological strategy and that address the priority ecological concerns.

An opening on the Upper Columbia Citizens Advisory Committee has received 3 nominations: Tom McCoy, Kevin VanBueren, and Jack A Stanford. The county commissioners will select a nominee and then UCSRB approves the nomination. This committee operates under the UCSRB statute.

Julie- Some of these members have been part of this committee for a long time. Is there a term limit?

Joy and Derek-There is no term limit at this time. The long term members have been highly involved each year and are familiar with the topics addressed by this committee. It would be difficult to get enough engaged individuals to warrant having a short term posts. The goal of the committee is to have a board selection of the individuals from a variety of backgrounds.

Fires have occurred in priority areas in 2014 and 2015. Perhaps we should look at these areas to see if there is additional monitoring or project opportunities in these areas.

Some monitoring work was done in the Twisp River following the retardant drops. **Action:** John will look for this monitoring data.

The Upper Columbia Science Conference has put out a call for short films. These are due January 15th

Silver side channel was re-scoped and is going through an amendment process. A decision will be made regarding the funding at the meeting on December 9th.

Roundtable

Jennifer – Barkley Bear moving forward rolling. It would be great to get out in the field with MRC to take a look at projects, perhaps 4 times a year during different seasons. A notice could be sent out and then

folks could sign up. The reach assessment for Twisp River is complete, the Upper Methow is in review and the Silver reach is being revised. I Attended the climate change conference in Coeur d'Alene. The keynote speaker was featured in the local paper in an article appealing to hunters and fisherman. Speakers also got involved in the local school and students attended some of the talks at the conference. Predictions indicate a significant warmer norm. The underlying message was not what do we do to change, but more what do we do to get ready. Projects will need to be developed with the possibility of lower flows earlier in the summer/fall. We certainly saw these affects at the Whitefish Project this summer

Chris-site visits would offer an opportunity for different groups to see how projects fit into different reach assessments or prioritization methods.

John- Making information, especially regarding the reach assessments accessible to landowners and the public is important.

Julie-Could the MRC apply for a grant that would fund reach assessments in such a way that gaps are filled that would otherwise be vacant? **Action:** Chris is going to pursue it.

Kent- The beaver project will be featured in the 10 decades project, a film looking at climate adaptation. Other aspects of the film will look at lynx and white bark pine amongst others. I recommend a book called Climate Savvy. The authors of this book will be involved in this film project.

Kristen- I have started working with CCFEG and will be based in the Methow working on landowner outreach and education.

Joy- I will be volunteering with Friends of the National Park in Bali this winter. Extensive fires have been occurring in Indonesia, this is a likely sign of a changing climate.

Mary Sutton – I have recently started with UCSRB.

Crystal-I am working with Ecology to initiate clean up on the Red Shirt and Alder Creek mines and developing structure for this cleanup process. There is a PBS video that will be coming out next month that will feature some of this work. Trout Unlimited is looking to hire a new project manager to fill the position previously held by Jeri Timm.

Chris-if different groups get involved to help this process do they inherit a portion of the liability burden?

Susan-glad you guys are here.

Derek-We are looking at high elevation locals in the watershed to determine how these environments affect the lower watershed, specifically in terms of high elevation snowpack. We are working to evaluate how thinning, prescribed burning, wildfires, and climate change affect snowpack, water storage and instream flow lower down in the watershed.

John- Goat Creek Project–Hundreds of salvaged logs and snags were placed along 1 mile of Goat Creek to benefit Bull Trout. There are now beavers moving into this area. This project was collaboration between NFF, MSRF, USFWS, and USFS.

Chris- Buckley Twisp Floodplain Project-This project has removed the MVID fish screens and cement structure. The access channel is now a habitat feature. The Methow Valley newspaper will be featuring a story on this project in next week's paper. Frazer Creek-We have already talked about the Frazer BDAs. Four additional bridges were funded, but we were not able to install them because of permitting. Barkley Bear-A portion of the project team met with landowners involved in the project. These landowners are excited about the project and involved in the development.

Next Meeting: Tuesday December 15th, 2015

Definitions of Commonly used Acronyms	
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.