



# **YAKIMA TRIBUTARY ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM**

## **Core Team Meeting Minutes**

**20 December, 2006 9:30am-Noon**

PLACE: USDA Service Center conference room, 1606 Perry St. Yakima

Attending: Anna Lael, Pat Schille, David Child, Jen Scott, Richard Visser, Dave Myra, Ed Harrell, Henry Fraser, David Girth, Ken Schuster.

### **1. ADMINISTRATION**

- a) Approve Agenda: Dave asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none and the agenda was approved.
- b) Approve November Minutes: Dave asked if there were any corrections or additions to the November meeting minutes. There were none and the minutes were approved as e'mailed.
- c) Update on BPA Contracts and Funding: Ed reported that the interim four month contracts (Expense and Capital) for fiscal year 2007 have been signed and payments will be coming for October and November invoices. There is no new information on the final funding level for FY-07 through 09. Ed said BPA has delayed an announcement until late January.

### **2. UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS, PENDING PROJECTS, PERMITS AND MONITORING**

#### a) NYCD:

David C. presented a slide show of projects NYCD completed in 2006 and future projects. Completed projects included; Lesh, Garretson, Thornton, Snow Mountain Ranch, Shaw/Knox, Diversion-31, Upper Lust, and installation of 8 pump screens.

Richard asked how Gale Thornton liked the habitat work done on his place. Mike said Gale liked it and he will be a good spokesman for similar projects.

Richard asked David to share the Snow Mountain Ranch photos with Margaret Newman (Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group) because they had provided some funding for that project.

Concerning future projects David listed Boyd Brown, Schneider Habitat, Fines, potentially 7 pump screens and on going monitoring. He also said that he had met with Joel Freudenthal (Yakima County) to discuss coordination of YTAHP and County work on Rattlesnake Creek in the Boyd Brown diversion area.

b) KCCD:

Anna reported that the Eslinger / Parke Creek project pipeline is complete and the concrete pad for the pumps will be poured as soon as the weather permits. She says there needs to be some work done with the county to improve passage at the upstream bridge. Eslinger is happy with the work that's been done. The Wilson Creek / Eaton Instream Habitat project is finished. The planting will be done when the weather improves. The total project cost is about 90-thousand dollars. Anna said she had received new bids for the Ludwick and Sorenson pump screen cranes. Weather will determine when the concrete work will be done, but it should be finished before the end of January. Also in January the Lyle Creek pipeline work will begin. The Lmuma Creek habitat work is ready to start. The Eatons have already done some fencing. Richard asked about the cost of the Lmuma project and expressed some concern about potential future impacts from the Wymer reservoir if it is ever built. Anna said there was no YTAHP funding in construction of the project and most of the funding will go for on farm irrigation efficiencies. Pat suggested to Anna that she call Rick J. with the Walla Walla Conservation District, because they have had some problems with the type of pump screen intended for Eaton's Yakima pump. They tend to plug up with debris. Ken said they have also seen some problems with these types of diversions and the water metering devices. The propellers tend to wear out.

Anna said she had met with Dave Berdick regarding the Currier Creek project. She hopes to start construction in the fall of 2007.

Hank reported that they have gotten permission from Pat Deneen to install two temporary fish screens on Swauk Creek. These will be in place until more permanent decisions are made about the two diversions. One of the screens will be provided by YTAHP and the other by WDFW. Pat said WDFW will also cover the cost of transporting the screens from the Yakima Screen Shop to the site of installation. A Cultural survey is needed before the screens can be installed. Hank said he hoped to get the screens in by the end of January.

Hank said they have done the survey of Taneum Creek so alternatives can be developed for corrections at the Taneum and Bruton diversions.

### **3. PROJECT MONITORING (OVER ALL PROCESS)**

Jennifer reported that they had done some redd surveys and had found quite a few along Cowiche Creek and Reecer Creek. She has set a meeting to review the monitoring plan for January 26, in Ellensburg at the WDFW Office. There will also be discussion on developing a monitoring plan for Naneum Creek.

Richard said he is working with Alex Conley (YBFWRB) to try to tap some funding for on going monitoring. This could assist YTAHP and others doing monitoring in the Yakima Basin.

### **4. ITEMS OF INTEREST**

a) Review YTAHP process Flow Chart and Strategic Plan: Dave M. gave a brief background explanation of the development of the Strategic Plan and the project flow chart. He suggested that the best way to approach and update of the Plan

may be to have a sub-committee review it and bring suggested revisions back to the Core Team. Richard agreed this would work best.

Hank asked if this review is something BPA is asking for. Dave said, No, the Plan is an internal tool for YTAHP to help organize our efforts. Things have changed since the Plan was first prepared. Tributary Teams have not been established as anticipated. They do not seem to be needed in every situation.

Further discussion of the Plan review will occur at the 2007 Scope of Work meeting set for January 9<sup>th</sup>. Ed was asked to e-mail a copy of the Strategic Plan to those who may be interested.

b) Should we issue an RFP/RFQ for a Cultural Resource Contractor for YTAHP projects?

Dave M. explained that there may be some benefit to hiring a consultant so they are available to do Cultural surveys for any YTAHP projects requiring a survey. Potential projects in the same area could be grouped together in one survey and when the project was ready for permitting the survey would be on the shelf and ready to go. Jen said this might help get things through BPA faster. Also, it would be important to get someone that BPA is comfortable with so there would not be questions or concerns about the adequacy of the Cultural Survey Report.

Richard said that with Cultural Surveys it would not hurt if they sat on the shelf for awhile and it would be good to have a standardized format that BPA likes.

Jen said using one contractor could be more efficient and less expensive because they could do the research in Olympia for several projects at the same time.

David G. suggested doing an RFQ and then deciding if we want to hire one consultant or if we want to create a list of several consultants that can be called on when needed.

Dave M. said we will continue this until the next meeting so we can think about it and decide what to do in January.

On a separate subject – Mike said he had looked at the Pesticide Use forms sent out by BPA. He said Brian Schmidt is a licensed applicator and D.J. on the WCC crew is certified.

**5. NEXT MEETING: January 17, 2007, 9:30 a.m. – noon**  
**Location: Kittitas County PUD, 1400 E. Vantage Hwy. Ellensburg**