



YAKIMA TRIBUTARY ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Core Team Meeting Minutes

20 October, 2004 9am-Noon

**USDA Agricultural Service Center (NYCD Office)
1606 Perry Street, Yakima (509) 454-5736**

Attendance: Dave Nunn, Dave Myra, Steve Kropp, Ed Harrell, Henry Fraser, Eric Egbers, Carol Ready, Pat Monk, William Meyer, Michael Tobin, Anna Lael.

1. ADMINISTRATION

a) BPA FY 05 Contract

Dave reported: Yesterday afternoon we received word from BPA on the FY-05 Contract is in the mail. BPA had previously provided YTAHP with a one month extension of our FY-04 contract to carry us through October. The funding amount provided for October is \$105,492.00. This is the amount we projected in our spending plan as needed for October.

Dave mentioned that BPA had e'mailed us the Bio-metrics for measuring FY-05 projects. Ed had forwarded the BPA e'mail to everyone. If you check out the website that is linked to that e'mail you will see that the metrics are going to be fairly easy to identify and tabulate. The measurement units are, for example: miles of stream access opened, acres of vegetation planted, length of fencing built, cfs of water screened.

Ed mentioned that he had received signed Inter-local Agreements back from; Ahtanum Irrigation District, NYCD, and KRD/Kittitas County Water Purveyors. He still needed agreements from KCCD and WDFW. There was some discussion with Eric and Steve about the Agreement and who would know about its status. Dave said we will call Ted Clausing to check on it. Eric said Ted is in Olympia until next Monday, the 25th. Anna said she had gotten her Boards signature on the Agreement. She will check with Sara about where it is. Because we had not gotten a contract with BPA the RC&D Chairman has not signed the Inter-local Agreements. This will be done as soon as we get the BPA contract.

b) Annual report and SOW questionnaire

Ed reported that a rough draft of the annual report is completed but he still needs to fill in details about what we have accomplished during the last year. This was the reason for the e'mail sent out on October 8th. With that e'mail he sent a copy of the FY-04 SOW and inserted questions about how we had accomplished the tasks in the SOW. Ed said he had received comments back from Steve Kropp. Carol provided her written comments to Ed at the meeting. Dave N. and Anna were working on their responses and would get

those to Ed early next week. Mike said he would check with George Marshall about things done on the Ahtanum Irrigation District.

Steve conveyed some of his comments to the group. He was especially happy about the upfront planning work done on the Pellicer's Project. The early involvement of the TWG and project engineers had really helped in coming to agreements about the project and HPA conditions and requirements. Gina McCoy had taken the early input and developed project alternatives. These could then be discussed by the Project proponent, engineers and regulating agencies. Through several conference call discussions agreement was reached about the final project approach and a draft HPA was prepared. With agreement on the approach and language of the HPA other permits were easily prepared. As with any project a lot of questions came up but these were dealt with early on. Making the permit process more efficient is one of the reasons for the development of YTAHP. All YTAHP projects should following the Pellicer example of early interaction between project proponent, engineers and agencies.

Mike added that in-house engineering, from the Conservation Districts, really helps because the engineers are more responsive than hired consultants from the Westside.

Dave said that when all of the comments were received Ed would consolidate them and distribute them to everyone for review and discussion.

c) Materials Inventory Tracking

Ed explained that we need to have a central data base of all the materials purchased with YTAHP funds but not immediately used on a project. This way we will know what's available, where it is, and if it is still allocated to a viable project. We have an inventory list prepared by MWH for material they purchased with FY-02 funds on behalf of YTAHP. This list needs to be updated. Anna and Rusty have an inventory of other materials KCCD has purchased. Dave Nunn said he is preparing a list of all the material (ie: pump screens , root-wads, rock) that NYCD has. Ed said he would make up a master inventory list and keep it up to date. Most materials are allocated to a particular project. But if the project does not go for some reason it will be good to know what is available for use on active projects. Dave mentioned that some of the material is being used as match for a particular project and we need to make sure it is still available when that project is ready to go.

2. INVENTORY TEAMS

a) KCCD-

Anna reported that Abbi is working on portions of Swauk Creek where they have willing landowners. They are talking with the USFS about getting any appropriate data USFS may have on Swauk Creek. Letters have gone out to landowners along Wipple Wasteway and Badger Creek regarding

doing assessments of these waterways. Carol and Pat said they have some data on Wipple Wasteway and Badger Creek.

b) NYCD-

Dave N. reported that they have finished assessments on the Sloughs, and Gold Creek. They are finishing up with Rattlesnake Creek, Rock Creek, the Little Nile and the Nile. They are working on preparing the Assessment Reports. Work on Wenas Creek is on hold until they can get better cooperation from the landowners. Mike said one reason for the lack of cooperation is the landowners believe they have a previous agreement with WDFW that screening is not required, unless salmon are a concern. Mike was wondering if there is such an agreement. Pat M. said that there may be. Early on WDFW was only concerned about protecting salmon. Mike said that at this time Wenas Creek is a low priority.

c) WDFW- There was no WDFW inventory activity in the YTAHP area.

4. TRIBUTARY TEAMS

a) Cowiche Creek

Dave N. said that Cowiche Trib team has not met recently because there are no issues to discuss. Mike and Dave will look over the potential projects to see which might have some immediate promises. They will then get the Trib team together to discuss those potentials.

The Ahtanum Trib team will be put together this winter.

Mike asked about the Lust projects. Dave M. said the current question is determining what the cost of water from the Yakima/Tieton is going to be. If it is reasonable, YTAHP could pay the one-time fee for attaching the Lust water users to the Yakima/Tieton system. Carol agreed that this would be worth the long term water conservation. Mike said that if the Lust projects become viable they will be given a high priority by NYCD.

1. Update on Pellicer

Dave N. reported that the Pellicer project is completed. They finished the plantings. The only remaining issue is a concern by the landowner that the new bridge approach is too high and narrow. He will work with the landowner to find a way to take care of this. Everyone involved with the project is pleased with the end results. It is a great improvement over what was there before and it improves the instream habitat as well as opening access.

b) Kittitas

Anna reported that the draft stream assessment reports are done. They are available on the website and have been sent to neighboring landowners. Once landowners have had a chance to review the reports, trib teams will be established.

A question was asked regarding project priorities in Kittitas County. Anna explained that these priorities had been established in July. They are fairly general at this time but as viable projects become more evident the priorities will be refined. Steve K. Anna L, Hank F. will be meeting tomorrow (Oct 21,) to begin that process.

5 ITEMS OF INTEREST

Eric mentioned that it appeared FRIMA will be requesting another round of proposals about the first part of 2005. The question was asked about the character of BPA money, is it Federal dollars or not? This is important in determining if BPA funds can be used as match for other funds. Dave M. Said he had information saying BPA funds are not Federal, because Federal funds have a Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number and BPA funds do not.

Steve K. passed on some information from Richard V. that SRFB will be accepting proposals in the Spring. Richard had suggested that YTAHP put a package of projects together and get conceptual plans and costs ready. Pat M. said that getting project information together early, with input from the TWG and some time to answer concerns before submitting the project proposals to SRFB, will enhance the proposals chance of getting a high priority.

Dave M. said he would try to get some information about the current priorities of SRFB. He may ask Frank or Richard to the next Core Team meeting.

There was a long discussion, principally between Hank, Anna and Eric, regarding the Reecer/Cheery Creek SRFB proposal. Eric suggested they get together later to discuss questions about the proposal.

a) FY 05 Projects KCCD

Anna reported that the Coleman Creek project is going to construction. The fish salvage is next week. The Sorensen project will go to construction in November, as will the Little Nanum Project.

(Fogarty project) Carol said there will be a meeting with landowners, next Wednesday (Oct.27), regarding the Fogarty project. BOR engineers will do the design work. Bid packages should be ready to distribute next spring. YTAHP involvement will consist of assistance with several pump screens.

NYCD

Dave N. said 3 to 7 more pump screens are slated to go into Cowiche Creek. The Thornton habitat project needs permits, however the fencing and planting portion will go ahead. Upper Lust, NYDC 19 and NYCD 20 and the Garretson projects are in line for FY-05.

Dave N. asked Eric for the SSHEAR data on Ahtanum Creek.

6. Manastash Project-Update

Carol said they have the screen costs for Manastash. They need a County Road crossing permit on Barnes Road, and need to determine liability for the pipe under the road. There will be a meeting of the engineer and design team at the Palace Restaurant on Oct. 21, 2004.

7. Other- Rolling Rivers Trailer (NYCD)

Mike explained a little about the Rolling Rivers Trailer. It was not available for display at this meeting. Anna and Carol described a proposal they submitted for a 3-D map board of the upper Yakima basin.

8. Next meeting: [November 17, 2004, 9am –noon](#)

Location: Best Inn, 901 Berry Road, Ellensburg.

Minutes prepared by Ed Harrell