

McNary Fisheries Compensation Committee Meeting

Northern Wasco County PUD Meeting Room

2345 River Road, The Dalles, Oregon 97058

Call in Number: 1-971-256-0996 , passcode: 148967

Updated 11/08/2017

Link for Web Meeting: <https://www.conferencecalling.com/meeting/14896798>

Tuesday, November 7, 2017, starting at 10am.

Attending: Gary Fredricks, NOAA, RD Nelle-USFWS, Patrick Verhey-WDFW, Korenna Colquitt-PUD, Rick Martinson-PUD, Julie Carter-CRITFC (phone), Kurt Conger and Paul Titus also stopped by (I think they heard there was food). Presenters-Colleen Fagan and Winston Morton, ODFW, Wallowa-Baker habitat restoration project, Danial Didricksen, WDFW.

1. August meeting minute's approval request – done via email.

Not discussed but I believe the minutes have been approved shortly after the last meeting.

To Do: Rick 1) Post minutes to web site.

2. New Proposals, Extension Request or Final Report Presentations.

a. Wallowa Baker River Restoration Project Final Report

Colleen Fagan and Winston Morton from ODFW, presented the final report on the Wallowa-Baker Habitat Restoration Project. They used a power point presentation to walk us through the background and geneses of the project.

They said the landowner was considering a permanent easement which we all liked. Winston made the point that his priority for this project was to restore “process and function”. There were several questions, including engineered log jam anchoring, riparian and flood plain plantings maturation estimates, silting of side channels, and how well they met project goals, in terms of structures built, etc. Winston and Colleen were able to answer all of our questions. We talked about out-year reporting obligations. Rick confirmed that the GAD does stipulate 10 years of reporting. Gary suggested they be reminded of that with their final reimbursement. Those present accepted the final report and authorized final reimbursement.

Colleen and Winston also took advantage of their visit to pitch another project they are involved in along a section of Catherine Creek that runs through Hall Ranch which is owned by OSU. The project is primarily to move a highway from the valley bottom, the flood plain, up out of the valley bottom to the side hill. I think their involvement is mostly placing some structures in the channel once the road is removed. But largely, they plan to let nature take its course. This was not a preliminary proposal but a cursory introduction to see if the committee would be interested in seeing a proposal. The members present talked about the project and agreed it was a good idea to move that road and build a new one above the flood plain but we don't want to spend money on road construction, which is expensive, about 5 million for 1.5 miles. We concluded we would look at a proposal to fund the structures to be built once the road is gone. Colleen indicated she would submit a proposal once she had more information on co-sponsors. ODOT and OSU and the surrounding land owners are all in favor of the project.

To Do: Rick: 1) fill out a vote record form, 2) process the final reimbursement, pointing out the 10 year reporting obligation, 3) distribute drone footage- done.

Possible additional presentations:

- b. Theresa Liedtke with USGS and Danny Didricksen with WDFW submitted a PP for money to pay wages for USGS staff to participate in testing screen angle and its effect on entrainment. They would be using the recirculating tank at USGS that we funded. Daniel will attend to present.

Daniel presented the project over the phone. Basically his proposal is for money to pay salaries of USGS staff to conduct tests using the recirculating tank at the USGS facility in Cook. The project hopes to determine what screen approach angle works best for passing ammocoetes. Apparently he has money from BPA for everything but the cost of staff to conduct the tests, but this isn't clear.

There were several points made in the discussion of this proposal. RD pointed out that it would be inconsistent to fund the construction of the tank and then not help with the funding to use it. Gary pointed out that the reason for this fund, losses at the McNary turbine intake, likely impacts lamprey more than any other species so

this expenditure is quite appropriate. All agreed it would be good to see the tank get used. All present agreed to consideration of a full grant application. Rick pointed out that Daniel and Marty want to use the “direct funding” method of transferring funds to USGS. Rick explained that this process deviates from our protocols by basically eliminating any accountability for the funds. We cut them a check and hope they do what they said they would do. However, Rick pointed out that they have not provided a final report from the testing that Matt Mesa did. We have a draft but not a final version. It was agreed that we would consider this application only after receiving a final report from the screen type testing.

ToDo: Rick 1) Fill out vote record form, 2) inform Daniel and Marty that we would like to see a full application but only after we receive a final report on the screen type testing, 3) provide more detail on direct funding to Patrick and RD.

- c. Gary Torretta with the Forest Service submitted a PP on a culvert replacement project. I’m hoping I can arrange for Gary T. to present the proposal via WebMeeting.

The final report presentation by Colleen and Winston went longer than expected so we could not coordinate with Gary T. for the presentation. The committee discussed the proposal, some key points mentioned; Gary F. was concerned about setting a precedent of repairing culverts that could overwhelm our small fund. There are hundreds of culverts out there and if we fix one could be justify saying no to the next one?

RD wondered about the price and asked if there was a dollar amount we would be willing to donate. He thought there should be some guidance in the protocols about what type of projects we fund.

Rick mentioned that we have discussed that in the past and decided to evaluate proposals on their individual merits, and not establish a list of project types we are interested in.

Patrick wants us to provide an explanation as to why we are not interested and perhaps get some explanation as to why the FS won’t do it. Some thought it was due to a lack of FS money but Gary F. countered that there is money out there (Fed money).

In the end, the group agreed with Gary Fredricks original concern and decided to decline to consider a full application.

To Do: Rick 1) Draft an email to Gary with our decision and circulate for comment. 2) fill out a vote record form

3. Other new business, agenda additions, etc.

- a. Grant Evaluation Table - I will update if I make any progress on this.

This was thoroughly discussed and some great modifications came of the discussion. Rick is going to re-work the format by putting the evaluation categories in rows instead of the current row labels, get rid of the comments score but retain the summary comments block.

4. Grant Updates, work progress and financial activity.

Active-Open Grants

- a. Upper Yakima River Restoration Project-KCT- See update from Mitchell Long
Mitchell provided an update that sounds like he is still working on other funding.

Closed but Update Worthy

- b. Swauk Creek Restoration-Yakama Nation
- c. PIT Tagging Spring Chinook Parr-WDFW
- d. Facilities Inventory and RME for Lamprey-CRITFC
- e. Lamprey Screen Type Testing – USGS *Report is still under review.*
- f. Lamprey Habitat Restoration Guide – Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
- g. Cle Elum River Restoration- KCT
- h. Yakama Beaver Project- MCFEG
- i. Evaluation of Tucannon Restoration Work-WDFW –

No other updates received.

5. Change Forms

6. Website updates

Rick suggested to Kurt Conger that we look into getting a separate web site designed similar to the one FPOM uses for all of that information. Those familiar with the FPOM website agreed that it may work well for our needs. If we can get something like that built we would archive all MFCC information on it and simply have a link to it on the PUD page.

To Do:

Rick – 1) look into getting website built. Update- I have contacted a company in Hood River and will follow up with them to see if they are interested. 2) send FPOM link to committee members.

7. **Next Meeting Date:** Mid February

Rick will send out a doodle poll.