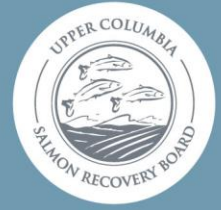


Working to restore viable and sustainable populations of salmon, steelhead and other at-risk species through collaborative, economically sensitive efforts, combined resources, and wise resource management of the Upper Columbia Region.



**OKANOGAN PROJECT RANKING MEETING NOTES**  
**OKANOGAN COUNTY CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023 5:00 - 6:20 PM**  
**CHELAN COUNTY FIRE STATION, CHELAN WA**

- Committee Members: Bob Monetta (Chair), Louis Sukovaty, Will Keller, Larry Hill, Sam Israel, Craig Nelson
- UCSRB Staff: Ryan Niemeyer, Dave Hecker

Bob Monetta, Okanogan CAC Chair, convened the meeting at 5:15 pm.

Meeting participants introduced themselves and Dave displayed the meeting agenda to outline steps in the Okanogan County ranking meeting.

Tracy Hillman (RTT) joined the meeting to address biological questions. Open discussion regarding biological benefit and RTT scores included the following: Chair Monetta thanked Tracy Hillman and the RTT for their thorough scoring and notes. Chair Monetta asked CAC members if there were any questions.

CAC question: What is the RTT's impression of the Upper Methow Design RM 61.75-62.75 proposal? The CAC member noted that this project differs from design proposals in prior years given the focus of connecting off-channel cold water seeps in the floodplain and asked if this was a well-established restoration approach. Tracy Hillman's response: These approaches to put in structures to expand access to off-channel cold water pools aren't novel and will be well used by fish. Well-placed structures near cold water seeps are also shown to expand the cold-water plume on the mainstem.

There were no further questions.

The Okanogan CAC reviewed their Bylaws. Chair Monetta asked CAC members if there were conflicts of interest, no conflicts. Ryan Niemeyer reviewed Robert's Rules of Order and ground rules for decision making. Chair Monetta brought up the topic of sponsors lobbying to CACs and these policies were reviewed in the CAC Bylaws. CACs discussed the existing language stating that all communications between CACs and sponsors should be routed through the Lead Entity Coordinator. In the interest of time, this discussion was tabled for future discussion.

Dave displayed initial Okanogan CAC scores, ranks, and standard deviations for committee review. Projects were sorted based on average rank (1-5, low to high). Committee members compared these ranks to RTT scores, and the group noted that the list as sorted matched the

sequence of RTT scores (high to low).

Two projects (Goat Creek Fan Restoration and Upper Columbia Fish Distribution Assessment) both had an average rank of 2.7, tied for second rank. Dave stated that last year the CAC elected to use standard deviation (SD) as a tie breaker, lower SD receiving the lower (more favorable) ranking. The use of SD as a tie breaker was commonly used throughout the RTT scoring process this year.

A CAC member stated that assessments are important, and the data helps inform how the fish are doing. Another CAC member agreed and said the assessments inform where to put projects.

In comparison of the two design projects, A CACs discussed that the Goat Creek Fan Restoration proposal was a much lower price than the Upper Methow Design RM 61.75 – 62.75 proposal. A CAC member said it is typical to have higher costs at this stage of the design. Going from preliminary design to final design is less expensive than the conceptual and preliminary design phases given permitting, engineering, and budget development. The Goat Creek project is a final design, which is consistent with the trends previously discussed.

*Craig Nelson made a motion to approve the order of projects as initially displayed (ranked 1-5; Chewuch Acquisition RM 2.8-3.1, Goat Creek Fan Restoration, Upper Columbia Fish Distribution Assessment, Upper Methow Design 61.75-62.75, and Fulton Ditch Irrigation Efficiency).*

*Larry Hill seconded the motion and all members approved.*

**Final Okanogan CAC Ranked List:**

Chewuch Acquisition RM 2.8-3.1	1
Goat Creek Fan Restoration	2
Upper Columbia Fish Distribution Assessment	3
Upper Methow Design Rm 61.75-62.75	4
Fulton Ditch Irrigation Efficiency Project - Phase 1	5

There was no further discussion. The Okanogan CAC adjourned at 6:05 pm.