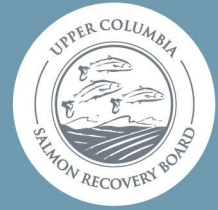


Working to restore viable and sustainable populations of salmon, steelhead and other at-risk species through collaborative, economically sensitive efforts, combined resources, and wise resource management of the Upper Columbia Region.



## PRESENTATIONS TO THE CHELAN COUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### Upper Columbia Lead Entity

Chelan County Fire District, 206 Easy St Wenatchee WA

June 17, 2024 ; 4:00 – 8:00 PM

#### **Attendance:**

**UCSRB:** Ariel Edwards, Amanda Ward, Meghan Camp, Ryan Niemeyer

**CAC:** Keith Truscott (Chair), Alan Schmidt, Mike Deason, Bruce Merighi, Matt Collins, Leah Hemberry (remote), James Johnson (remote)

**Sponsors:** Mickey Fleming (CDLT), Chris Butler (YN), Aaron Rosenblum (remote - CF), Jason Lundgren (CF), Ally Lutes (remote - CCNRD), Mike Kane (CCNRD), Stephen Lesky (remote – CCNRD), Bryan Maloney (CCNRD), Mike Kaputa (CCNRD), Matt Holland (remote - CCNRD), Carlos Polivka (USFS)

**RTT:** Tracy Bowerman (remote – USFWS)

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#### **General CAC Business** (*capture key discussion points*):

- By Laws update with merging Okanogan and Chelan CAC
  - Keith shared that Chairs from Okanogan and Chelan and UCSRB staff over the winter merged the bylaws between the two counties
  - Merged how CAC members are selected and how each county committee is run.
  - Clarified with discussion:
    - Conflict of interest section – as always it is important to discuss any potential conflicts of interest with the group and we can follow the guidelines.
    - It was noted that the bylaws defined consensus for the group and the rules for conducting business both in person and remotely.
  - A CAC member asked if monetary ties (for conflict of interest) applies with the landowner. The group clarified that a CAC member would have to have something to gain financially for the relationship to be a conflict of interest.
  - Bruce M. motioned to approve the updated Bylaws.
  - Alan S. seconded the motion.
  - James J. made a comment speaking in support of the motion being a landowner and having to navigate these issues of the conflict of interest. He supports the motion.
  - Motion passed unanimously.
- Review of CAC Scoring Criteria

- Keith overviewed the issue of reaches being in high priority areas and getting a large “bump” in score just by being in a high priority reach.
- The updates to CAC scoring, adopted in 2023, were meant to give CAC members more flexibility in ranking projects, to include other factors such as community support, the quality of the project, etc.
- A member said the new criteria was helpful. They thought the bullet points were very helpful for scoring.
- Another member agreed, and noted that the clear bullets helps lay out a methodical process for scoring. The member also asked about the longevity-related criteria. The Chair commented that he considers what’s the sponsor track record, how big is the proposal and the design phases, etc – to score the project longevity. Other members agreed with this interpretation.

**Q&A with RTT member:**

- Tracy Bowerman was the RTT representative available for answering questions on project scoring. She overviewed the RTT summaries and scoring, how the RTT uses the score and standard deviation, and other details. Tracy shared that scoring was smooth this year and there were not any major disagreements about project scoring.
- There were no additional questions for the RTT representative from CAC members.

**White River Oxbow Acquisition – Mickey Fleming, CDLT**

- Q: What is the timeline- how crucial is this project now?
  - A: It is a little bit time sensitive. CDLT cautioned the current landowners about the timeline and have kept them up to date. They have also secured an appraiser already. CDLT also can borrow some money if they need to, to acquire, and get a “waiver of retroactivity” from the SRFB.
- Q: Has the appraisal been done? Where did it come from?
  - A: No. It is an educated guess. There are several comparable sales recently that they used to generate their guess.

**Entiat River RM 18.5 Acquisition – Mickey Fleming, CDLT**

- Q: Was the project appraised?
  - A: PRCC has retained an appraiser. Sponsor is confident they can get an appraisal
- Q: Where is the bridge located relative to the proposal?
  - A: Bridge is on the Bockoven property. The bridge serves to upstream private property and to the south CDLT property.
- Q: What is the current zoning (10 or 20)
  - A: It is zoned as 10. The densest development could be two parcels on the 16 acres.

**Nason Creek and SR 207 Re-Alignment Phase 1 and Phase 2 – Chris Butler, YN**

- Q: Where is the rest of the money going to come from, since the total anticipated is about \$12 million?

- A: The tribes, WSDOT, and many other sources. The sponsor has a high certainty of funding.
- Q: Can you comment on the RCO review panel comments
  - A: 106 permitting comment – the funding is aimed at road work. The targeted investment is aimed at phase I and II. Criterion have been met. YN will go through the NEPA process and go through a 106.
- Q: Is the plan for all the flow go to the new side channel?
  - A: They are going to remove the road, and going to allow the river to move as it moves.
- Q: Do we know exactly where the river will move to?
  - A: In high flows the old channel will be activated.
- Q: How much did the soil compressibility impact the proposal?
  - A: Impacted the timeline by adding a year. Although it did save some money since they will be doing some of the work in the first year, and the rest in the second year now.

#### **Pole Creek Fish Passage Restoration – Aaron Rosenblum, CF**

- Q: Additional mile of habitat – are there any natural barriers to that mile?
  - A: Natural step-pool channel. There are steps bigger than others. Nothing coming close to a barrier for an adult steelhead, but there are probably some natural barriers in the summer for juveniles.
- Q: Has the USFS said they don't want to address the bridge?
  - A: The other bridge is part of the groomed winter route. Not a ton of bandwidth from the USFS to address that bridge. Don't have any plans to correct it at this time, so we could not include that in the project.
- Q: What are some of the factors contributing to the large price tag? How many cubic yards needs to be removed?
  - A: It is expensive to move all the dirt and the put it back in where it is needed. Top width is at least 110 feet along, and we have to go 27 feet down. There is about 4500 yards needed to be moved, and it is \$45 per yard.

#### **Lower Sleepy Hollow Riparian Restoration – Aaron Rosenblum, CF**

- Q: The aerial photo of the 2019 planting, are those being irrigated?
  - A: The trees do not need to be irrigated at this point. Infrastructure is still there it it is needed. Takes roughly 5 years to get to that point.

#### **Peshastin RM 2.5 – Jason Lundgren, CF**

- Q: What will be done with the streambed gravel that is removed?
  - A: This project will go through a public bid, so the bidders will see that listed – sponsor is hoping they will be able to use or sell this gravel.
- Q: Are there plans to self-fund repairing or replacing the bridge that accesses the site?
  - A: If the bridge washed out – they would likely get an emergency HPA. Two of them are construction guys. They are the majority owner of the bridge. We do not plan to use that bridge for anything besides passenger cars.
- Q: Can you explain the time sensitiveness of the project?

- A: The landowners aren't used to our timelines. They contacted CF in 2021, and it's already been 3 years. They are antsy. They want their development to happen after the restoration is completed.

#### **Entiat River Floodplain Riparian Enhancement – Ally Lutes, CCNRD**

- NO TIME FOR QUESTIONS

#### **Peshastin Creek RM 8.8 Preliminary Design – Mike Kane, CCNRD**

- Q: Can you explain how you will split the flows. Would both channels have flow in high and low flows?
  - A: The flow would not be split in low flows. Potentially the existing channel would be the channel to keep the flow in, since Ingalls Creek would add cool water, and the historic channel has hyporheic input which cools that water

#### **Colockum Creek Reach Assessment – Kane/Lesky, CCNRD**

- Q: Does the creek go dry in August?
  - A: Sections do dewater. And the gauging will help us understand what's going on with the diversions and where diversions are potentially causing dewatering. We need more information on it though, which is a goal of this project.

#### **Wilson Side Channel Adaptive Management – Stephen Lesky, CCNRD**

- Q: Roaring Creek Bridge is relatively new – how long ago was it replaced?
  - A: Sponsor was unsure.

#### **Nason-Kahler Confluence Habitat and Coldwater Refuge – Bryan Maloney, CCNRD**

- Q: Has anyone looked at fish use in these cold-water pools or locations?
  - A: The sponsor noted that he had personally seen some juveniles in the pools, but the confluence is shallow so not good habitat. The groundwater pool is great, but it is fairly disconnected.

#### **Lower Chiwawa Complexity and Floodplain Reconnect – Scott Bailey, CCNRD**

- No questions

#### **White River Floodplain Conceptual Design – Mike Kaputa, CCNRD**

- Q: Are there any private landowners on the SW side, besides towards Two Rivers?
  - A: Two rivers will be there for several more decades. Could be a good value planning exercise. Maybe doing some value planning could look at removing the road but providing access.

#### **Food Web Monitoring, Bioenergetics, and Restoration – Matt Holland, CCNRD & Carlos Polivka, USFS**

- Q: When you say fish food, are you looking at macroinvertebrates?
    - A: Yes
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**Closing reminders:**

- CAC scoring deadlines – email to Ariel by noon on 6/20
  - Joint CAC Meeting – 6/20 Chelan, WA (5-8pm)
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**Public Comment:**

- No public comments