

Meeting Date: January 17, 2018

Location: Washington Cattlemen's Association Conference Room, Ellensburg, WA

**Attendees:** Brian Miller, RC&D, Justin Bader, NYCD, Anna Lael, KCCD, Cassandra Weekes, WDFW, Josh Rogala, WDFW, Jennifer Nelson, WDFW, Mitch Long, KCT, Rebecca Wassell, MCFEG, Landon Shaffer, MCFEG, Scott Nicolai, YN YKFP, Tricia Snyder, YBFWRB

**Attendees via conference phone:**, Ashton Bunce, YN

## 1. ADMINISTRATIVE-

- A. The meeting agenda was approved.
- B. The minutes from the December 20 YTAHP Core Team Meeting were approved.
- C. The Statement of Work and Line Item Budget for the 2018-2019 YTAHP Expense Contract are pending review by BPA.
- D. The Pisces 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Status Report was submitted to BPA on January 3.
- E. It was noted that BPA has selected Brenda Aguirre [baguirre@bpa.gov](mailto:baguirre@bpa.gov), as the new EC Lead for the YTAHP Contracts.
- F. It was also noted that BPA has scheduled a Pisces Web training session in Wenatchee on February 21 & 22. Consequently, the next YTAHP Core Team meeting was re-scheduled to Tuesday February 20 in Yakima.

## 2. CORE TEAM PROJECT UPDATES-

### A. NYCD- Justin Bader-

- **Cowiche Creek – Naches Cowiche Canal Co. Siphon: fish passage-**
  - New siphon and city waterline installed.
  - Constructed riffle completed, water put back instream first week in December.
    - Instream work completed.
  - Currently working on concrete forms for the new siphon inlet.
    - Siphon inlet completed and backfilled.
      - 1. Will begin restoration on left bank this week.
- **Cowiche Creek – Nedrow: riparian buffer, planting, and weed maintenance-**
  - Working with BPA and Yakama Nation on what to do with eroding bank.
- **Cowiche Creek – Lust/Stevenson Water Quality: riparian fencing, planting, spring development-**
  - Riparian planting on Lust completed.
  - Riparian fencing along spring completed.
- **Ahtanum Creek - Diversion 31 fish screen replacement: replace current screen with larger capacity screen to accommodate excess flow and additional water rights-**
  - Construction complete.
    - New screen installed and channel reworked behind screen.
- **Ahtanum Creek- Herke South: fish screening and floodplain reconnection/enhancement-**

- Currently working on preliminary designs.
- Appropriately sized screen available from WDFW construction shop.
  - Working on agreement for refurbishment and installation summer 2018.
- Funding from SRFB in 2018.
  - Cost share with Yakama Nation.
    1. RCPP
    2. Accord
- **Ahtanum Creek Assessment: Assessment to update fish passage and screening features within Ahtanum Creek-**
  - Working on landowner permission letter.

#### B. KCCD- Anna Lael-

- **Caribou Creek / Parke Creek-** A meeting was held on site at the pump station diversion location on Parke Creek and then to the diversion structure on Caribou Creek that will need to be removed or modified for fish passage.
- **Bristol Flats-** KCCD made contact with the underlying landowner as they had only been talking with the lessee. The landowner is willing to participate, only expressing concern about not being restricted in their diversion amount (water right). So KCCD is moving forward with the project, but likely will need to continue this project into the next contract period.
- **EWC-Coleman-** KCCD is currently working with POW on warranty issues related to the flow meter on the EWC diversion. It appears to be an issue with the display, not actual function of the meter.

#### C. KCT- Mitch Long-

- **Williams Creek-** Final designs and construction documents are complete for replacing two culverts and have been sent to USFS for review and comment. Upon approval, KCT will be pursuing permitting with an estimated construction window during July/August 2018.
- **Tillman Flow Diversion-** Preliminary designs have been completed and have been passed along to WA State Parks for review and comment. Upon approval from State Parks, KCT will be pursuing permitting with an estimated construction window between June and August, 2018.
- **Box Canyon LWR & Kachess River Assessment-** Will need to obtain permitting upon state capital budget approval and contracting documents are complete with WA State RCO. Box Canyon construction estimate is in August of 2019. Kachess will require permitting to install ground water monitoring wells and staff gauges in the creek.
- **Gold Creek-** Awaiting news about the capital budget to move the project forward. No permits are anticipated for the continuation of design and floodplain restoration at this time.

#### D. Mid-Columbia Fisheries- Rebecca Wassell-

- **Spoon Full Farm-** Working with Waterfall Engineering, LLC to monitor groundwater levels and pressure on floodplain, with goal of determining feasibility of constructing a side channel.

- **Rattlesnake Creek Side Channel-** Funded to strengthen the resiliency of the side channel to scour. Talking with landowner about options to allow side channel to more closely mimic natural flow regime.
- **Bull Canal-** Aiming for implementation of side channel deepening and bank structure project in early September, 2018. Funded through SRFB and NRCS.
- **Mercer Creek-** New landowner is interested in removing crack willow and installing riparian buffer along 1200 feet north of Helena Avenue in Ellensburg.
- **Coleman Creek-** Funded to remove dilapidated structures on banks of Coleman Creek, north of Kittitas Hwy. Aiming for summer 2018 implementation.
- **NF Manastash-** Cultural resources on track for completion to assess helicopter wood placement in stream.
- **Swauk-** WSDOT will replace culverts at RM 18.3 and 18.8 in fall, 2018, and in-stream wood placement will be implemented concurrently.
- **Delta-** Waiting to learn whether USACE will adopt this project in the Section 1135 program.
- **Lower River-** Working with Benton CD and Yakama Nation to identify and develop thermal refuge projects.

#### E. Yakima Nation- Scott Nicolai-

- Scott gave an update on current Yakama Nation YKFP activities.

### 3. PROJECT PERMITTING & MONITORING-WDFW- Cassandra Weekes-

- A. Cassandra Weekes provided an overview of the YTAHP status report update that she is working on. Cassandra has reached out to YTAHP Core Team members who have projects on the active project list and asked for their assistance to update the status of specific projects. The report was migrated into Excel and organized by WRIA and then alphabetically. The updated report is nearing completion and will be circulated soon. Cassandra asked the Core Team to review the updated report and for project sponsors to confirm the information for their projects is accurate. In addition, if there are projects that should be on the list and they are not, please let Cassandra know so she can add them. A thorough and up-to-date status report will help Cassandra identify how she can best support the Core Team.
- B. Cassandra renewed the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) permit for YTAHP's 2018 pre- and post-project electrofishing monitoring surveys.
- C. Cassandra compiled the 2017 electrofishing data and is working on the FCRPS 2017 take report that is required for the 2017 FCRPS permit.

### 4. ITEMS OF INTEREST-

- A. Cassandra Weekes and Josh Rogala provided an update on planning for the Ahtanum Rapid Habitat Assessment. Cassandra, Josh and Justin Bader are drafting a landowner letter and identifying start/end survey points. Josh is communicating with WDFW in Olympia on the crew staffing and timeline logistics.
- B. Josh Rogala reported that WDFW is looking to help cost share up to 85% of smaller fish screen projects (IE Pump Screens). Josh is maintaining a list of pump screen needs

and we will prioritize this list based on the amount of funding available. If you know of diversions requiring new or compliant fish screens please contact him.

- C. Scott Nicolai and Ashton Bunce gave a presentation on FP restoration projects planned for next year, via helicopter placement of woody material
5. The next Core Team Meeting is scheduled to be held in Yakima on Tuesday, February 20 at 9:30 a.m.

## **YTAHP Core Team Meeting Appendix**