

Meeting Notes from CAC/TAG Meeting

June 5, 2008, 4:00 to 6:00pm

Pierce County Environmental Services Building,
Cascade Conference Room

1. Introductions – those present included: Hans Berge, Mark Bethune, Bob Burkle, Karen Chang, Scott Hansen, Tom Kantz, Russ Ladley, Ron Larson, Bart Madison, Ryan Mello, Tom Nelson, Melissa Paulson, Lorin Reinelt, Helmut Schmidt, Dave Seabrook, David Swindale, John Taylor, Keith Underwood, Carl Ward, Devin Wolf

2. Updates and Information Sharing

- a. Puyallup/Commencement Bay Watershed “Basis” – Lorin noted that the products from the Stakeholders meeting on April 23 and the Science workshop on May 6 were sent to the Puget Sound Partnership and Executive Sims (representative for the South Central PS Action Area) on May 27. This forms the potential basis of recommended actions in this watershed.
- b. Capacity Grant Implementation – Ad-hoc subcommittees for (1) “marketing the recovery plan” and (2) “future project development” met during the past week to make recommendations for implementation of scope elements for the capacity grant. Highlights include a likely workshop for potential project sponsors this fall and a preliminary process for distributing resources to sponsors to develop future project proposals.
- c. Meeting on Feedback for 3-year Work Program and Narrative – We will schedule a meeting in July with the PSP liaison (Jason M-K) and RITT representative (Kirk Lakey) for WRIA 10/12 to discuss feedback on our 3-year work program and narrative. Russ, Keith, Scott, Tom N., Tom K., Ryan, Bart, Dave and Bob expressed an interest in attending. Lorin will send out a notice with several possible meeting dates.
- d. Habitat Work Schedule – Work is ongoing on the development of the HWS for the WRIA 10/12 lead entity. A draft HWS needs to be completed by June 30. A draft project hierarchy has been developed and the project database is being populated with the projects from the 3-year work program. A demonstration will be made at the September CAC/TAG meeting.

3. Puget Sound Partnership – John Taylor, South Central Action Area Liaison

John gave an overview of the PSP, Action Agenda and schedule. A draft Action Agenda is due December 1. He summarized the four emerging themes: (A) protect ecologically important places now, (B) implement restoration projects that provide high ecological benefit, (C) reduce water pollution with an emphasis on stormwater runoff, and (D) build an accountable system for success. Action Area workshops are scheduled for July. Some Action Areas have established core groups. John has been working with the WRIA 8 and 9 steering committees and has met with the PRWC and now the WRIA 10/12 citizens committee. Additional draft products are expected in August. A watershed or action area summit is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 18. John’s phone number is 206-652-9506.

4. Proposed Projects for SRFB 2008 Round Funding – Project Overviews

A. South Prairie Creek Acquisition (CLC) – This project would extend ongoing acquisition efforts in South Prairie Creek. Bart recommended updating map to show acquisitions from past rounds vs. current proposal.

B. Middle Puyallup River Acquisition (CLC) – This project involves acquisition of properties along the Puyallup River (section 29) and along the shore of Lake Kapowsin (conserves 200 acres along river and half-mile of shoreline). Landowner match is up to 30%. CLC, Pierce County or someone else would hold title.

C. TransCanada Levee Setback design (King County) – Proposal to do feasibility and design work up front. KC already has HEC-RAS model and topography for the site. Match consists of in-kind support. Intent is 60% design (permit ready) at end of project.

D. Calistoga Setback Levee design (City of Orting) – This project involves 30% design for the Calistoga setback levee. This follows up the recently completed setback levee feasibility study, where Calistoga was ranked 2nd for the Puyallup River. Mark Bethune, representing the city, noted the high interest in Orting for this project and a desire to partner with the WRIA 10/12 lead entity on project.

E. South Silver Springs Restoration (Pierce County) – This project is restoration/construction of Silver Springs/South Prairie Creek at RM 3.7. Project involves lengthening tributary stream, adding complexity/rearing habitat for salmonids. Project also involves re-grading and enhancement of wetland habitat. 60% PSE will be complete by Nov. 2008. Hans asked about temperature concerns due to wetland excavation. Bob asked if all the animals are removed from site.

F. Morey Creek Fish Passage (Pierce County) – This project proposes a fish bypass channel (with gentle slope and more sinuosity) around Morey pond dam to the mouth of Morey Creek. Bart asked about removal of the dam; McChord is opposed to removal. Keith asked about available temperature data; some data are available from Joe Gibbons at McChord. Carl asked about the slope of the channel; Helmut said approx. 2%, some less, some more.

G. Boise Creek Channel Relocation and Fish Passage Design (Puyallup Tribe) – Design addresses both fish passage at RM 4.5 (12-foot falls) and realignment of creek channel at golf course to historical channel. Boise Creek is very productive in terms of coho, pink, steelhead and Chinook (highest densities per mile). Project would be 30% design. Keith asked about native fish above the falls and the potential impacts. Russ noted the benefits to fish in terms of marine derived nutrients.

H. Leach Creek Corridor Acquisition (University Place) – This is a multi-phase, multi-purpose project focused on trail and habitat restoration/enhancement; project involves acquisition of four properties (all landowners are willing sellers). Trail is identified in master trail plan and Chambers Creek master plan (this grant would match other trail grants. There are also stewardship/education benefits. Tom asked if there have been spawner surveys or juvenile fish counts; none to date.

Upcoming key dates in the schedule for the 2008 SRFB round:

June 26 – Draft Project Applications Due

July 8 – Field trip to visit project sites

July 30 – Final Project Applications Due

September 8 – All Project Applications must be submitted in PRISM

5. Next Steps for WRIA 10/12 3-Year List

The next step in advancing the 3-year workplan and project list is to have project sponsors complete more detailed write-ups on the projects by June 16. This will follow the template that was used last year. The TAG will then review project write-ups, visit project sites, and do preliminary technical rankings to determine tier 1 and 2 projects. This is scheduled for late August/September, after completion of project ranking for this round.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:10pm

Next meeting will be July 8 for the field trip; TAG scoring/ranking meeting will be August 7 and CAC scoring/ranking meeting will be August 14.