

ENTIAT WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT MEETING MINUTES
Entiat Grange Hall, 14108 Kinzel St., Entiat, WA 98822
November 6, 2019
10:00 a.m.

MEETING ATTENDANCE: See Attendance List (*Attachment #1*)
See Detailed Agenda (*Attachment #2*)
FACILITATOR: Mike Cushman
NOTES: Nada Wentz

WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

Mike Cushman called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance, followed by a round of introductions.

Call for New Business Items: The November agenda was accepted.

Approve May 2019 EWPU Meeting Minutes: The minutes were attached to the emailed meeting reminder for review. The group approved the May minutes.

ENTIAT WATER RESERVE UPDATE

Chelan County: (*Attachment 3: Instream Flow Rule Reserve Accounting Presentation*)

Mary Jo Sanborn presented the Instream Flow slides and provided additional information throughout the presentation. The County is changing from an excel program to a riverbank accounting program that will make for a consistent accounting process throughout the county. It also fulfills water tracking requirements for each watershed and sub-watershed.

The group discussed the potential changes the new debit system will make regarding the Entiat water reserve. Also discussed were the gallons per day usage differences between domestic indoor/outdoor, agricultural and stock watering.

The group showed interest in seeing the difference between the old water accounting system and the riverbank accounting system for domestic indoor/outdoor use. The EWPU group discussed the possibility of having a Landowner Steering Committee meeting when further details are available.

Decision: The group would like to see at the next meeting an estimate of an updated debit amount for residential water use and any new water accounting system processes the county is able to provide.

ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT UPDATES

Tillicum Project: The road was closed for two months while a new culvert was installed. The contractor completed the installation within the time limit. The Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) project was completed the summer of 2019.

Mad River: An additional stream gage will be installed in the Mad River to serve as a protection measure for potential stream flows impacting the Ardenvoir area due to the Cougar Creek fire. Funds from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Forest Service are earmarked for thinning to be done next year.

Recreation Plan: The Forest Service is working on a grant proposal for a recreation plan including trail maintenance. The University of Washington was hired to conduct an outreach campaign and survey. An online survey about recreation areas will be emailed to interested folks. The Forest Service is looking for comments from recreationists about what they would like to see. The plan will be reviewed in the spring and finalized in October of 2020. Folks that are interested in taking the survey, please contact Jon.

Entiat River Road Access: The group discussed which roads were open and which were closed. Many roads are not fit to travel on after significant debris flows in burned areas. The Forest Service is doing their best to finish the NEPA paperwork, treat the hazard trees on the roads, and permit them to be used as firewood.

Entiat District Ranger: An evaluation to determine whether Entiat needs a district ranger or be merged with the Lake Chelan district is in process. Jon is filling the position until early January and someone will be brought in to cover for about a year.

ENTIAT PLANNING UNIT UPDATES

Yakama Nation Projects: The Yakama Nation was presented with a National Leadership award from the Forest Service. Chris Clemons thanked everyone for their great partnership. The Tillicum is close to completion. Over 100 pieces of wood were installed at project area A in the Stormy reach to create habitat complexity and a side channel. Preliminary designs to better define a side channel on the upper Stillwater project should be ready in December. A reach assessment was done on the Mad River.

Chelan County Projects: The County worked in Area B (Bremmer) with engineered log jams. A levee was removed, and over 5,000 riparian plants were put in the ground. Mary Jo reported that Areas F & C (Enlow and Stormy Preserve) will have Engineered Log Jams (ELJ) constructed and over 30,000 riparian plants put in the ground. It was mentioned that the County is taking on the long-term maintenance of the Yakama Nation and County Middle Entiat projects. The remainder of the work (project Areas C & F) will be implemented the summer of 2020. This will include helicopter delivery of logs and helicopter construction of ELJs.

Cascadia Projects: (*Attachment 4 – Middle Entiat Habitat Restoration Presentation*) Ken Muir presented slides of the Middle Entiat project sites. A project site tour was held on October 28. If folks are interested, another site visit can be arranged.

Discussion followed regarding planting, log identification, and ongoing drone flight monitoring. Structure maintenance questions and concerns were asked about the Yurt site project area completed in 2010. Mike will follow up with that concern.

Other:

Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishermen: Bruce Merighi and Dan Hammond, spokesmen for the Fly Fishermen, offered assistance with the purchase of tools needed to water temperature loggers, as well as the man power to read and record the information three times a year. They asked the group about locations to put the data gathered and management of the data.

ROUNDTABLE UPDATES, MEETING CLOSE-OUT AND ADJOURNMENT

Greg Fraser gave a brief report on the red counts, the summer chinook and the hatchery returns. Another survey will be done next week. Those numbers will be sent to Mike.

Mike said he will keep an eye on the drought conditions for further discussions. He thanked everyone for coming.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

List of Attachments

<u>Attachment</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Attendance List
2	Agenda
3	Instream Flow Rule Reserve Accounting Presentation
4	Middle Entiat Habitat Restoration Presentation