

**ENTIAT HABITAT SUBCOMMITTEE
ENTIAT WATERSHED PLANNING UNIT
NCWFHC PROJECT WORKGROUP Joint Meeting**

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April 15, 2021

9:00 a.m.

FACILITATOR:	MarySutton Carruthers
NOTES:	Nada Wentz
AGENDA	See Detailed Agenda (<i>Attachment #1</i>)

ATTENDANCE: CASCADIA: MarySutton Carruthers, Nada Wentz, Ryan Williams; USFWS: Robes Parrish; CHELAN COUNTY: Mike Kaputa; WDFW: Tom Desgroseillier, Graham Simon, Trenton De Boer; Kelli Snodgrass, Amanda Barg; USFS: Mariah Myfield, Carlos Polivka; UCSRB: Pete Teigen, Nicole Jordan, Greer Maier; YAKAMA NATION FISHERIES: Chris Clemons; Hans Smith; USBR: Steve Kolk; PUBLIC: Keith Vradenburg, Daniel Hammond.

WELCOME / INTRODUCTIONS

MarySutton Carruthers called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and welcomed those in attendance. Folks attending the conference call were asked to announce their name for the attendance list.

Call for New Business Items: The April agenda was accepted as is.

UCSRB UPDATES

Pete Teigen

2020 Project Status Review & Updates:

[*\(Attachment 2: Reach Assessment Guidance for the Upper Columbia\)*](#)

Pete reviewed the annual report citing the projects that were completed in 2020. A brief discussion from different agencies about completed projects followed.

[*\(Attachment 3: Evaluation of the Regional Structures & Organizational Processes Supporting a Community-led Approach to Salmon Recovery in the Upper Columbia River Basin\)*](#)

The Ruckelshaus evaluation with Upper Columbia (UC) was discussed. The final draft of the report is out for review. The report results and evaluation will be discussed at the UC Board meeting next week, as well as how to implement the recommendations. Information will be located on the UC website. Folks are encouraged to attend the Board meeting next week, review the report and email their comments to Melody.

UC is hiring a new lead entity coordinator. Pete is leaving at the end of April. He appreciates all the hard work the group does.

Nicole reminded folks to attend the Earth Day Fair at Pybus on Saturday, from 10 am to 2 pm. Information about Northern Pike will be shared.

WINTER 2020-21 UPDATES

Robes Parrish

Snowpack Update & Runoff Forecast:

[\(Attachment 4: UC 2020/2021 Winter Recap & Hydrology Outlook\)](#)

Robes worked through slides covering the 2020/2021 Hydrology Outlook and sharing information about atmospheric rivers, monthly sea surface temperatures, arctic oscillation index, climate, temperature departure from the average, percent of average precipitation, monthly drought outlook, water supply forecasts, frost free growing seasons, local projections for the growing season, snowpack, drought monitoring conditions, and extended forecasts for the Entiat and Ardenvoir areas,

The fire season starts in June for the southwest part of the state. The northwest fire season starts later in August and goes through September. Washington State had over 800,000 acres burn in 2020, with 300,000 acres burning in a 24-hour period during the 2020 Labor Day weekend. It was the second worst year for fires in the last decade. The winter snowpack doesn't indicate what the next fire season will be like. High temperatures and lightning strikes have a big impact on how the fire season plays out.

The ocean temperatures and circulation pattern predictions taken from the monthly model data recorded were good, but the overall magnitude was off.

ENTIAT PROJECT MONITORING

Sponsor Updates:

Cascadia Conservation District: Ken Muir is working with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for LIDAR information in the Middle Entiat area. Drone flights for the Middle Entiat Gray area are planned in June. We are looking for monitoring funds to support the Lamprey study.

Chris Clemons: Yakama Nations doesn't have funding for monitoring.

Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW): Tom Degroseillier briefly talked about their focus on spring chinook and the life history and pathways that juveniles are using with success. The study includes the growth pattern to determine the age of the fish, their chemistry, a fish watch after spawning, and where the juveniles move out to determine where the success is coming from. The study could improve conditions and give better returns. This study is done in collaboration with other groups. We hope to have the data analyzed and interpreted by this winter.

Carlos Polivka: We are pursuing a SRFB application with the County. Keith is putting together a proposal for a fish monitoring project. We will be going through the process this spring and summer.

Mariah Myfield presented photos of Potato Creek. Project construction occurred when the creek was dry. Pictures were taken last week showing the results in March. There was a lot of water out there. Maintenance was done on the project this spring. We will follow up the work this fall. There are active beavers in Potato Creek. Kodi Jo is leading a presentation of the program at the library. Robes and Mariah will be there.

Mike Kaputa: What about the water quantity information? We are trying to collect data of stream flows and push the flows into August.

Mariah: We were not able to collect pre-data. We had planned to do it last fall, but I don't know if it happened. We hope to keep water longer at this site.

Mike K: It is a question statewide. We can show the data shift in the hydrograph.

Mariah: The Methow project is having trouble answering that too.

MarySutton: This is a joint WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife and Federal Fish & Wildlife project.

ENTIAT EGG-TO-FRY MONITORING

Trent De Boer

Background:

Trent reported that this study is the brainchild of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). There are different areas studying this.

A map was shown of Lake Chelan and the Columbia River. The red dots are the study sites. Some of the sites selected for the study are the Boxed Canyon area and Silver Falls. As summer chinook spawn in the lower reaches we can monitor the impacts that would allow them to go further upstream.

Preliminary Superimposition Results:

Greg has been documenting superimposition monitoring. They are watching to see if chinook are spawning on Reds. The base study includes 13 sites, with three reds per site. Three of them will be polled to see what the effects are on superimposition.

A 30 cm hole was dug, but there wasn't any spring chinook spawn on the red boxes. Three separate crosses were used. Each site has an average survival. Artificial reds boxes were constructed, the eggs were put in gravel, fertilized the eggs in the box and poured gravel over the top to replicate what a natural red would look like.

There are temperature loggers at each site. The survival was pretty good, about 75%. There was some superimposition. All the fry are taken to the lab to record their length.

Next Steps:

MarySutton: It seems that the superimposition is not having a big effect.

Trent: When there is more spring chinook, there could be more of an impact. It is a small study at this point. We have a couple more years to figure it out.

ROUNDTABLE UPDATES

MarySutton: Cascadia has a job announcement for a technician position. The District contracted with Erlandson to fly drones during high flows. We may be able to see the pictures in a couple of weeks.

Mariah: The Forest Service update is that we are using drones to ignite units. The Forest Service building is still closed to the public, but we can be contacted by phone or email. Pine Flats campground road is open as well as the camp.

Chris Clemons: We weren't able to construct in the upper burns area last year because of COVID. We start work on July 25 at River Mile 25.8 – 26.8, which is slightly above the area we worked on in 2018.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TOPICS

The next meeting is Thursday, May 20. Information for this meeting will be sent out when it becomes available.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

List of Attachments

<u>Attachment</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Agenda
2	Reach Assessment Guidance for the Upper Columbia
3 (link)	UC 2020/2021 Winter Recap & Hydrology Outlook
4 (link)	Evaluation of the Regional Structures & Organizational Processes (Supporting a Community-led Approach to Salmon Recovery in the Upper Columbia River Basin)