

Meeting Date: September 15, 2021

Location: This meeting was conducted by Zoom conferencing

**Attendees via Zoom conference:** Brian Miller, RC&D, Justin Bader, NYCD, Anna Lael, KCCD, Mark Crowley, KCCD, Cassandra Weekes, WDFW, Zac Zacavish, MCF, Ryan DeKnikker, YN, Erin Eaton, TU, Kevin Hayden, WWT, Katy Pfannenstein, USFWS, Joel Hubble, KR D, Alex Conley, YBFWRB, Brenda Aguirre, BPA

## 1. ADMINISTRATIVE-

- A. The meeting agenda was approved.
- B. The minutes from the August 18 YTAHP Core Team Meeting were approved.
- C. The Contract Revision for the FY 2021 YTAHP Contract 87467 has been approved by BPA.
- D. The BPA Anadromous Fish Habitat and Hatchery Review ISRP preliminary report is due to be released on September 23.
- E. The BPA 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Contract Status Report is due to be submitted by October 15.
- F. The BPA FY 2021 Cost-Share Report is due to be submitted by October 31.
- G. The FY 2022 Expense Contact SOW CR-351590 has been initiated in Pisces and is due to be submitted to BPA by November 30.
- H. Brenda Aguirre discussed the following items with the group:
  - She contacted StreamNet about missing data for fish presence in Caribou Creek and how to update this.
  - Anna Neuzil (BPA Arch) is back from leave and will be reviewing Wenas report, able to discuss monitoring at Coleman 4.3 (Beard/Lueck), and providing outcomes of 30-day determination consults for several projects [Caribou, Parke, Coleman 4.4 Schomer/Beard, and Coleman 4.3 Beard/Lueck].

## 2. CORE TEAM PROJECT UPDATES-

### A. NYCD- Justin Bader-

- **Cowiche Creek – Naches Cowiche Canal Co. Siphon: fish passage-** O & M ongoing this FY.
- **Cowiche Creek – Lust/Stevenson Water Quality: riparian fencing, planting, spring development-** O & M ongoing this FY.
- **Ahtanum Creek- Herke South: fish screening and floodplain reconnection/enhancement-**
  - Project has been shelved.
  - O & M ongoing this FY for phase 1.
- **Wenas Creek – Priority passage and screening project-**
  - Awarded RCPP funding under the Mid-Columbia Steelhead Partnership application.
  - Will begin setting up agreements to facilitate expenditures.
  - Currently drafting RFP for engineering services.

- **Wenas Creek – Purdin Ditch Passage and screening project-**
  - Awarded RCPP funding under the Mid-Columbia Steelhead Partnership application.
  - Will begin setting up agreements to facilitate expenditures.
  - Looking into working with Walla Walla CD engineer on updating pipeline designs and developing designs for fish screen and passage improvements.
- **Wenas Creek –Riparian Enhancement-**
  - Developing project to install riparian fencing, planting, and provide compliant fish screen.
    - Planting will focus on supplementing heavily burned areas with larger tree species such as cottonwood and ponderosa pine.
    - May include some willow stakes on cut banks to help stabilize until more vegetation re-establishes.
  - Fencing will be done in field to exclude livestock and protect riparian area still intact after fire, water gap will be included.
  - Fish screen will be provided, sized to water right. Water meter will also be provided.
  - Field work and report completed for cultural resources, will be forwarding onto BPA.
- **Wenas Creek – Chandler Riparian Enhancement- O & M ongoing this FY.**

#### **B. KCCD- Anna Lael & Mark Crowley-**

- **Ranch on Swauk Creek Project-** KCCD advertised this project for bid in August. Turnout at the pre bid meeting was good and three bids were received. The low bid from Advantage Dirt Works is within budget at \$379,618. They are working through the contracting process now and the preconstruction meeting is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The screen shop is providing the screen for this project so KCCD and the contractor will be working with them.
- **Coleman – Olmstead-** Maintenance on the planting has been ongoing all summer. The planting is doing well considering the dry conditions. The flow meter modification still needs to be completed. The contractor has ordered the parts and they are expected here about the 10<sup>th</sup> of October. The FBRB grant has been extended to October 31 to allow for this work to be completed.
- **Parke Creek-** All permits have been turned in for this project. Advertising the project for bid next week with the anticipation of work starting November 1. The landowner agreement for the sprinkler project has been signed. That project needs to have an archeological monitor for excavation so KCCD will be contacting Anna Neuzil at BPA to do that work.
- **Caribou Creek-** KCCD did get an extension to the FBRB grant so they are pushing most of this work back for a year. Pipe prices are just too high right now. There is a mile of pipe involved and much of it is 18” which was \$41/foot if they could even get it. KCCD is looking at the lowest diversion as it is not used and removing it with the Coleman 2.0 diversion as they are relative close to one another.
- **Ellensburg Water Company at Whiskey Creek-** KCCD continuing to work with the county on this project design.

#### **C. KCT-No report this meeting-**

#### D. MCF- Zac Zacavish-

- **Bateman Island-** Army Corps should have alternative plan picked sometime in October for causeway breach.
- **Amon-** Nothing new to update, channel realignment was picked (to relocate to naturally deeper pocket).
- **Mast Farms-** Pit Tag antenna still down due to beaver chew (also having feast on the planted cottonwoods). No new hits in August and currently coordinating to get the antenna fixed.
- **Little Naches-** Construction scheduled to begin Summer 2022, currently preparing ARBO Request Review document to submit to USFS. NEPA process initiated. Fish/Lamprey/Mussel Salvage Plan being drafted.
- **Lower Cowlitz-** Putting together grant applications to fully fund this project (SRFB, DOE, McNary Mitigation), prepared to phase the project if not fully funded. Ambition to still implement with City of Yakima bridge plan on William O. Douglas trail for the added cost saving measures.
- **Coleman Acclimation-** Collected bids, working currently on purchasing gravel, boulders for instream spawning habitat; and to begin planting/fencing this fall. Depending on acquisition timing of the concrete inlet/outlet structures the acclimation pond work may not begin until 2022.
- **Ringer Loop-** Forming a TAG that will meet in October to discuss and plan for three primary tasks: channel wood structures (BLM land), buried wood back from river edge (BLM land), and a berm removal on river right (BLM and Acheson private land). In addition, they will be discussing reforestation plans on County/BLM property. Moving the Ringer boat launch may also be discussed.
- **Mercer-** Construction to begin October 2021 (Thayer).

#### E. Yakama Nation- Ryan DeKnikker-

- Ryan provided an update on current YN project activities.

### 3. WDFW- Cassandra Weekes-

- A. Cassandra is continuing to work through the permitting for five YTAHP projects, all of which have been discussed today. The past month was busy with submitting federal permit packages and HPA applications, and coordinating with partners. It's beginning to feel like we're on the home stretch of permitting!
- B. The ISRP's Anadromous Fish Habitat and Hatchery Review preliminary report should be released towards the end of next week. This report will include any questions they have for us about our project. Following the preliminary report will be a public comment period.
- C. If there is pre- or post-project monitoring we want to do this fall, let Cassandra know and she will get it scheduled.
- D. Construction of phase I of the Nelson Dam project is well underway, and they are looking for folks to help with fish salvage. Right now, Eric Bertrand is seeking as many

people as he can get to help on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 28<sup>th</sup>. If you're interested, let Cassandra know or feel free to reach out to Eric Bartrand directly.

- E. The new FBRB grant schedule is out and posted on the RCO website. This is for projects that will be funded in the 2023-2025 Capital Budget. There's an application workshop coming up next month and full applications are due in January. [Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board - RCO \(wa.gov\)](#)
- F. Tomorrow is the monthly project & permitting call with BPA. It's at 11am. If you're available and want to join, let Cassandra know!

4. **ITEMS OF INTEREST-**

A. Alex Conley gave an update on current YBFWRB activities.

- 5. The next Core Team Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 20 at 9:30 a.m.

# **YTAHP Core Team Meeting Appendix**