

Meeting Date: June 16, 2021

Location: This meeting was conducted by Zoom conferencing

**Attendees via Zoom conference:** Brian Miller, RC&D, Mike Tobin, NYCD, Anna Lael, KCCD, Mark Crowley, KCCD, Cassandra Weekes, WDFW, Rebecca Wassell, MCF, Michael Horner, YBFWRB, Erin Eaton, TU, Kevin Haydon, WWT, Jamie Cleveland, BPA, Brenda Aguirre, BPA

1. **ADMINISTRATIVE-**

- A. The meeting agenda was approved.
- B. The minutes from the May 19 YTAHP Core Team Meeting were approved.
- C. A request for a Contract Revision for the FY 2021 YTAHP Contract 87467 was initiated by BPA.
- D. The ongoing BPA Anadromous Fish Habitat and Hatchery Review was discussed. The Project Presentation is scheduled for June 24 at 4:40 p.m.
- E. The FY 2020 BPA Annual Report is due to be completed by June 30.
- F. The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter FY 2021 Contract Status Report is due to be completed by July 15.
- G. The Start of Year Budget (SOY) for the FY 2022 YTAHP Contract has been posted by BPA.

2. **CORE TEAM PROJECT UPDATES-**

A. **NYCD- Mike Tobin-**

- **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.
  - Begin 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.
- **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.
  - Initiated cultural resources consultation with BPA.
- **Wenas Creek – Chandler Riparian Enhancement-** O & M ongoing this FY.

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

- **Coleman-Olmstead-** KCCD is working to finish up the project. The flow meter is not working (measurements bounce all around) and the vendor will be back again. They are working on spending the grant funds including adding handlines to areas not covered by the sprinkler. There is a substantial planting at the site which is being managed by Wendy and the Mid-Columbia crew.
- **Coleman 2.0-** The permitting is done for this diversion removal. The bid package is almost done. For construction, KCCD will be combining this with Caribou diversion removals this fall as well.
- **Caribou Diversions Removal-** Project will take a substantial amount of pipe in order to be able to remove the diversions. There are concerns about pipe availability, the 20” pipe will not be available until October and maybe not until 2022. KCCD may try a smaller pipe size as 20” is an odd size and so adjusting the size may help. They are expecting 30% designs by next week.
- **Parke Creek-** Anderson Perry is working on the plans. The 90% version is nearly done and will be to them by next week.
- **Whiskey Creek at Ellensburg Water Company-** KCCD has the basic design report and 30% plans. EWC is reviewing and will be giving comments back to Anderson Perry for incorporation.
- **Cascade at Coleman-** Anderson Perry is working on designs as they have time among the other projects they are working on.
- **Ranch on Swauk Creek-** Cultural resources consultation is finally put to bed for this project. Anchor QEA is working on the designs and they should have the 90% this week. The paperwork for the \$120,000 grant is in to [grantsolutions.gov](http://grantsolutions.gov), which is the program that USFWS uses for grants. KCCD should see the grant agreement soon.
- The RCPP proposal was selected for funding and that proposal included EWC at Na-neum Creek and the Cascade Irrigation District at Coleman Creek projects. The Fish Barrier Removal Board applications for those same projects were also selected for funding, so KCCD will be moving forward with those projects.

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

#### D. MCF- Rebecca Wassell-

- MCF is supporting KCT and KCCD with stewardship at Hundley, Broadmoor, other sites.
- MCF is also working with KCCD/RCPP support to repair fencing on the Teanaway Community Forest.

- Bull Canal side channel bridge contract awarded to Belsaas and Smith.
- 2021 North Fork Teanaway work scheduled to begin in mid-July.
- Working with landowner on Mercer Creek at Helena to determine whether project can proceed this season.
- Little Naches Levee Reach Floodplain is at 60% design; aiming to complete geotesting and move to permitting this summer.

**E. Yakama Nation- No report this meeting.**

**3. WDFW- Cassandra Weekes-**

- A. Cassandra is working on the permitting for six YTAHP projects, all of which have been discussed today by the sponsors.
- B. The YTAHP active projects spreadsheet was sent out after the last YTAHP meeting. It will continue to be sent out quarterly. If you have updates to be incorporated, you can send them to Cassandra at any time.
- C. As was mentioned earlier, we have been working on our PowerPoint presentation to the Independent Science Review Panel; it is scheduled for next Thursday.
- D. Cassandra has been working through the new ECY 401 WQC submittal process and discussed the recommended sequencing based on correspondence with Ecology and the Corps.
- E. Last fall during coho spawning surveys, a couple of biologists expressed concern that aquatic vegetation in lower Wilson Creek and lower Naneum Creek may be limiting or even prohibiting spawning in several reaches. Last week, vegetation samples were taken at those locations. WDFW's aquatic vegetation specialist preliminarily identified the vegetation as native elodea with some curly leaf pondweed, a non-native, mixed in. There will likely soon be a discussion on strategies to reduce the amount of aquatic veg., which likely include increasing shade and in-stream complexity.

**4. ITEMS OF INTEREST-**

- A. Michael Horner provided the following YBFWRB updates-
  - Michael provided an update to YTAHP on the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board's (YBFWRB) 2021 SRFB grant round. Site tours were completed virtually on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Local reviewers and the state review panel have provided initial feedback to the project sponsors (applicants). Proposals will be finalized by June 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - YBFWRB completed moving large pine trees from the Big Pines Campground to Ringer Road for habitat restoration under its contract with BLM.
  - The booklet "The Yakima Basin: A Handbook for Healthier Waters", written by lead authors, Tricia Snyder (previously of the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board), Melissa Speeg (Kittitas Conservation Trust) and Ashton Bunce (Yakama Nation Fisheries) is being printed and will be available for distribution to our partners.
- B. Kevin Haydon reported that WWT has secured an extension on RCO SRF Board Grant 18-1624P Plan, Ensign Ranch – Big Creek Flow Enhancement Design. The agreement

will now run through December 31, 2021. WWT has made progress in coordination with the Ensign Ranch management in selecting a preferred source switch alternative for their existing Big Creek surface water right. WWT has moved forward and contracted Paul Tappel to do the preliminary design on a new, fully compliant point of diversion for the Ranch that would meet their water needs from a KRD supply. This alternative will provide an additional benefit of up to 1.72 cfs in the lower .7 miles of Big Creek, and an additional flow benefit of up to 3.44 cfs from creek mile (CM) 1.5 downstream to the Ensign diversion located at CM .7. Paul has completed a survey of the site and is sending drawings to WWT and Ensign Ranch for review.

5. The next Core Team Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21 at 9:30 a.m.

# **YTAHP Core Team Meeting Appendix**