

Meeting Date: March 18, 2020
Location: This meeting was conducted by teleconference

Attendees via conference phone: Brian Miller, RC&D, Justin Bader, NYCD, Anna Lael, KCCD, Mark Crowley, KCCD, Cassandra Weekes, WDFW, Rebecca Wassell, MCF, Melissa Speeg, KCT, Tricia Snider, YBFWRB, Kevin Haydon, WWT, Katy Pfannenstein, USFWS, Joel Hubble, KRD

1. **ADMINISTRATIVE-**

- A. The meeting agenda was approved.
- B. The minutes from the February 19 YTAHP Core Team Meeting were approved.
- C. FY 2020 YTAHP Expense Contract was issued by BPA on March 17. The Inter-Local Agreements were also sent out for signature on March 17.
- D. The 4th Quarter Status Report for the FY 2019 Expense Contract is due to be submitted to BPA by March 31.
- E. The FY 2019 YTAHP Expense Contract ends on March 31. There will be a final invoice submitted to BPA following the March invoice.
- F. The group determined to reschedule the June Core Team meeting to Wednesday, June 24.

2. **CORE TEAM PROJECT UPDATES-**

A. **NYCD- Justin Bader-**

- **Cowiche Creek – Naches Cowiche Canal Co. Siphon: fish passage-**
 - O & M will continue in 2020.
- **Cowiche Creek – Lust/Stevenson Water Quality: riparian fencing, planting, spring development-**
 - O & M will continue in 2020.
 - Approximately 0.4 acres tilled and planted with seed mix. Installed 200 willow cuttings.
- **Cowiche Creek - Ingham On-Farm Improvement and Cowiche Trust Water Project-**
 - Met with landowner who confirmed the orchard block north of Highway 12 is being sold for development of an RV park.
 - Need to talk with new owner to determine what their intent of the Cowiche water right will be for future plans.
 - The northern block and block between the highway and canal will be leased for orchard for the next couple of years.
 - It's not clear how they will irrigate these two blocks considering the development happening to the south. Need to meet with lessee and new landowner.
 - Everything south of the canal will be converted to residential and developed this year.
- **Ahtanum Creek- Herke South: fish screening and floodplain reconnection/enhancement-**
 - Cultural Resources complete.

- Still waiting on 90% designs.
- Anticipating going out for bid late April/May.
- **Wenas Creek – Priority passage and screening project-**
 - Working with private landowners and the Wenas Irrigation District on project that addresses three fish passage barriers associated with a gravity diversion and the Wenas Irrigation District diversion that splits flows between the north and south forks of Wenas Creek.
 - Attended WID board meeting to update on process for passage and screening project.
 - Board is in support of participating in the project.
 - Had encouraging initial meetings with the private landowners discussing the process for participating in a project.
 - Will be applying for SRFB grant this year to design potential consolidation of the WID diversion with the two private diversions into one facility that provides passage and screening.
- **Wenas Creek – Chandler Riparian Enhancement-**
 - Working on planting plan for small riparian enhancement project.
 - Site prep this summer and implementation this fall.
- **Wenas Creek-**
 - New contact for screening and passage project, as well as potential for large-scale riparian enhancement.
 - New contact for riparian buffer and enhancement project.
- **Yakima River – Pump screen replacement-**
 - Fish screens and parts have been ordered for four of the diversions.
 - WDFW Construction shop getting the baffle tubes plasti-coated.
- **Snake Creek – Passage and Screening Project-**
 - Working with USFWS on a passage and screening project on Snake Creek, which is side channel of Toppenish Creek.
 - Potential co-sponsoring a SRFB design grant application.
- **Rattlesnake Creek – Rattlesnake Ditch and fish screen improvements-**
 - Ongoing preliminary project development related to improving the open irrigation ditch and correcting issues with current fish screen.
 - Landowners/Irrigators working on easement issues.
- **Ahtanum Creek – Trust water-**
 - Landowner interested in trusting Wiley Springs and Ahtanum Creek water right.

B. KCCD- Anna Lael & Mark Crowley-

- **Cooke Creek-** Project construction continues. The creek is back in its channel. The new meters (correct size) arrived yesterday.
- **Bristol Flats-** KCCD is encouraging the vendor to finish the project by March 31 as planned.
- **Olmstead Park-** KCCD signed the agreement with WDFW for the fish screen but haven't seen the fully signed version back yet. Mark continues to work with the engineers and Parks to update the designs including locating the drain field so it can be avoided.
- **Parke Creek-** Anderson Perry continues to work on the project designs

- **Cascade at Currier and Caribou-** Anderson Perry has provided the next iteration of the designs and KCCD is reviewing them.
- **Coleman Creek – Schomer/Beard-** The surveyors were out at this site last week.
- Surveyors were also out at the Ellensburg Water Company/Naneum Creek site conducting surveys for the FBRB pre-application that was submitted for this site.

C. KCT- Melissa Speeg-

- Melissa gave an update on current KCT activities.

D. Mid-Columbia Fisheries- Rebecca Wassell-

- Rebecca updated the group on ongoing MCF projects.

E. Yakama Nation- No report this meeting

3. WDFW- Cassandra Weekes-

- A. Much like everyone else, Cassandra is currently teleworking full-time. Thankfully, nearly all of the work that's typically done in the office can be completed from home; there will not be a disruption in work. As always – call, text or email if you need anything!
- B. The WA Fish Barrier Removal Board's ranked list of projects submitted during the pre-application solicitation was circulated on Monday of this week. Out of 94 projects throughout the state, the Kittitas Conservation District's project proposals ranked #4 (Coleman at CID) and #14 (Naneum at EWC)! This is great news. Full applications are due May 15.
- C. At the January YTAHP meeting, Scott Nicolai gave a presentation about potential coho limiting factors and invited us all to his Coho Habitat Advisory Team (CHAT) meetings. There have now been two meetings, one in late January and the other a couple weeks ago. At the first meeting, he asked participants to rank habitat quality in several Kittitas County streams. He compiled the information he received and sent out it to the group. At the second meeting, we used that information to prioritize streams for restoration, and those are: lower Badger Creek, and Wilson between I-90 and the wastewater treatment plant. There will be a third meeting at a later date. YTAHP's participation in these meetings is valuable because the projects will have benefits for multiple species, included ESA-listed steelhead, and can be coordinated with planned YTAHP projects.
- D. Cassandra is currently updating the YTAHP active projects spreadsheet and will be sending it out the group next week.
- E. The entities on the YTAHP Contract have a meeting with BPA next Thursday to review the upcoming contract and discuss the projects on the SOW. Cassandra confirmed the date and time with the participating entities.

4. ITEMS OF INTEREST-

- A. Tricia Snyder provided the following YBFWRB updates-

- **2020 SRFB Grant Round-**The 2020 SRFB grant round is underway. The Yakima Lead Entity accepted 19 pre-applications with a total \$4.8 million in requested funding. Not all projects are moving forward to full application, due April 17th, but it is shaping up to be a competitive year. Tricia has received questions on altered timelines for the grant round due to COVID-19. At this time there are no alterations to our schedule. Alex and Tricia are monitoring the situation closely and if any changes were to be implemented they would involve moving our in-person meetings to virtual meetings. Tricia does not expect any changes to due dates or any other timing of the 2020 grant round. She will be sure to keep sponsors informed.
 - **2020 Eastern WA Riparian Planting Symposium Re-scheduled-** This year's symposium has been re-scheduled for June 25th. The location and times will remain the same. If you have not been receiving symposium related e-mail but would like to, please e-mail Tricia at tsnyder@ybfwrp.org and she will add you to the mailing list.
 - **Yakima Basin Booklet Update-** The booklet Ashton, Melissa, and Tricia have been pulling together with the help of partners throughout the basin is in its final stages of editing before Melissa begins working with a graphic designer on layout. The group expects to have another version for review soon and will keep partners updated on timing.
5. The next Core Team Meeting is scheduled to be held in Yakima on Wednesday, April 15 at 9:30 a.m.

YTAHP Core Team Meeting Appendix