

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity -- Habitat Work Group

June 1, 2020 -- MINTUES

~ 9:30 am – 11:15 am ~

Web-Ex

Anne Weckback, Lewis County Anthony Waldrop, GHCD Bob Amrine, LCD Brad Murphy, Thurston County CPED Brandon Carman, RCO Grant Manager Cade Roler, WDFW Chris Dwight, WDFW Claire Williamson, WDFW Colleen Suter, Chehalis Tribe DNR Garret Dalan, TNC Greg Green, Ducks Ultd Hope Rierdon, Chehalis Tribe DFW Jamie Glasgow, Wild Fish Conservancy Jason Gillie, Chehalis Tribe Jennifer Reidmeyer, ECY	Jonathan Bradshaw, LE Minutes Kathy Jacobson, LE Outreach/Ed. Kelly Verd, LCD Key McMurray, self Kirsten Harma, LE Coordinator Mara Zimmerman, CSP/F Mara Heeley, Thurston CD Mark Gray, CRBLT Ned Pittman, CSP/F Rick Rouse, Port of Chehalis Rickie Marion, Water Quality, Chehalis Tribe Ryan Williams, MCD Thom Woodruff, CLT Tom Kollasch, GHCD
---	---

1. Welcome, Introductions, Updates

2. Review of minutes from May 2020

Thom Woodruff moved to approve the minutes, and Tom Kollasch seconded. Without further discussion, the motion was passed.

3. Organizational Business

a. Culvert Subcommittee:

WDFW has wrapped up their contract with Aspect Consulting to create a barrier prioritization tool, and from here there's mostly internal polishing of product left. Going forward, the subcommittee will be in discussion about whether or not it needs to continue to meet. It's likely that the team will wrap up with an outreach effort to make sure affected parties are aware of the tool. Beyond that, the work will probably shift to being an annual meeting around maintenance of the tool.

Q: Will the website address change?

A: We're unsure: that's out of our control, but it's looking likely that it won't.

b. Newaukum Subcommittee/ Newaukum Pilot Project

Ned and Mara received the WDFW spawning ground survey results from their recent field work. The result will be presented at the next subcommittee meeting, following the August HWG meeting. WDFW will be able to collaborate with CSP on the survey data over the following couple months.

c. Outreach

Kathy will be hosting a workshop on public presentation skills on June 15th. An invite will be sent out to the full HWG mailing list.

Kathy sent out her lamprey factsheet, and received some good feedback! It will live on the LE website.

She'll be working on an upcoming few-page fact-sheet on the need for water conservation.

She'll send it out for more feedback: she's looking specifically for info on water temperatures in the basin.

4. Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Note: Discussion on Quorum

A quorum was nearly missed for voting on the 2020 ranked list due to both a lack of voting members present, and to those who abstained due to potential conflicts of interest. However, after the 2019 return fund decisions, LCD's 2020 projects were both funded. As such, Bob Amrine was cleared to vote on the remaining 2020 project ranking list. In discussion on quorum concerns, the HWG membership list was reviewed. Being an off-year, the group isn't required to formally go through the HWG membership list. However, noteworthy membership gaps include: 2 citizen members, a Grays Harbor County representative, and an environment/conservation representative. The group discussed possible folks to fill these positions.

a. Discussion/Decision on 2019 "Return Funds"

Kirsten led a discussion on apportioning return funds from 2019. \$210,000 was available for redistribution, as a funded 2019 acquisition project was bought by a non-conservation interest before grant funding could be used. Possibilities for this funding was discussed, and the following use of funds was voted on:

1. CBFTF Newkah project cost increase: \$29,500 (cost increase approved at prior meeting)
2. Completion of 2019 Hogue funding: \$120,739
3. Funding for 2019 Hamilton project at the 2020 updated budget: \$30,000
4. Remaining funding to be apportioned before it is returned to the statewide pool: \$29,771

Thom Woodruff moved to approve this utilization of funding, and this move was seconded **. The vote was taken, and passed without dissent.

Brandon Carman noted that this 29K could be applied to any current projects. The group has

until September, and so an open discussion about the use of this funding will take place in the near future.

b. Presentation of Local Review Team 2020 SRFB ranked project list

Kirsten presented visuals of the ranked projects and the ranked list, and the ranking group discussed the experience of a virtual grant round. The ranked lists is as follows:

Rank	Project Name	Grant ask	Cumulative Totals
1	2020 West Hoquiam Acquisitions	\$ 177,665	\$ 177,665
2	MF Hoq. Tidal Restoration	\$ 250,000	\$ 427,665
3	Tree Fever Conservation Easement	\$ 57,060	\$ 484,725
4	Berwick/Labree Passage Design	\$ 119,622	\$ 604,347
5	Berwick /Borovec Passage Const.	\$ 195,832	\$ 800,179
6	Berwick/Bishop Passage Const.	\$ 239,322	\$ 1,039,501

c. Discussion/Decision on 2020 SRFB Ranked List

A motion was made** to vote to approve the 2020 ranked list as presented. The vote was taken, and passed without dissent.

d. SRFB – Next steps

- i. On June 9th, at 10:15, there will be a call for NMI and POC'd sponsors.
On June 29th – applications are due in PRISM

5. Coast Salmon Partnership Updates

a. WCRRI grant round

Three days of virtual site visits were carried out in early May, and applicants have received comments. June 12, final application materials are due. The funding list will be developed on June 15, and be delivered on August 3rd to RCO. There are 31 projects to rank: it will be a challenging process.

b. LE review of HWS dataset

Mara and Kirsten reemphasized the request for LE members to provide feedback on HWS info. This information will be put toward what is hoped to become an annual review, which will be accompanied by an annual report of CSP work done. July 31st will be the hard cutoff for ensuring correct project costs and metrics for this upcoming report.

c. June board meeting

CSP board meeting will take place Tuesday, June 23rd. There will be a virtual option, and there is conversation about the possibility of an in-person option. Meeting information is sent out pretty broadly, but if you do not receive an invite and you would like one, check in with Kirsten or Mara.

6. Aquatic Species Restoration Plan

a. Steering Committee Update

CBBoard meeting will be this coming Thursday, from 9 to noon. There were some learning points and challenges for the ASRP grant round, but it went fairly smoothly.

b. Implementation Team Update

This newly-formed team will be developing a plan to implement ASRP work: Kirsten is this group's (HWG's) conduit to the ASRP so welcomes input on implementation or other topics. Anthony Waldrop described the role he'll be filling as a CD liaison, of sorts. The team will be looking to be thoughtful about coordinating implementation well, and will also be working to build out the landowner outreach structure. He'll be building info on where outreach has been strong as well as on areas where outreach has been lacking. Involved parties can expect Anthony to reach out, and are encouraged to reach out to him if you have relevant info/knowledge. A significant role of the implementation group is to avoid reinventing wheels and stepping on toes. Those working within the implementation work group have various skills and perspectives - but we'll still be looking for input. Everyone has the opportunity to be involved in this process, and that can be directly as well as through Kirsten.

c. Early Action Reach Update

Skookumchuck:

The construction contractor has been finalized, and the team has gone through some inadvertent discovery training. Construction for the Skookumchuck will begin in the next three weeks. Permits are in the works for East Satsop and the Wynoochee, and designs should be completed by late fall. Stillman Creek is in a holding pattern due to some land acquisitions issues.

Newaukum:

Feedback has been good with nearly all landowners on the S. Fork. The engineers are looking to do pile driving tests up and down the reach, to see whether drilling will be necessary or not. DFW is seeking permitting to do this work over the summer. This local testing will be helpful for folks basin-wide, as well. It's also worth noting that there have been some really engaged landowners, taking initiative in keeping an eye out for and protecting Spring Chinook.

7. Other/Closing

Rick Rouse followed up on previous discussions on the interplay of habitat interests and cultural resource protection. He's seeing this bring groups together. The Flood Authority is putting together a cultural resources working group, as is the ASRP. If there is interest in involvement with the ASRP cultural resources working group, reach out to Celina Abercrombie, WDFW or Claire Williamson for a calendar invite. It's an open dialogue to discuss the needs of the Basin, and the WDFW would like to hear from restoration practitioners on that.