

**Chehalis Basin Lead Entity**  
**Habitat Work Group Meeting Minutes**  
**March 14, 2014**

The March 14, 2014 meeting of the Chehalis Basin Lead Entity was held at the Lewis Conservation District Office, Chehalis, Washington. Chair Bob Amrine called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. In attendance were:

Amy Spoon, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Eric Delvin, The Nature Conservancy  
Cindy Wilson, Thurston County  
Lonnie Crumley, Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force and Streamworks  
Glen Connelly, Chehalis Tribe  
Mike Nordin, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District  
Dave Hawk, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District  
Jeni Maakad, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District

Ann Weckback, Lewis County Public Works  
Jane Atha, LE Coordinator  
Lawrence Reeves, Capital Lands Management  
Miranda Plumb, USFWS  
Dave Geroux, Center for Natural Lands Management  
Laura Moxham, RCO  
Alice Rubin, RCO  
Chanele Holbrook, HEF/Creekside Conservancy  
Jordan Rash, Wishkah Gardens

**Agenda Items**

Welcome and Introductions

Updates and announcements

- WCRI update
- Washington Salmon Coalition update
- Others?

Site visits and review team

Time for project sponsors to discuss projects

- Wishkah Gardens
- Discussion of which conceptual projects sponsors would like to move forward with this year
- Obtaining a PRISM number

Lead entity strategy

- Marking up intrinsic potential maps

Agenda for next HWG meeting April 4, 2014

## **Updates and Announcements**

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### WCRI update

Delvin updated the group on the Washington Coast Restoration Initiative. While the legislature did not pass a capital budget this session, the fact that the WCRI made it as far as it did leads to confidence that it will be a success the next opportunity. It is now time to start thinking of new projects that we may want to add to the list. This will be an ongoing initiative. Therefore, projects that fit the sideboards of restoration and jobs should continue to be considered.

### Washington Salmon Coalition Update

Atha told the meeting that she attended the statewide lead entity retreat the Lake Quinault Lodge a couple of weeks ago. She learned a lot about how other lead entities operate, and was particularly impressed by the potential for Habitat Work Schedule to provide very useful data for folks in the Chehalis. She learned how to give persuasive presentations, and with Rich Osborne came up with our “key overriding message” for salmon strongholds. Kelly Jorgenson of the SRFB Technical Review Panel spoke in a question/answer session with the lead entity coordinators that was very useful to Atha.

## **Site Visits and Review Team 2014**

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The current review team for 2014: Caprice Fasano (Quinault), Amy Spoon (WDFW), Frank Gordon (GHC Commissioner), Dave Geroux (CNLM), Miranda Plumb (USFWS), Chad Wiseman (HDR), Miles Batchelder (WCSSP), Mark White (Chehalis Tribe), Tad Schwager (AMEC), Eric Delvin (TNC), Janet Strong (CRC) and Key McMurray (Key Consulting). Currently, that is twelve people. Atha has talked to Mark White about reserving a Chehalis Tribe bus for the site visits which are scheduled for May 8 and 9. With a bus, the idea is that we'll be able to all be together and get debriefed on the projects en route to them. It will be important to use this time as wisely as possible to communicate and get feedback about the proposed projects. At the lead entity retreat it was mentioned that the Yakima LE does a preliminary ranking via Survey Monkey. Then a consensus is reached and technical discussions occur afterwards in meetings. Is this something that may work for the Chehalis? Spoon mentioned that since this is already done with the ranking sheets prior to the ranking meeting, it may not be necessary to add the additional online survey component. The group collectively thought that it would not be too much trouble to rank ahead of time with the

existing sheet, and then at the meeting discuss the ranking, reasons why, and anything beyond what is covered in the ranking sheet at a more qualitative level.

### **Time for project sponsors to discuss projects**

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Chanele Holbrook quickly debriefed the group on her planned proposed project Schweikert Farm. Glen Connelly said that he will temporarily be representing the Chehalis Tribe for the Habitat Work Group. He mentioned that he is not attached with the conceptual projects that the Tribe has submitted, and therefore will not speak to them this meeting. The group discussed which projects they intended to move forward with this year including the Black River Conservation Initiative sponsored by Capital Land Trust and the Scammon Creek Barrier Removal sponsored by Ann Weckback. Lonnie Crumley's five barrier culvert removal projects will be proposed this year as well. Jordan Rash with Forterra joined the meeting on the phone to discuss the Wishkah Gardens project.

### **Lead Entity strategy**

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At the February meeting, Osborne gave the lead entity maps for the group to fill out with hatcheries, landowners, and future projects for regional prioritization. Atha explained what he would like done, and handed out lists of significant hatchery and monitoring sites in the Chehalis. In Google Earth, the hope is to identify lat/longs of some of these sites. The group decided that it would be easier to let the agencies fill in the spreadsheets, and that it would be too involved and/or inefficient to try and identify the locations on a map of with Google Earth. It was felt by many that they did not have the information necessary for this exercise.

### **Agenda for next HWG meeting April 4, 2014**

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We will hear from Teal Waterstrat with FWS about freshwater mussels in the Chehalis.

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday, April 4, 9:30 AM at the Lewis County Conservation District, in Chehalis.