

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity
Habitat Work Group Meeting Minutes
April 4, 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	Ann Weckback, Lewis County Public Works
Eric Delvin, The Nature Conservancy	Jane Atha, LE Coordinator
Cindy Wilson, Thurston County	Lawrence Reeves, Capital Lands Management
Lonnie Crumley, Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force and Streamworks	Miranda Plumb, USFWS
Glen Connelly, Chehalis Tribe	Dave Geroux, Center for Natural Lands Management
Mike Nordin, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District	Laura Moxham, RCO
Dave Hawk, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District	Alice Rubin, RCO
Jeni Maakad, Grays Harbor Conservation District/Pacific County Conservation District	Chanele Holbrook, HEF/Creekside Conservancy
	Jordan Rash, Wishkah Gardens

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Updates and announcements
 - ASEP salmon workshop
 - Lead entity strategy
 - Others?
3. Proposed project sponsors questions and input
4. SRFB cycle for 2014
 - Discuss schedule for site visits planned for May 8 and 9
 - Discuss Ranking Process-scheduled for July 11, 2014.
5. Presentation: Teal Waterstrat from USFWS
 - Freshwater mussels in the Chehalis
6. Agenda for next HWG meeting June 13, 2014

Updates and Announcements

ASEP Salmon Workshop

Atha and a few others attended the Chehalis Flood Authority Salmon Workshop at the Great Wolf Lodge last week hosted by Anchor QEA. The consultants have run EDT for coho and produced maps showing upstream passage based on initial model runs for each of the sub-basins. The group then went relatively quickly through each sub-basin (termed diagnostic unit or DU in EDT) characterizing the environment, land-use, etc., and in turn what types of restoration activities would best enhance the DU. The model produces some interesting data highlighting the differences between current and intrinsic potential for fish in the Chehalis; and offers areas that would most benefit from restoration and preservation. Atha is wondering how the group feels about hanging onto EDT after the ASEP has been completed, and where it may potentially be housed. One thought may be the UW Olympic Natural Resources Center.

Lead entity Strategy

The lead entity will be moving forward with revising the Strategy beginning with a wrap-up Humptulips meeting. We have been starting with a desired 100-year condition, then identifying ecological goals, and then identifies on a reach by reach basis the priority management strategies. These consider landowners, infrastructure, etc. (reality). Conceptual projects for each reach are then identified. Need to fill this in more! Suggestions for Hoquiam/Wishkah sub-committee? Volunteers?

Proposed project sponsors questions and input

Atha distributed current list of proposed projects for 2014. Are there any others that are not on the list?

Would any project sponsors be available/interested in presenting their proposed projects at the April 25 Chehalis Basin Partnership meeting? We have a number of review team members that are part of the CBP and it will be a good way to get feedback from a different audience.

SRFB Cycle for 2014

To remind everyone, project review materials need to be into PRISM by April 17th, 3 weeks prior to the site visits. After everyone has an opportunity to get things organized, Atha will prepare packets with the materials for the review team.

We will schedule site visits based on geography. The first day will cover the upper basin; the second day will cover the lower basin. If anyone has any ideas on improvements, or given the project locations proposed this year, please let Jane know.

At the June HWG meeting there will be an opportunity for project sponsors to ask questions of the group to clarify their final application materials. This might include clarifying feedback presented to the sponsors by the review team during the May site visits.

At the July meeting, are the project sponsors present during the ranking process?

Freshwater mussels presentation from Teal Waterstrat

Agenda for next HWG meeting June 13, 2014

NEXT MEETING: Friday, June 13, 9:30 AM at the Lewis County Conservation District, in Chehalis.