
**HABITAT WORK GROUP
NOVEMBER 4, 2011 MINUTES**

In attendance:

Bob Amrine, Lewis County Conservation District
Lee Napier, Grays Harbor County Lead Entity Coordinator
Mark Swartout, Thurston County
Miles Batchelder, WCSSP
Janel Spaulding, Chehalis Basin CBP Watershed Coordinator
Bob Burkle, WDFW
Eric Delvin, The Nature Conservancy
Ann Weckback, Lewis County
Chanele Holbrook-Shaw, Heernett Foundation
Janet Strong, Chehalis River Basin Land Trust

John Kliem and Debbie Holden, CCS

Bob Amrine, Chair, called the November, 2011 meeting of the Habitat Work Group to order.

AGENDA

Meeting location change to Elma High School Library, 1011 West Main, Elma, WA.

- Action on bylaws discussed at last month's meeting
- Discussion of Conceptual Projects that anticipate funding during the 2012 SRFB Round
- Presentation by Jarred Figlar Barnes on the McDonald Creek Project

BYLAWS

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity bylaws were proposed at the October, 2011 meeting. Following that meeting, revisions were made to the first draft. A second draft of the bylaws was presented for further consideration followed by a membership vote.

Group Discussion

Section 1: Name

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity

A statement was made that the Lead Entity needs to be a government. Lee confirmed that the contracting agent is Grays Harbor County. Bob Burkle reminded the group that other lead entities have changed their name, including the Nisqually River Watershed Salmon Recovery Lead Entity. Bob Amrine stated that the County Commissioners are confused; they're not sure what's going on in relation to the Chehalis Basin Partnership (CBP).

Lee clarified the relationship between the Lead Entity and the CBP, which has been evolving.

- The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), brought forth legislation (ESSB 2496)¹, that requires each lead entity to provide annual lists of salmon recovery projects.
- The lead entity Habitat Work Group (HWG) originally prepared the Limited Factors Analysis.
- Ten years ago the CBP was more active in working with the HWG but didn't always interact on the project selection. They were not able to go on site visits or review projects, but were tasked with evaluating projects after they were chosen. The CBP has become very busy with other projects and feels less and less engaged in the lead entity project selection process.
- In 2011 citizen volunteers participated in the project evaluation process. The LE would like to continue using citizen volunteers, particularly those who are able to go on site visits and review all projects.
- There are better ways to interface with the CBP than to rely on it to act as our citizen committee.
- The LE has reevaluated its process to make sure it is working according to RCO requirements. Creation of LE bylaws is one such requirement.
- RCO also requires the LE to have a citizen committee that is engaged in the project selection process. Our citizen committee may combine members of the CBP and citizens at large who are able to participate both in the on-the-ground work of going on site visits and in the process of evaluating projects. The citizen committee will also be involved in other projects within the Chehalis Basin.

Section 3: Organizational Structure

3A(4) Officers

Bob Amrine confirmed that he would act as Chair and Miranda Plumb agreed to act as Vice-Chair at the October, 2011 meeting.

Section 7: Membership

This section specifically refers to "voting members".

The following suggestions were made to the membership list:

Add Mark Swartout, Thurston County

Correct spelling of Heernett Foundation

Contact the following members to see if they wish to remain as members or be involved in some other capacity: Roberta Davenport, WDNR; Kathy Jacobson, ESD 113; Kahle Jennings, City of Centralia; Bruce Jones, NW Indian Fisheries Commission; Bob Metzger, USFS; Margaret Rader and Rob Schanz, Chehalis River Council; James R. (Bob) Thomas, USACE.

¹ The State of Salmon – A Report to the Legislature http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/gcro/2000_State_of_Salmon.pdf

Contact the following citizens to see if they would like to become members: Kim Ashmore, City of Centralia.

This group has never had formal membership – it has always been ad-hoc. By formalizing the membership list we are encouraging people to make a greater commitment.

VOTE

Bob Amrine called a vote to accept the bylaws.

Bylaws were unanimously passed.

Bob Amrine called a vote to appoint himself as Chair and to appoint Miranda Plumb as Vice-Chair.

Appointments were unanimously passed.

HABITAT WORK GROUP – CONCEPTUAL PROJECT COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 4, 2011 MINUTES

JARRED FIGLAR BARNES - McDONALD CREEK RESTORATION PROJECT

The special guest of the committee was Jarred Figlar Barnes of Elma.

Jared introduced the McDonald Creek Restoration Project. McDonald Creek is located in Elma, Washington. A watershed assessment for the area identifies failing culverts and aquatic habitat modifications as limiting salmonid species. In order for salmonid population recovery the creek needs several improvements.

The McDonald Creek Restoration Project is divided into three phases:

- Phase 1 This phase is located in a low gradient area dominated by farm fields and livestock grazing. Three culverts and a small concrete blockage are associated with the restoration activities.
- Phase 2 This phase involves working with a hospital district and a local landowner who is building a large church. Both projects have funding set aside to restore McDonald creek which runs through their property.
- Phase 3 This phase is associated with the mid and upper watershed and consists of working with various landowner enhancing culverts and smaller riparian areas.

For detailed information of this project please visit the Chehalis Basin Lead Entity website² and view the Featured Project link.

² Chehalis Basin Lead Entity website http://www.co.grays-harbor.wa.us/info/pub_svcs/Lead_Entity/index.html

JIM SHANNON - POTENTIAL ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS IN WRIA 23

Senior Scientist - ANCHOR QEA, LLC

Jim presented the Chehalis Project List (Draft). Below are the location, enhancement, and limiting factor addressed for this project list.

Location	Enhancement	Limiting Factor Addressed
Black Management Unit (includes Black River, Porter Creek subbasins)		
Porter Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Dunnagan Creek	Correct barrier culverts, enhance habitat	Fish Passage, Floodplain, Water Quantity, Riparian
Albert-Dempsey Creek Tributary R7	Correct barrier culvert	Fish Passage
Baker-Goliath Creek R9	Correct barrier culvert	Fish Passage
Bailey Fish Barrier	Correct barrier culvert	Fish Passage
Cedar Creek Road	Correct barrier culvert	Fish Passage
Tilley Road	Culvert replacement	Fish Passage
Boistfort Management Unit (Upper Chehalis, South Fork Chehalis, Stillman Creek, Lake Creek)		
South Fork Chehalis	Bank regrade, low bench, riparian revegetation	Floodplain
Upper Chehalis River	Correct barrier culverts; improve fish passage	Fish Passage
South Fork Chehalis	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Stillman Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Chehalis Mainstem Management Unit		
River Miles 66 to 80	Bank regrade, low bench, riparian revegetation	Floodplain
Galvin Road area; downstream Grand Mound	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
Oakville backwater	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
Porter area	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
River Miles 20 to 79	Reconnect and restore off-channel habitat	Floodplain
State Route 6 oxbow	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
Horseshoe Lake oxbow	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
Pheasant Farm Fords Prairie	High flow side channels	Floodplain
Lincoln Management Unit (Lincoln Creek, Independence Creek, Garrard Creek, Gaddis Creek, Rock/Williams Creek, Bunker Creek, Scammon Creek, Mill Creek, Stearns Creek)		
Lincoln Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Independence Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Independence Road bank protection	Bank protection	Riparian
Garrard Creek (county and private properties)	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Gaddis Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Rock/Williams Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Bunker Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Scammon, Mill, and Stearns Creeks	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Wolf-Davis Creek R6	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Harris Creek Fish Enhancement		
Harris Creek	Correct Barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Newaukum Management Unit (Newaukum Mainstem, North Fork, Middle Fork, Salzer Creek, Coal Creek, Dillenbaugh Creek, Berwick Creek, China Creek)		
Newaukum River	Bank regrade, low bench, riparian revegetation	Floodplain
Newaukum River/Newaukum Valley Golf Course	In-channel enhancements	Riparian and Floodplain
Dillenbaugh Creek	Oxbow reconnection	Fish Passage, Floodplain
Salzer Creek	Oxbow reconnection	Floodplain
Salzer Creek	Oxbow reconnection; wetland connection	Floodplain
North Fork Newaukum		Riparian and Floodplain
North Fork Newaukum	Correct barrier culverts; improve fish passage	Fish Passage
Middle Fork Newaukum	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Salzer Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage

Location	Enhancement	Limiting Factor Addressed
Dillenbaugh Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Berwick Creek	Correct barrier culverts	Fish Passage
Lucas Creek	Replace culvert	Fish Passage
Lucas Creek	Replace culvert	Fish Passage
Salzer Creek	Backwater control	Floodplain
Skookumchuck Management Unit (Skookumchuck River, Scatter Creek)		
Upstream of River Mile 10	Potential floodplain enhancement	Floodplain
Lower watershed	Reconnect, enhance, restore off-channel, floodplain, wetlands	Floodplain
Skookumchuck River	Correct barrier culverts; improve fish passage	Fish Passage
Scatter Creek	Sampson Wetland Enhancement Ph. 1	Floodplain, Riparian, LWD, Water Quality
Skookumchuck River	Twin culverts under Main St. at 11th	Fish Passage
Skookumchuck River	Streambank stabilization	Riparian