



## UCSRB MEETING

Douglas County Transportation & Land  
Services Building  
140 19<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Thursday, January 24, 2008  
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

## MEETING MINUTES

### Board Members Present:

Bill Towey, Colville Confederated Tribes via phone  
Lee Carlson for Paul Ward, Yakama Nation  
Mary Hunt, Douglas County  
Mike Kaputa for Ron Walter, Chelan County  
Char Beam for Bud Hover, Okanogan County

Julie Morgan, UCSRB Executive Director  
Derek Van Marter, UCSRB Associate Director  
James R. White, UCSRB Data Steward  
Barbara Carrillo, UCSRB Administrative Assistant

**Others Present:** Dennis Beich, WDFW; Casey Baldwin, WDFW; Kristine Desgroseillier, Foster Creek Conservation District; Steve Kolk, USBR; Lynn Hatcher, NMFS; Chuck Jones, Alliance Consulting Group for Douglas County; Phil Miller, GSRO via phone; Chris Parsons, WDFW; Chuck Peven, Chelan County PUD; Mike Rickel, Cascadia Conservation District; Rich Malinowski, Cascadia Conservation District; Keith Kutchins, Colville Confederated Tribes; James Ives, Colville Confederated Tribes; Kate Terrell, USFWS; Phil Archibald, USFS; Bob Clubb, Douglas County PUD; Bill Tweit, WDFW; Heather Bartlett, WDFW; Bob Whitehall, Entiat Watershed Planning Unit; Robert Stroup, Trout Unlimited; Kirk Truscott, WDFW; Shaun Seaman, Chelan County PUD; Russell Langshaw, Grant County PUD

### Action Items

1. Mike Kaputa will speak with Ron Walter and Becky Heath regarding large-scale land exchanges for the DC briefing paper.
2. Julie and Barb will schedule a Board meeting via conference call in February to discuss DC coordination and the briefing paper.
3. Julie will coordinate changes to the UCSRB letterhead to add member entity names.
4. Julie will email the 2008 work plan to the Board members and Julie and Barb will coordinate a Board retreat in May regarding the work plan.
5. Keith Kutchins will give a presentation on H-integration at the February 12th UCSRB staff meeting.
6. UCSRB staff will conduct an analysis at its meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup> regarding H-integration, and a report will be generated for Board review.
7. Julie will coordinate with Bob Lohn to attend the March Board meeting regarding salmon recovery plan implementation.

**The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Lee Carlson (for Paul Ward).**

**Welcome and Introductions (Lee Carlson).**

Lee welcomed the group and asked for introductions around the room.

**1. Revised agenda approval and approval of Board minutes for December 20, 2007.**

Lee asked for approval of the agenda and all approved.

*Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the UCSRB minutes from December 20, 2007. Char Beam (for Bud Hover) seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

**2. Short-Term Priority List Update (Jones and Miller)**

- Chuck Jones gave an update on the status of the Regional Salmon Recovery Plan Implementation Short-Term Priority Actions list to submit to Phil Miller, GSRO, for the 2007-2009 biennium. Chuck said he is looking for Board approval for Phil to begin using the list with the appropriate state and federal agencies as a working document to facilitate discussions with these agencies. Chuck also noted that a similar effort will occur for the 2009-2011 biennium. He said that effort will be more detailed. Mary Hunt expressed concern over the lack of estimated costs for the listed priorities as well as lead agency responsibility for actions. Phil Miller replied that the document is a tool for beginning conversations and should not be interpreted as a final or comprehensive document.

*Mary Hunt made a motion to approve and forward the Short-Term Priority List with modifications to the state and federal agencies as a "draft" document. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

Further discussion followed regarding responsibility of lead agency actions in the document.

*Regarding the Short-Term Priority List draft report, Mike Kaputa made a motion to concurrently circulate the document among representatives at WDFW, US Fish and Wildlife, and NMFS for one month to solicit feedback.. Mary Hunt seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

**3. FCRPS BiOp Update (Miller)**

- Phil Miller gave the Board a brief update on the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) BiOp approval process and informed the group that comments from the state and others have been submitted to the judge. NMFS has requested an extension from March 18<sup>th</sup> to May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Comments have been sent to the regional executive directors, including an attachment of the draft reasonable and prudent alternatives (RPAs). Phil will keep the Board posted on discussions as the timeline evolves.

**4. NPCC's Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment (Van Marter)**

- Derek Van Marter gave a follow-up review from the December Board meeting regarding the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Request for

Recommendations to Amend the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's *Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program*, Council Document No. 2007-17. Derek reviewed the UCSRB's draft response letter. He also commented that the response is the result of input from the December Board meeting as well as the January staff work group meeting. Derek reviewed the recommendations of the letter and noted that he has talked with the other Columbia Basin regional directors and all are pursuing similar recommendations. The Council has extended the deadline for comments to April 4<sup>th</sup> so there will be more time at the February Board meeting to review the letter for additional comments. Derek noted that a regional timeline needs to be established regarding sub-basin plans by the NPCC. He also noted that our recommendation to the Council is that they follow our implementation plan timeline at this time. Phil recommended waiting on the letter until April 4<sup>th</sup> since there may be additional opportunities with other regions and organizations for further discussions. Phil added that he will be drafting the State of Washington comments and that we may want to include those comments in our letter. He will coordinate with us and the other regions. Lynn Hatcher said that comments will be forthcoming from NFMS. Lynn will forward those to Derek.

#### **5. DC Coordination (Morgan, Carlson, UCSRB, and Carrillo)**

- Barbara Carrillo briefed the Board on its meetings currently scheduled for the DC trip in March. Julie Morgan and Lee Carlson reviewed the DC briefing paper with the Board members. Julie said that the briefing paper needs some modifications from last year, which include adoption of the recovery plan, plan limitations due to funding, increased funding for the US Forest Service and out of basin (sea lion) issues. Julie noted that we are looking for an increase in overall funding versus specific requests. Julie asked if the Board would also like to include large-scale land exchanges in the DC briefing paper. Mike Kaputa mentioned that he would like to get input from Ron Walter and Becky Heath regarding large-scale land exchanges.  Regarding the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund and the DC briefing paper, Mary Hunt cautioned the Board to choose their words carefully, as there is a similarly named federal fund that is dedicated to Puget Sound. Julie and Barb will plan a conference call with the Board in February to finalize the DC briefing paper.

#### **6. Columbia River Program (Hunt)**

- Mary Hunt added an agenda item and briefed the group on the Columbia River Program. She noted that the current WDOE proposal is to draw down Lake Roosevelt by one foot to add water to the Columbia River. Mary said that she is collecting comments from partners to take to the Policy Work Group, and asked for comments to go to Chuck Jones, which he will then compile for Mary.

#### **7. Management, Logistics and Updates**

- **UCSRB Budget Update (Morgan)** - Julie reviewed the current budget. She noted that long-term funding for the Data Steward will need to be addressed in the near term. She also noted that managing monitoring data requires a long-term commitment.
- **Signature Block for UCSRB Chair (Carlson)** - Lee reviewed the signature block for UCSRB Chair, Paul Ward. Lee recommended using the title "Chair, UCSRB" versus the person's title from their work entity. Lee also

recommended the UCSRB letterhead be changed to reflect the member entity names to the letterhead. Julie will coordinate those changes and review with the Board.

#### **8. 2008 Work Plan Guidance and Calendar (Morgan and Towey)**

- Regarding an additional agenda item, Mary Hunt said she was asked to develop criteria for the nomination of the Esther Stefaniw Award. Mary said she was having a difficult time articulating specific criteria that matched Esther's spontaneity. She recommended the Board not develop specific criteria, and instead hold deliberations each year on the appropriate person that has made significant contributions to salmon recovery. Mary also recommended tabling the issue at this time.
- Regarding the 2008 Work Plan, Julie Morgan reviewed a list of work plan items including:
  - i. H-integration,
  - ii. policy forum,
  - iii. permitting coordination,
  - iv. prioritizing and funding "big ticket" habitat projects,
  - v. regional SRFB process coordination,
  - vi. funding strategy,
  - vii. Bi-Op Remand coordination with recovery plan,
  - viii. updating implementation schedules,
  - ix. monitoring coordination,
  - x. adaptive management framework implementation,
  - xi. data management,
  - xii. reporting and communication,
  - xiii. 2008 tours,
  - xiv. quarterly email newsletters,
  - xv. RTT analysis workshop organization,
  - xvi. administrative/policies for the UCSRB, and
  - xvii. support of collaborative decision making.
- Julie asked the Board to provide feedback on the 2008 work plan list, which she will email that to all Board members. A Board retreat will also be scheduled in May to discuss the 2008 work plan in more detail.  Bill Towey then discussed the long-term implications of the policy forum. Bill suggested initiating dialogue with other entities regarding the idea, and suggested that now is the time to begin work plan items such as the BiOp remand, harvest goals, bull trout recovery plan and out-of-basin effects. Bill noted that Keith Kutchins will make a presentation on H-integration at the February 12th staff meeting.  Julie then gave an update on the bull trout recovery plan. She informed the group that the USFW had a multiple day workshop on the subject last week regarding completing the bull trout recovery plan. Kate Terrell then commented that a five-year status review is being initiated with a review of potentially going to a multiple DPS (distinct population segments), and they will more than likely re-list.
- Bill suggested establishing a dialogue with USFWS and NOAA Fisheries through the Board so that the co-managers are having discussions and communicating. Chuck Jones noted that this discussion took place before Julie was hired at which time the Board concluded it was not prepared to begin those discussions. Bill noted that he would like to sit down with NOAA and discuss and collaborate on these issues. Lee suggested that staff draft a letter

to NOAA requesting a meeting. Mary noted that a few years ago during plan finalization, the Board held facilitated meetings with agency representatives and others. Bill noted that he would like to revisit those types of meetings and that we have an all H-plan. He said more dialogue needs to take place. The Board members agreed that an analysis on H-integration would be helpful and asked the staff work group to prepare something for discussion at its February 12<sup>th</sup> staff meeting, and report back to the Board for review and discussion.

#### **9. Harvest Management Presentation and Discussion (Tweit and Bartlett)**

- Heather Bartlett and Bill Tweit, WDFW, gave a presentation on harvest management. Their presentation included the Draft Upper Columbia Fish Management Plan, the Signed Fish Management Agreement with the Colville Tribes and the State Steelhead Management Plan. They reviewed the framework for managing fisheries in the waters above Priest Rapids Dam covering Summer Chinook, Spring Chinook, Sockeye, Coho, Summer Steelhead, and Resident Trout in streams. They also discussed features and benefits such as harvest rates for all species, components of species, stakeholder involvement and harvest management objectives. Heather and Bill reviewed the history and the focus on the areas of harvest and hatcheries. They highlighted the fact that the plan provides a framework for statewide steelhead management for each watershed and region. Heather then reviewed operations and administrative items such as natural production, habitat protection and restoration, fisheries management, artificial production, research, regulatory compliance, monitoring evaluation and adaptive management. Heather stated that they should have permits ready this year for a fishery in the Entiat as they continue to review returning fish numbers in the area.

Lee Carlson recommended inviting Bob Lohn to the next Board meeting to discuss the opening of a fishery in the Entiat and salmon recovery plan implementation, and all approved.

#### **Public Comment**

Robert R. Stroup of Trout Unlimited in Leavenworth commented on fishing opportunities in the Entiat and gave positive comments on the Draft Upper Columbia Fish Management Plan presented by Bartlett and Tweit.

Bob Whitehall, landowner and member of the Entiat Watershed Planning Unit, commented that since 1994, their group has been continually gathering information needed to work with the other key agencies in pursuit of fishing opportunities in the area.

#### **Adjourn Meeting**

Lee Carlson adjourned the meeting at 3:10 PM.

#### **Summary of Motions**

*Mary Hunt made a motion to approve the UCSRB minutes from December 20, 2007. Char Beam (for Bud Hover) seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

*Mary Hunt made a motion to approve and forward the Short-Term Priority List with modifications to the state and federal agencies as a “draft” document. Bill Towey seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

*Regarding the Short-Term Priority List draft report, Mike Kaputa made a motion to concurrently circulate the document among representatives at WDFW, US Fish and Wildlife, and NMFS for one month to solicit feedback. Mary Hunt seconded the motion and the motion passed.*

BHC