

ICICLE STRATEGY
Icicle Work Group Meeting
Leavenworth Festhalle, 1001 Front Street
Wednesday, June 27, 2018
12:00-3:00 PM

Meeting Summary

Attendees

Jay Manning, Cascadia Law Group; Mary Jo Sanborn, Chelan County; Meghan O'Brien, Aspect Consulting; Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW; Mike Kaputa, Chelan County; David Rice, Anchor QEA; Sharon Lunz, ICWC; Steve Parker, Yakama Nation; Tyler Roberts, Ecology-OCR; Jeff Dengel, WDFW; Jim Brown, WDFW; Dave Irving, USFWS; William Gale, USFWS; Dan Church, Reclamation; Christi Davis-Kernan, Reclamation; Dawn Wiedmeier, Reclamation; Lisa Pelly, TU; Mike Williams, USFS Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest; Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting; Mike Cushman, Cascadia Conservation District; Joel Walinski, City of Leavenworth; Sharon Waters, City of Leavenworth; Michael Garrity, WDFW; Anthony Jantzer, IPID; Melissa Downes, Ecology-OCR; Emily Dick, WWT; Greg McLaughlin, WWT; Karl Forsgaard, ALPS/Sierra Club; Thom Peters, ALPS/N3C/Wilderness; Bruce Williams, Citizen; Chuck Brushwood, Confederated Tribes of Colville Reservation; Dick Rieman, ICWC; Keith Goehner, Chelan County; Gus Bekker, ALPS; Kitty Craig, The Wilderness Society; Daryl Harnden, IPID/Farmer; Jeff Rivera, USFS

Welcome, Review Agenda

The March 22, 2018 Meeting Summary was approved by the IWG.

Public Comment

Karl Forsgaard is reviewing the PEIS and will get comments submitted. He sees a lack of content on the role of the USFS, authority of the USFS and gaps on the Wilderness Act and NEPA. The PEIS fails to tackle the issue of relinquishment at Eightmile Lake and there is no alternative that addresses relinquishment and the potential to re-build the dam at the current level. The Co-Leads should consider re-doing the Draft PEIS before finalizing it.

Project Updates

Eightmile Lake

Tony gave an update on activities at Eightmile Lake focused on reducing the risk of dam failure resulting from conditions created by the Jack Creek fire last fall. The north side notch was removed and the spillway was widened to 68 ft. This could now sustain a flow of about 1,000 cfs without damage. A larger event could still create some damage to the infrastructure. The next phase goal is to reduce the height of the pool so the lake would be able to absorb a rain event of about 2 inches. The outlet pipe is blocked and needs to be unplugged. They have tried to unplug it twice and will try once more. If that does not work, a siphon will be installed to

lower the lake level 10 ft below the spillway. The excavator will stay until this phase is complete.

Sharon Lunz asked how long the pipe has been plugged? Tony said that in 2015 they first noticed the forms falling and the outlet flow was reduced.

Screens/Boulder Field

Jeff Dengel (WDFW) gave an update on the screen designs. WDFW screen shop is now at 50-60% design and the cost estimate is still within the previous estimates. They are trying to get both screens done within this biennium. Cost estimates are approximately \$500,000 for the City of Leavenworth (6 cfs) and \$1,000,000 for IPID (117 cfs) which includes bridge construction. Screen implementation timing is planned for the 2019 fish window for both.

Lisa Pelly (TU) said that Aaron continues to work on design, permits and funding for the Boulder Field project. Currently, they are a little short on funding. Lining up construction timeline with the WDFW schedule for summer 2019.

Steve Parker (YN) noted that opening passage could change management of fish runs, LNFH management, and change management priorities away from mitigation focused to wild. A condition of having tribal support is a need for fishery managers to state that the mitigation program is a priority. An MOA needs to be developed that spells out management priorities into the future. MOA parties would be YN, CCT and fish managers: USFWS, NMFS, WDFW. Jim Brown, Steve Parker and Dale Bambrick have been discussing options for moving this forward. Reclamation noted that they will want to review the MOA but will not be a party to it.

Tony noted that IPID will want some kind of agreement/MOA for flows through the Boulder Field. The adjudication from the 1920s did not have fish flows identified to have water flow through the boulder field. There are some options that could work like relying on 800 AF from Eightmile Lake or pulling water from snow creek at certain times when needed. IPID may require some kind of MOU with Ecology and fish managers.

COIC

Greg gave an update on COIC that they have completed 30% design and submitted an application this week with an IEGP proposal. They had been anticipating about \$200,000 in design funds from another source but that funder is delaying their funding cycle a year. Currently \$320,000 is needed to finish design. Current timeline is to have 100% design completed in December 2018, bids in spring 2019. Development of agreements is going well. The COIC shareholder advisory group is very involved and providing input on design.

LNFH

Dan Church gave an update on projects at the LNFH. They are contracting with McMillen through the IDIQ contract for design of the circular tanks. Steve Parker noted that the timeline for completion of 2013 (BiOP deadline) is tight, what would happen if projects are not completed in time and there is a lapse in ESA coverage? Dan noted that Reclamation currently has funding in place and that this is a very high priority project. They cannot say with 100% certainty until each year's budget is passed. The Snow Lake valve project will be contracted this August for construction in fall 2019. There was discussion about whether construction could

take place in spring 2019. Reclamation said that the NEPA process focused on fall construction and that the environmental constraints in spring were not included. The fall work window had lower impacts.

Tony reminded the group that IPID can pull 38 cfs from snow lakes. During the 2015 drought, IPID pro-rated their farmers' water instead of pulling from snow lakes which would have resulted in the hatchery shutting down.

Dryden Pump Station (IPID)

Mike Kaputa gave an update on this project that the consultant, County and IPID are working with the landowners on piping alignments.

Drinking Water Outreach

Mike Cushman with Cascadia Conservation District updated the work group of their efforts to conduct outreach on water quality in the Icicle watershed. They have funding through the Dept. of Health/USFS Drinking Water program. They are using pamphlets and talking to visitors at trailheads and campgrounds.

U.S. Supreme Court Culvert Case

Jay Manning gave an overview of this case. District Court issued an injunction in 2013 to replace or upgrade state culverts by 2030 that block salmon. Recently, a Supreme Court ruling upholds the lower court decision. This will have a big impact on the state budget. A big question is what local governments and federal agencies will do. Some counties on the west side are establishing fish passage programs.

OCR Budget and Funding Coordination Update

Melissa reviewed current contracts under the 2017-19 biennial budget. The funding for the Icicle Strategy will be phased and amended into the contracts as needed. Dan reviewed some upcoming funding needs that the IWG discussed.

The IWG approved the following funding allocations:

- 1. Placeholder for screens up to \$500,000 (to be used at 25% match to the Committees funding contributions).*
- 2. \$36,000 for radio communication evaluation at the Alpine Lakes*
- 3. \$75,000 towards COIC design*

A question was asked about the potential of installing a SNOTEL site in the Icicle. This had been discussed a couple of years ago by USFWS staff (Robes Parish). Bill Gale will check with Robes on status/interest.

2019-2021 State Biennial Budget – Melissa said that OCR is requesting \$40 million with a placeholder of \$3-5 million towards Icicle. A \$42 million request for the Yakima Integrated Plan is a separate budget. Budgets are due to OFM in September.

WA D.C. Trip Update

The following IWG members traveled to D.C. in early June: Keith Goehner (Chelan County), Tom Tebb (Ecology-OCR), Leland Bill (Yakama Nation), Roger Dick Jr (Yakama Nation) and

Mike Kaputa (Chelan County). The group met with Senator Murray's staff, Senator Cantwell, Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman and staff, USFWS leadership, Congressman Reichert and Congressman Newhouse. The themes for discussion were an introduction to the Icicle Strategy and its goals and specifically what is needed at the LNFH expressing support for funding to get that completed. Keith noted that they had meaningful discussions and that everyone they met with was very engaged. He felt they had a good group for this trip. Questions focused on whether this effort was similar to the Yakima Plan. Discussion also focused on the USFWS and Reclamation partnership, the BiOP schedule and potential for funding partnerships. Steve P noted that it is helpful to have a Tribal Council member focused and engaged on this topic and that for YN, it was very important that the discussions in D.C. focused on the federal government's responsibilities at the LNFH. Tom also indicated that it was a good/productive trip. Moving forward, it would be helpful to have consistent lobbying – relying on the YN lobbyist and County lobbyist to help.

Draft PEIS

Dan reviewed how the public hearing will be set up for later this afternoon and evening and the different stations and staffing needs at each. For IWG members answering questions, it's important to direct people to make formal public comments and that informal discussions during the hearing will not count. Ways to comment: 1) talk to the court reporter during the public hearing, 2) email to the public comment address, 3) mail comments to the County, 4) use a comment card at the public hearing and drop it at the intro station by the door.

Next steps: Once the comment period is closed (July 30th), the comments will be compiled and grouped and put into a comment responsiveness summary. This will be brought to the IWG to review. Next steps are to work towards a preferred alternative, however we don't know how long that will take. IWG members should be thinking about your organization's goals and the IWG will start discussing this in context of a preferred alternative in September. Eventually, the Co-Leads will finalize the PEIS with a preferred alternative, which will be informed by public comment and the IWG. If IWG members need information from the Co-Leads to make formal comments, please let Mary Jo, Mike or Melissa know.

Bellevue Workshop: An informational meeting was held on Monday (June 25th) at the Bellevue Ecology office for the Seattle area conservation community. Mike and Tom attended along with a few other IWG members. The presentation was mostly what will be presented at the public hearing tonight and helped orient people to the structure of the PEIS, the different alternatives, how to comment, etc.

Next Steps – Upcoming Icicle Meeting Needs

- The July 26th Steering Committee Meeting will be a conference call at 2:00 PM
- The August meetings are cancelled.
- September 13th had been set aside several months ago for a potential Steering Committee meeting to prep for the Sept. 27th IWG meeting. Requests were made to send a Doodle Poll for a mid-Sept Steering Committee, including the 13th as an option.

- September 27th Iccicle Work Group Meeting – begin discussions of selecting a preferred alternative.

Public Comment

Karl Forsgaard: referring back to the discussion of the Snow Lake valve project and a question as to why NEPA is needed. This project is not maintenance, it is a 60% increase in discharge rate.

In general, the proposals that get the most attention are the things that are expansions. In regards to the Bellevue meeting – it was useful and productive. Most of the people who attended had not read the Draft PEIS so it was a good overview. He still does not understand why it couldn't have been set up exactly like the Public Hearing.

Adjourn 3:00 PM