

ICICLE STRATEGY
Icicle Work Group Meeting
Confluence Technology Center, Wenatchee
Thursday, February 14th, 2019

Meeting Summary

Attendees

Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting; Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW; Jim Brown, WDFW; Sarah Walker, UCSRB; Herb Amick, City of Leavenworth; Dick Rieman, ICWC; Sharon Lunz, ICWC; Bruce Williams, ICWC; Lisa Pelly, TU; Carlo Aguon, LNFH; Erick Walker, USFS; Mike Kaputa, CCNRD; Bob Bugert, Chelan County Commission; David Rice, Anchor QEA; Anthony Jantzer, IPID; Mel Weythman, IID/Grower; Greg McLaughlin, WWT; Cory Kamphaus, Yakama Nation; Tony Buhr, Wenatchee World; Mary Jo Sanborn, CCNRD; Tyler Mackay, Congresswoman Schrier's Office; Gus Bekker, ALPS

On the Phone: Melissa Downes, Ecology-OCR; Chuck Brushwood, CCT; Chris Reitz, Attorney General Office; Christi Davis-Kernan, Reclamation; Rick Evans, Senator Cantwell's Office; Kitty Craig, The Wilderness Society; Dave Irving, USFWS; Jeff Dengel, WDFW; Karl Forsgaard, ALPS; Dawn Wiedmeier, Reclamation; Raquel Crowley, Senator Murray's Office

Welcome, Review Agenda - *The IWG approved the November 29th, 2018 Meeting Summary*

Public Comment – none

Eightmile Lake Project Update (Tony Jantzer, IPID and Dave Rice, Anchor QEA)

Tony gave an overview of the emergency work done at Eightmile Lake last year. The current condition cannot stay as is. Photos showed historic water surface levels and current water levels due to damage and conditions after emergency work. The headgate at Eightmile Lake is submerged so in order to open and close the gate, someone must scuba dive to access the gate and make adjustments. Tony and Dave presented the draft 30% designs. Changes in the design were made to have as little impact as possible and minimize the impacted area. Copies of 30% designs have been sent to USFS, Kitty Craig, and Karl Forsgaard. Anyone is welcome to review; Tony is open to input. Washington State Department of Ecology's Dam Safety Office has very strict guidelines requiring this dam to protect against a 1 in a million year event. They considered use of a bladder dam, but decided against that due to how susceptible that material would be in the event of fire and vandalism. Current design would result in having a stainless steel gate that would be left down all winter and would be raised when spring runoff begins to fill the lake. The lake level would be at its historic level for approximately 2 months a year, then lowered. The gate mechanics, opener, etc would be below the wall/buried and not visible. The actual structure would be located so it would be a smaller footprint.

Question: Sharon asked if the plan is to lower the lake level below what currently happens?

Tony responded that there is a leak in the lake that has been used for releases. The original plan (1930s) was to raise the dam 10 more feet. IPID can pump the lake down now and intended to do so in 2015 but was unable to get access to the appropriately sized helicopter due to fires. The proof of appropriation document states the intent is to do this only during extreme drought.

Question: Gus asked if anything will need to be fixed this spring?

Tony responded that he thinks it is as safe as it can be. If the re-build takes longer then they may need to do more work based on Dam Safety requirements.

Question: Mike asked if they know what the pre-dam lake level was?

Tony responded that they think it was 4671, based on water lines and the proof of appropriation, which is the same as the historic and designed new spillway height.

Question: Carmen asked for an explanation of the secondary structure?

Tony responded that to meet Dam Safety requirements, they need more freeboard for the larger flood potential they need to protect against. All areas that could be over-topped need to be hardened. This draft design has gabion baskets that would be covered and not visible.

A question was asked about automation and power for the gate?

Tony responded that the gate will be solar powered and that the plan is to add automation at the same time as re-construction of the dam.

COIC Update (Greg McLaughlin, WWT and Dave Rice, Anchor QEA)

Preliminary designs are nearly complete with detailed design getting started. Greg noted the valuable assistance, review and input from the COIC Shareholder Advisory Group throughout this entire process. The plan is to have three phases of design/construction consisting of:

Lateral Improvement – anticipate construction summer 2019. New pipes will be installed alongside existing infrastructure to avoid existing landscaping and other infrastructure.

Main Pipeline – anticipate construction Fall 2020 to Spring 2021. Construction must occur outside the irrigation season since the pipe will go in the existing canal.

Intake and Pumping Facilities – anticipate construction Summer 2020 to Spring 2021. A settling station will filter out sediment.

Greg and Dave gave a presentation showing key component of the system and conceptual design of the intake facilities. Permitting in underway, detailed design of the lateral improvements is underway, coordination with COIC shareholders and property owner is underway, and detailed design of the mainline, intake and pump station will begin soon.

Discussions are taking place with Reclamation to determine how to eliminate the 1930s agreement for the shared diversion. This project will allow the new LNFH screen to be designed smaller.

Kitty asked about the water rights process?

Greg responded they are preparing an application for a new Point of Diversion (POD). Once the ROE (Report of Examination) is in place, they will work with Ecology on timeline. WWT and COIC are working with landowners at the pump station location, which may impact how the water right change application is put together.

Dick asked where the water is coming from? It flows passed the LNFH, correct?

Greg responded that COIC has the 1st adjudicated water right in the basin, so the first water goes to them.

LNFH Updates (Christi Davis-Kernan, Reclamation)

Intake/Screen: the design team visited the site in December, now getting cost and timeline estimates together. That is expected next week. NEPA will be an EIS.

Snow Lake Valve: on track for construction Fall 2019.

Circular Tanks: Expect to complete design for Phase 1 (pilot) by the end of 2019. NEPA – categorical exclusion for phase 1 tanks. The full build out of circular tanks will be included in the screen EIS.

Mike asked when would be the first year that we would see instream flow benefit from the tanks?

Christi responded that phase 1/pilot tanks will be up and running in late 2020 or early 2021. Dawn noted that the pilot will include 4 tanks. How these tanks perform will inform the full build out of 18 tanks. Once that is completed, the full instream flow benefit will be seen.

Dick asked how much instream flow benefit will occur from the pilot?

Dave stated the goal of full build out (18 tanks) is 20 cfs. They need to complete the pilot (4 tanks) to evaluate what can be achieved.

Dawn said that all indications from other circular tank examples are that we will see at least 50% savings at full build out.

Icicle Work Group Topics

Letters of Support status: WDFW and IPID have submitted letters; Yakama Nation's letter submitted during the Draft PEIS comment period stated support for Alternative 1, the City of Leavenworth is scheduled to discuss a resolution on February 26th.

Sharon stated that ICWC has concerns with Alternative 1. She gave background on the ICWC: they have been working since the 1990s on the health of Icicle Creek. They completed restoration work in the historic channel by removing relic LNFH structures. Their new concern is that the final EIS was released without consensus of the IWG. *The ICWC requests the dispute resolution process as described in the operating procedures.*

The ICWC Dispute is based on the following:

- Climate Change and Conservation were added on at the end and not considered at the beginning of the process.
- There is not a robust look at how to use less water.
- The IPID Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan was finished after the draft PEIS.
- The preferred alternative relies too heavily on wilderness water. ICWC have questions on the legality of the use of that water.
- Climate change is not adequately addressed

Tony noted that the PEIS has a placeholder for IPID to save 10 cfs. IPID is already obligated to save water and they have already implemented piping projects.

Dick noted that no harm should occur to anything in the wilderness.

Tony said that IPID has been using the lakes for 90 years. They rely on them.

Mike suggested that we don't get into too much detail now. Let's move forward with the dispute resolution process which will give us a chance to clarify and respond to all issues.

Lisa Pelly noted that TU is struggling too. She will let people know if she wants to join the dispute process.

Melissa noted that the Co-Leads talked with every Icicle Work Group member before issuing the final PEIS so this was not a surprise. And, that there was consensus to move the base package (Alternative 1) into the environmental review phase in 2016.

The Co-Leads, WDFW (Jim) and ICWC will follow up with the dispute resolution process, which has a 30 day timeline, and will report back to the Steering Committee in March and ultimately the IWG at its next meeting.

The group discussed the possibility of making changes to the operating procedures. If anyone has comments on the operating procedures, they should send them to the Co-Leads and Jim Brown.

Boulder Field Update (Lisa Pelly, TU)

TU is still planning on 2019 construction and are continuing to work on permits.

Screens (Jeff Dengel, WDFW)

There were delays due to the federal shutdown with respect to USFS coordination. Current designs will be presented to the Steering Committee in March. Currently working with the City. The cost for the City screen is coming in higher and we need to identify a source of additional funds. They are hoping to have the bridge design completed and bids in June. WDFW and Leavenworth are discussing costs and potential mobilization savings, etc. More information should be known by the March Steering Committee meeting.

Annual Operating Plan/MOU

Jim noted that they have a draft document that they need to get Dale's review on. They also experienced delays due to the shutdown. Chuck said that he has reviewed the draft and provided input. All parties seem encouraged and stated they will know more after Dale's review. Dan reminded the group working on this that there are funds available to assist with the development of a Tribal Adaptive Management Plan. Perhaps this will be a next step once this operating plan is in place.

Leavenworth Advanced Metering Project (Herb Amick, City of Leavenworth)

Herb gave an overview of the City's current infrastructure that consists of mechanical meters that are not accurate and cannot be used in winter. This project would replace these with advanced meters that can be read remotely, are very accurate and can detect leaks quickly. The City has a high leak rate that they want to improve with this project. Project cost estimates are \$917,444, the City has committed 50% and they are looking to secure the other 50%.

Dan reminded the group that municipal conservation is in the preferred alternative with a goal of extending the domestic use.

The City is in need of approximately \$500,000 that could come from the 2019-2021 OCR budget.

Sharon asked if pricing will be based on use?

Herb said that the current allotment is 7,500 gallons and that the City Council is considering a new structure. The City's water service area extends beyond city limits.

Herb stated that this project is ready for implementation now.

A question was asked if it could be phased? Herb had not considered that but they could look at that based on funding availability.

Several IWG members noted support for this project and that they appreciate the City's willingness to put forth 50% of the cost up front.

Melissa noted that the Governor's budget which was out in December, included \$34 Million for OCR. OCR had requested \$40 Million overall with \$4 Million for Icicle. OCR staff are working on budget details with Office of Financial Management. For now, we are looking at a potential

of \$3.5 Million for the Icicle in the 2019-2021 budget. The Legislature has not discussed the capital budget yet, that will be in March and April.

The IWG discussed that this project does line up with the preferred alternative and it is specifically in the PEIS, and there is support to move forward with this. The Steering Committee will discuss funding priorities for the 2019-2021 biennium once the budget is more clear. OCR will be asking for more detail around May or June.

A suggestion was made for the City to also apply for Reclamation's WaterSMART program that is open right now.

Projects Review (Dan Haller, others)

Moving forward, we'd like to structure at least a brief check in on status of all the projects in the preferred alternative. A list is on the back of the agenda. Eventually, this will turn into a more detailed project timeline/gantt chart.

- **Alpine Lakes Optimization, Modernization, and Automation:** the next step is more detailed design work based on the temperature data being collected and the feasibility study. Work towards 30% design, coordination with the USFS through this biennium.
- **IPID Efficiencies:** the PEIS identified a 10 cfs goal of savings. The next step is to look at the project list in the IPID Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan and develop an implementation strategy around that. Tony noted that the highest priority project, 2,000 ft piping project has recently been completed. They are working on other sections. Other big IPID projects like the screen and Eightmile Lake impact the district's capacity. The East Leavenworth Rd area is a high priority that they would like to complete by 2021, maybe sooner.
- **COIC:** already updated
- **Domestic Conservation Efficiencies:** we just heard an update on the City of Leavenworth's metering project. The conservation committee should re-convene this spring to start discussing other projects like the lawn buy-back program. Dick asked how much water could be saved by this program? Dan stated that the estimate is about ½ cfs. This would be the first program like this in Eastern Washington.
- **Eightmile Lake:** already updated
- **Tribal Fisheries:** already updated
- **Habitat Protection and Enhancement:** one project is currently identified, the Icicle Confluence project. Design will begin on this soon. Chelan County will be receiving grant funds later this year from Ecology's Centennial Clean Water Program to develop a second project on lower Icicle.

- Instream Flow Rule Amendment: The rule states that once flow improvement is made, the reserve can increase from 0.1 cfs to 0.5 cfs.
- LNFH Conservation and Water Quality Improvements: already updated
- Fish Passage: Boulder Field Project already updated. The IWG could discuss in the future if there are other passage barriers to address.
- Fish Screens: already discussed
- Water Markets: this project helps address interruptible water users. Currently, no funding is dedicated to this project. The IWG should think about how this gets done in the future.
- Dryden Pump Station: this project has a hollow circle indicating it is moving forward independent for Peshastin Creek benefit but could include Icicle benefits. There have been some property owner challenges that IPID, County and Anchor QEA are working through.

Funding Coordination

Melissa gave an update on the state budget earlier. OCR will need details from the Icicle Work Group on the 2019-2021 budget around May-June. MaryJo noted that the Reclamation WaterSMART program has a few grant opportunities open right now. The City of Leavenworth will look into that for meters. No other funding needs or opportunities were noted.

Outreach

Work over the next several months will focus on updating project summary handouts, and other handouts related to the preferred alternative. Coordination and support will be given for any meetings. The IWG is interested in learning more about examples of water management tools being used in the state in order to work towards an Icicle Adaptive Management Tool to track water and realize flow benefits. The IWG would like a presentation and discussion at a future meeting to learn from the Osoyoos example (contact Tom Kahler at Douglas PUD) and the Reclamation work in the Yakima (contact Chris Lynch).

Mike noted that a meeting with Representative Schrier is being scheduled for late February to give her an overview of the Icicle (this meeting was cancelled and has not been re-scheduled yet).

There have been preliminary discussions about having another WestSide meeting in the coming months. This can be discussed further at the Steering Committee.

The next IWG Meeting is scheduled for May 9th and will NOT be at the CTC. Stay tuned for a location.

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