

ICICLE STRATEGY

Icicle Work Group Meeting and Field Trip

Leavenworth Fire Hall, 228 Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth

Thursday, June 13, 10:00am to 3:00pm

A G E N D A

10:00 – 10:10am	Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review, Decisions Requested Today, Updated IWG and Steering Committee Rosters
10:10 – 11:00am	Alpine Lakes Automation and 2024 Lake Management <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initial coordination on 2024 lake and instream flow management• Klon aqua, Square, and Colchuck Lakes – status of IPID assessments• Automation instrumentation update• Planned outreach activities related to upper alpine lakes
11:00 – 11:20am	Short Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• COIC project• Eightmile Lake Dam Rebuild EIS• Domestic Water Supply Subgroup• Tribal Fishery Improvements• Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program September field trip to Icicle/COIC project area (Greg)
11:20 – 11:30am	Public Comment
11:30 – 11:55am	Roundtable Member Check-In
11:55am - Noon	Field Trip Orientation and Instructions
Noon – 12:30pm	Lunch (Provided)
12:30 – 3:00pm	Field Trip <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Icicle River Middle School Demonstration Garden• COIC pump station site• Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Surface Water Intake Fish Screens and Fish Passage (SWISP)• IPID Fish Screen
3:00PM	Adjourn <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Upcoming meeting dates<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Steering Committee meeting – July 11, 2024, Confluence Technology Center○ IWG – August 8, 2024, Confluence Technology Center

MEETING SUMMARY - ICICLE STRATEGY
Icicle Work Group Meeting and Field Trip
Leavenworth Fire Hall, 228 Chumstick Hwy, Leavenworth
Thursday, June 13, 10:00am to 4:00pm

Members/Alternates Present: Shon Smith, Chelan County Commissioner; Nate White, WDFW; Carl Florea, City of Leavenworth; Cory Kamphaus, YN; David Blodgett, YN (online); Mike Kaputa, Chelan County; Levi Jantzer, IPID; Erica Taecker, USFS; Mat Maxey, USFWS; Bill Gale, USFWS; Jason Breidert, CTCR; Greg McLaughlin, WWT; Tom Tebb, ECY-OCR; Nicole Ahlem, BOR; Brock Hoenes, WDFW; Shaun Seaman, ICWC

Guests Present: David Ortman (online)

Staff/Consultants Present: Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting; Kelsey Mach, Aspect Consulting (online); Mary Jo Sanborn, Chelan County; Abby Hendrickson, Chelan County; Peter Dykstra, Facilitator; Cynthia Carlstad, Facilitator; Ingrid Ekstrom, ECY-OCR; Dave Rice, Anchor QEA; Micah Galeana, Aspect Consulting

Administrative Items

Cynthia is updating the IWG and Steering Committee rosters. Reminder that updates to the Work Group and Steering Committee rosters can be made at any time via email. Any current updates should be sent to Cynthia.

Alpine Lakes Automation and 2024 Lake Management

Levi Jantzer, Dave Rice, and Dan Haller gave a presentation on IPID's management activities for Klonaqua, Square, and Colchuck Lakes (see PowerPoint slides from meeting).

2024 Lake and Instream Flow Management

Dan reviewed a chart showing Icicle Creek flows and lake releases in 2023, noting that while 2023 was a drought year, well-timed lake releases resulted in flows staying above the 60 cfs drought target until mid-September. 2024 is another drought year; we don't know how bad yet.

Levi described his observations from a flight reconnaissance last week. He reported that Snow Lake is still frozen, Klonaqua is partially frozen, Colchuck & Eightmile are sparsely covered in snow. All four lakes are full.

Normal operations for IPID would be to open Eightmile Lake first, but it is still inoperable. The District will start instead with Colchuck, a small amount, then open Snow and Klonaqua as they are harder to access. Start time will be dependent on flows.

Maxey reported that for the LNFH, they will monitor flows and hike in to check conditions. Generally, once they open, there are 1-2 adjustments made throughout the season.

IPID could call on 750 ac-ft from Snow if needed, additional drought years could be challenging.

Alpine Lakes Dam Safety Compliance

Dave Rice walked through the timeline of dam safety compliance inspections, communications, and assessment work. Ecology's Dam Safety Office completed inspections on Colchuck, Square, and Klonaqua Lakes in 2018, and dialogue and assessment work has been ongoing since then.

Dave described the outlet structures at each lake and the issues that will need corrective actions. All lakes are being designed for gate replacement to facilitate automation. The intent is for these repairs to work long-term and not need repairs in 10 years. The goal is for the lake management group to be able to optimize lake releases through telemetry and automation.

Dan described the potential approaches for monitoring lake and flow levels at each lake, including renderings of what equipment might look like at each lake in terms of visual impact. He provided a potential schedule and sequencing concept.

Planned Outreach Activities Related to Upper Alpine Lakes

Outreach to groups known to have interest in the alpine lakes is planned for this fall. Peter is convening an initial meeting with the stakeholders that engaged on the Eightmile Dam rebuild prior to the EIS. In addition, Abby is beginning to plan for a community meeting in Seattle covering broader Icicle Strategy work, but with greater focus on the alpine lakes.

Questions / Answers / Discussion

1. Will automation for Snow Lakes be tied in with the other lakes or will it be a separate system? The goal is for all the lakes to be tied together. Day Wireless (equipment contractor) is aware that there is another phase concerning Snow Lakes.
2. Do we have a cost estimate? Yes, although it is somewhat dated.

Short Updates

COIC

- Construction has started.

Eightmile Lake Dam Rebuild EIS

- Will be coming out the week of the 17th, Ecology putting the final touches in preparation for the press release.

Domestic Water Supply Subgroup

- Group is meeting on the 17th to discuss technical components, planning on coming back to the Work Group in September with recommendations.

Tribal Fishery Improvements

- Bathroom bid is going out end of June, hopefully will go in by the end of Fall.
- Structure 5 gates are in.
- NSD is working on conceptual designs for the historical channel.
- Pit tag array has been awarded, will be installed in the historical channel this summer.
- Boulder Field pit tag array will go in later in the summer; waiting on agreement to be finalized
- Trail improvements are waiting on the bathroom to be finalized, will be addressed after installation.

Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Field-Trip to Icicle/COIC (September)-

- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) will be having their annual QLE meeting in Wenatchee, Greg (WWT) would like to keep conversations open about what elements of the Icicle the group would like discussed.

Public Comment

David Ortman provided a correction to the Feb 8 meeting summary. He also requested that presentations be posted with meeting summaries on the Icicle Strategy website, and that previous meeting summaries be posted before the next IWG meeting. He is interested to know if other lakes besides Klonqua have seepage and how the work described at the alpine lakes will be funded.

Roundtable Member Check-In

Cynthia asked that member to do a roundtable check-in to let other members know how they are thinking and feeling about the Icicle Strategy collaboration. The group has accomplished a lot this year and some of that has been challenging but they have supported each other to get projects done. Peter and Cynthia believe it's important for members to feel able to have direct and candid conversations with each other, and today is a good day to check in since we don't have any decisions on the table.

Cynthia referenced four question prompts; members can choose to address any or all of these or say whatever else is on their mind around this topic.

1. How is this collaboration going for you and your organization?
2. What you've particularly appreciated from your fellow members.
3. What you would like to see more of from your fellow members.

Bill Gale - We have accomplished a lot and it's worth celebrating these milestones. For the hatchery, the intake was a huge milestone for USFWS and Reclamation. Having this group assist in the collaborative framework has been really helpful. We're closer to meeting instream flow goals than I would have expected previously.

Matt Maxey - USFWS gets approached by others asking about what's going on, etc. It's been helpful to direct others to IWG for information and examples of positive collaboration around conservation. Communication between us is really helpful.

Brock Hoenes- Has seen a lot of success. Having legislative support is really important. Sees commitment from all members - participating in regular meetings, high level of respect has been great. Important to acknowledge compromise. Would like to see commitment to process, and avoid situations where decisions need to be made quickly.

David Blodgett - Appreciates commitment from members of the group. With different values, it can be difficult at times. Reiterates the YN needs to feel we are at the same starting line - which is meeting instream flows every year. Fish and Tribes need permanent instream flows as the starting line and where to move from for other needs. Encourage communication, especially on complicated projects.

Cory Kamphaus- Collaboration by nature works best if everyone can get something out of it. We need to continue to be willing to have the hard conversations, figure out where everyone's starting line is, and make hard compromises.

Carl Florea- Ecology settlement has been significant for the City. The City is placing its trust in the IWG to help the City meet its domestic water needs.

Shon Smith - Coming from private sector this has been interesting and the slow pace of progress can be frustrating. Appreciate the relationships and how those help in other areas. Encouraged by completed projects, shows a lot of commitment and hard work.

Greg McLaughlin- This group is tackling difficult issues and there is a diverse set of values in this group, very appreciative that there is support and funding to be here doing the work.

Mike Kaputa- From the first meetings it was unclear if we would be able to create something from this group, there was a tremendous amount of suspicion and uncertainty. Things move slowly and it's hard, but the group keeps showing up and it's been incredible to see how everyone continues to commit to the group. Would like to emphasize the support that OCR offers. They work hard to create the base funding to do the work we do.

Levi Jantzer- The irrigation district would like to see more honesty in the group. Concerning the EIS, the irrigation district had the impression that the group was in support of the project, but the comments in the EIS give a different impression. The district would like to know these concerns and have open dialogue prior to publications such as the EIS and/or members submitting critical comments so they can have a better understanding of the support and concerns as they stand.

Shaun Seaman- The group makes a big effort to anchor to the guiding principles which is vital for success and the facilitators are a key component in this group.

Mary Jo Sanborn- The support from OCR is integral to the collaborative effort. Our support team and our consultants are crucial.

Tom Tebb- The original meetings in the beginning were litigation grid-lock. Nothing that's worthwhile is easy, if we aren't addressing these water resource/salmon/human issues now, there is no way we could prepare for the future or address the issues of climate change. We have done a lot, and we've got a lot more to do.

Nate White- From a statewide perspective concerning water policy projects, these groups are rare and when they are backed by the state and have all stakeholders at the table, it is incredibly useful. It is important to spend time to understand the technical side of these complex water science, policy, and management issues. Understanding the technical piece of these issues helps us make informed decisions and ensures that any legacy decisions we make take into account the best available science that is known at the time.

Erica Taecker- Having worked with a lot of groups, I see this group as extremely high functioning. There is a legacy of knowledge here and the infusion of science and updates as we go which is super important. The forest service can be a cornerstone because the group is well set up for it to be so.

Jason Breidert- It's great to see the collaboration. We are on a good trajectory; projects are going in and if we can maintain that momentum then we can get where we need to go.

Ingrid Ekstrom- I've appreciated learning about this area from people who have a lot of history in this space, especially with a lot of clear and open discussion.

Nicole Ahlem- BOR is grateful to be a part of the table. We appreciate that the work group opens the door for additional funding for the BOR projects that help fish. And appreciate having that opportunity. Knowing that there are projects coming down the pike, it's nice to know that this group is here to support and brainstorm what options there are for these projects. The fact that this group is committed to monthly meetings is very powerful.

Field Trip

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- COIC pump station site
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Upcoming Meeting Dates

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