

## **Icicle Creek Work Group – Meeting Summary Friday, May 16, 2014**

### **Attendees**

Paul LaRiviere, WDFW; Dale Bambrick, NMFS; Steve Parker, Yakama Nation; John Bangsand, City of Leavenworth; Joel Walinski, City of Leavenworth; Kate Terrell, USFWS; Dave Irving, USFWS; Jay Manning, Cascadia Law Group; Dick Rieman, Icicle Creek Watershed Council; Rachel Osborn, CELP; Dawn Wiedmeier, Reclamation; Dan Haller, Aspect Consulting; Mary Jo Sanborn, CCNRD; Tim Flynn, Aspect Consulting; Anthony Jantzer, IPID; Tom Tebb, WDOE; Jeff Rivera, US Forest Service; Lisa Pelly, TU; Bob Barwin, WDOE; Charity Davidson, WDFW; Jim Brown, WDFW; Mike Kaputa, CCNRD; Gus Bekker, ALPS; Melody Kreimes, UCSRB; Lisa Dally Wilson, Dally Environmental

### **Introductions/Welcome**

Tom Tebb provided an overview of the May Steering Committee meeting. Lisa Dally Wilson distributed an evaluation form to the group and requested that Icicle Work Group (IWG) members provide an evaluation of the IWG process. The form was also emailed to members. Lisa noted that the group has not been formerly approving meeting minutes. They are emailed out to the group asking for edits. If we do not receive any edits, we assume they are fine.

### **Instream Flow Committee Report**

Paul LaRiviere presented an overview of the work of the Instream Flow Subcommittee including their process for reviewing IFIM reports and data. He presented the recommendations from the subcommittee, as fisheries biologists. The power point presentation will be emailed and will be posted to the Icicle Work Group website. Several concerns were raised:

- Final Instream flow recommendations should not conflict with regulatory processes (eg., Biological Opinion (Dale), 401 Certification (Tom)).
- Groundwater Recharge: Hatchery reliance on recharge – a recharge study is necessary as part of the considerations for evaluating an instream flow recommendation. Dave Irving is open to other solutions to obtain groundwater.
- Structures 2 and 5 - A question was posed as to whether modification of the gates is on the table. Dave Irving suggested a subcommittee to look into how to manage the structures.
- Historic/Hatchery Channel – Need to get clear on the criteria and goals for management of the Historic and Hatchery Channels (eg., optimum for fish, optimum for channel forming, for low flow habitat, is modification of structures 2 and 5 part of the equation, how is groundwater recharge factored in, look at velocity through structure 2, winter low flows, etc).
- There was a request for more information on what fish are in the stream, where and when. This would be a good presentation for a future IWG meeting.

**Next Steps:** It was suggested that the recommendations from the biologists be integrated with policy and economic considerations. The IWG decided to move forward in a two part process:

1. **Icicle Creek Reaches 1-3:** Instream Flow Subcommittee biologists to meet with the Steering Committee to address flow deficits, projects and cost benefit analysis and economic tradeoffs

for each reach. This is intended to result in a flow recommendation for reaches 1, 2 and 3 that address biological, policy, and economic considerations.

2. Icicle Creek Reaches 4 and 5: Instream Flow Subcommittee biologists to meet with the Steering Committee to address management objectives for Reaches 4 and 5 of Icicle Creek. As part of this work the group will identify criteria and goals for managing flows in these reaches (eg., fisheries habitat, channel forming flows, other). The group will also consider cost and benefits, groundwater recharge alternatives and the roles of structures 2 and 5 (in each season).

**Action Item:** – Doodle poll to schedule meeting of Steering Committee and ISF Subcommittee during the first or second week of June.

## **Project Updates**

### Status of Eight Mile Lake Feasibility Study (Tony Jantzer)

Tony relayed that IPID performed a legal analysis and has decided to move forward with the Eight Mile Lake Feasibility Study despite legal concerns. He informed the IWG that there had been a Public Records Request by Earth Justice to the County and IPID on behalf of ALPS. Notice to Proceed was given. Next step is to coordinate fatal flaw evaluation building on Forsgren/Gravity work. Dan will work with Lisa Pelly to get structural information from their study to determine structural alternatives and provide an update to the IWG in three months. An appraisal study, funded by OCR, will now be completed by Aspect Consulting. Rachel stated that CELP has no objections to the 8 Mile Appraisal Study but she wants to be clear that they feel any expansion projects will be a problem.

### Alpine Lakes Optimization (Dan Haller)

The IWG provided approval to move forward with this project and to engage federal agencies in cooperation with the radio survey work. Next step is to coordinate with Tony Jantzer and Dave Irving on access/approach for this summer and to coordinate with USFS. The goal of this project is to identify a lake release scenario with automation for all of the lakes that is optimized (with the exception of drought years) and evaluates lake-refill and climate change. The two benefits of increased flow for late summer are for instream flow benefits and the City of Leavenworth.

**Action Item:** Consultant team will collect data and report back to the Steering Committee.

### IPID Pump Exchange (Rice)

This is the fatal flaw piece of the pump exchange project. It focuses on the O&M and property owner issues. The feasibility study (detailed engineering and geotechnical) portion of this project is on hold until the alternatives are reported on by Trout Unlimited. Update accepted. The consultant will report back to the Steering Committee.

### LNFH Effluent Pump Back (Rice)

Study to evaluate discharging hatchery process water, once clean, back into the hatchery channel. This water could potentially replace water that would have been diverted at Structure 2. Tom Tebb noted that this will also be dependent on Ecology approval through the 401 certification process and a water quality study. Update accepted. Need to cost out piping towards PW1 since current location may infiltrate before recharge goal is met. Consultant will provide an update to the Steering Committee.

### LNFH Groundwater Investigations (Flynn, Haller)

Overview of groundwater conditions and wells was provided to the IWG. Looking for supplemental water on the order of 3000 gpm. There was discussion on improvements and efficiencies to existing wells and potential location of new additional wells. A suggestion was made to consider if water is left in the historic channel what effect that would have on re-charge of wells. Need to consider all risks and benefits. Next steps include further investigations and analysis of source alternatives, develop the action plan. The IWG approved the recommendation to form a Groundwater Technical Committee to develop a work plan to address groundwater needs at the LNFH. Tim Flynn of Aspect Consulting will convene the group. Group to include Ron Dickson, OCR, Tom Ring, Yakama Nation, Mary Lindenburg (USFWS), Jennifer Johnson (Reclamation), and Dick Reiman. This group will develop the specific next actions that will occur (e.g. geophysical survey, seepage study).

**Action Item:** Tim Flynn to schedule and convene new Groundwater Technical Committee to develop a work plan and address groundwater needs at the LNFH.

### **Budget Review**

Current Biennial Budget: Chelan County and Ecology provided an overview of the current OCR budget reflecting February IWG decisions. Rachel requested that a conservation potential assessment be added as a project. Aspect will provide a scope of work for a small conservation opportunity report under the Technical Assistance (Task 4) for the Steering Committee to review. There was a discussion on looking for other sources of funding to match the OCR funds. A Reclamation Water Smart grant is open right now that could be used for facilitation and general support of the Work Group. The IWG recommended that Chelan County apply for the Water Smart grant on behalf of the IWG and explore other funding options as well. An interlocal agreement between Chelan County and IPID for project development support (25K per year to IPID) was approved by the IWG. This funding would assist IPID in their efforts to develop projects relevant to IWG interests.

**Action Item:** Chelan County should apply for Reclamation's Water Smart grant and explore other potential funding sources as well.

**Action Item:** Interlocal agreement between Chelan County and IPID for project development support (\$25K per year). The Steering Committee can provide input on the language in the agreement.

Short-term Budget Needs: Chelan County provided an overview of the biennial funding to date and where bridge funding is being requested within current 2013-15 Biennium.

**Action Item:** The IWG approved the OCR budget request for bridge funds.

Long-term Budget Needs: The State 2015-17 Budget Process and Icicle Request was discussed.

**Action Item:** The Steering Committee was authorized by the IWG to discuss and develop a draft working budget for the Icicle for the next biennium. The current estimate of 2.1 M was authorized.

Funding Coordination Needs: Steering Committee requested permission move forward in the coordination of funding opportunities among federal and other potential funding partners. The IWG authorized the Steering Committee to coordinate funding on behalf of the IWG, with federal and other potential funding partners and to bring recommendations back to the IWG, by project, for approval. It was discussed that all projects that move forward will ultimately need their own funding plan.

**Action Item:** The IWG authorized the Steering Committee to coordinate project specific funding on behalf of the IWG with federal partners and other potential funding partners.

**Process for Introducing New Projects to the IWG (Brown)**

Jim would like to see a formal process for introducing new projects to the IWG developed. It was suggested that a request first go to the Steering Committee for initial vetting, and if OK'd by the Steering Committee they would provide a recommendation to the IWG as part of the standing Steering Committee Update.

**Operating Procedures and Membership**

The IWG approved a revision to the conflict of interest portion of the Operating Procedures that included the addition of a definition of conflict of interest. The Operating Procedures are now considered FINAL.

**Action Item:** The IWG approved the Operating Procedures with the added conflict of resolution definition.

Chelan County and Ecology reported that a letter of invitation to join the IWG was provided to the City of Cashmere.

**Action Item:** The IWG approved similar letters of invitation to Mel Weythman and Daryl Harnden.

**Action Item:** The Next Steering Committee Meeting will occur during the first two weeks in June and will focus on Instream Flow recommendations. A second Steering Committee meeting will be convened prior to the August IWG meeting.

A comment was made that the website had not been updated. Chelan County provided updates to Ecology (manages the website) last month and will follow up to get things posted.

***The next IWG Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.***