

**Bear River ECC
Final Meeting Notes
July 25, 2012
Pocatello, ID**

ECC Members Present

Mark Stenberg, PacifiCorp
Lynn Van Every, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Cary Myler, US Fish and Wildlife Service
David Teuscher, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Andrea Santarsiere, Greater Yellowstone Coalition
Paul Burnett, Trout Unlimited, by phone

Others Present

Joselin Matkins, Sagebrush Steppe Regional Land Trust
Eve Davies, PacifiCorp, by phone

Commitments Made at the July 25, 2012 Meeting	
Stenberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtain sample grazing management plan, share with the ECC. After upcoming appraisals are complete, hold a call with ECC members to discuss. • Speak with Larry Mickleson about the Trout Creek project. • Finalize the MOA, route to the ECC • Request FERC approval of the updated Land Management Plan. • Invite Conder to the September ECC meeting to discuss Bear River water banking.
Stenberg, Teuscher, Myler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss habitat enhancement project funding with Sepulveda.
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss fish passage at Oneida in the fall.
Action items in blue have been carried over.	

Decisions Made at This Meeting

None

Email Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting

- Approve the June 2012 meeting notes (see Attachment 1: Record of Voting)

Project Updates

Trout Creek Habitat Enhancement Project Proposal

Stenberg said he spoke to Larry Mickelsen about the Trout Creek project after the last ECC funding subcommittee meeting. He said he asked Mickelsen for confirmation of which plan would be used for the project and for more details on project financing. The request to the ECC for this 2012 habitat enhancement project proposal was for 50 percent funding, or \$86,700. Mickelsen said the NRCS can

fund 50 percent on stream restoration projects. Mickelsen confirmed to Stenberg that the plan prepared by Sampson would be installed. Stenberg suggested that if there were concerns about the applicant's conformance to project plans, the ECC could ask to review project staked on the ground prior to construction. The ECC requested more clarification of the project budget as the Joint Permit Application indicates that the entire project budget is approximately \$90k. Stenberg will review the permit application and speak with Mickelsen again.

Cottonwood Fish Screens

Burnett reported that design work on the fish screens was progressing. He said he has not seen the design plan yet but should have a 60 percent plan by the next ECC meeting. Burnett said he has secured additional funding for the project and asked whether design funding from 2011 could be used for implementation instead. Stenberg said that would be a re-scope and the ECC would need to review and approve it as a new project. Stenberg asked whether project completion was expected this year. Burnett said it looked favorable.

Screen Tender

Teuscher reported that the screen tender's work was going well. He said there was one problem screen on the Cub that was costing money and continuing to break. He said that screen may need to be redesigned. The screen tender is putting together a more detailed list of needed repairs. Teuscher said he expects to have this list for ECC review in the fall, and that the ECC should expect more expenses as the screens age.

Gentile Valley Canal

Teuscher said pit tags were in and telemetry was occurring but has been problematic. The river has been higher than standard minimum flow, so the PIT tag array was not running all the time. He said preliminary indications are that the canal is not entraining a large percentage of stocked fish. He said half of the implanted tags were found in cormorant nests in a nearby colony, so birds are taking a lot of the fish. He said that in the fall, IDFG will make an effort to recover more tags and will get a total. Davies asked about correlation with boater flows. Teuscher said it was estimated that half of predation was noted within two weeks of boater flows, half later. Stenberg asked about size of fish being stocked and whether that was the bird's preferred size. Teuscher said yes.

No update was available for **Hansen fencing**. **Harris Spring repairs** are complete. **Ovid Creek** is being processed. **Kackley Dike** is complete. No update was available on the **Smith/Bear River** project, but the exclusion agreement for that project has been received. **Bear River Sediment Removal** – Sepulveda is here this week. Stenberg, Myler and Teuscher will have a discussion with him on how to distribute funding for this project. Stenberg reported that two 2011 projects are still in process: **Tingey** and **Fox**.

Proposed Changes to Idaho Fishing Rules regarding BCT Harvest in the Bear River Tributaries

Teuscher said he is proposing a change in the Idaho fishing rules to close harvest of Bonneville cutthroat trout in the Bear River tributaries. He said if anyone would like to comment on this proposal, they could do so on the IDFG web site (<https://fishandgame.idaho.gov/content/webform/proposed-fishing-rules-changes>). The comment period is open now, he said.

Next Meeting and Agenda

Next meeting will be September 19 in Pocatello.

Agenda items:

- Project reviews
- Specific terms and conditions in conservation easements, appraisals should be available.
- Report on talks with Gentile Canal
- Bear River water banking, review previous discussions – Claudia Conder

**Bear River ECC
Record of Email Voting
Approval of June Meeting Notes
Query by Hugentobler
July 9, 2012**

Date: Mon, 09 Jul 2012 15:42:40 -0600 [07/09/2012 03:42:40 PM MDT]
From: [Miriam Hugentobler <yazoo@xmission.com>](mailto:Miriam.Hugentobler@xmission.com)
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Bcc: [Miriam Hugentobler <yazoo@xmission.com>](mailto:Miriam.Hugentobler@xmission.com)
Subject: Bear River ECC - Request for Approval of June Meeting Notes
Part(s): [Download All Attachments \(in .zip file\)](#)
Headers: [Show All Headers](#)

ECC Members and Alternates,

At our June meeting, The ECC approved a request for staff funding for Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust in the amount of \$25,000. In order for the funding process to move forward, approval of the meeting notes is required.

Draft notes from the June meeting are attached. If you support approval of the notes, please let me know via email at your earliest convenience. If you have editorial changes to the notes, please send them directly to me. If you have substantive changes, please bring them to the July 25 ECC meeting for discussion.

Thank you!

Miriam Hugentobler
Bear River ECC
(801) 652-8983

Results of ECC Member Voting
Approve June 2012 Meeting Notes
Email Query by Hugentobler
July 9, 2012

Vote	Name	Organization
Yes	Lyman	USFS
Yes	Burnett	Trout Unlimited
Yes	Van Every	IDEQ
	Lewis	Idaho Rivers United
	Just	Idaho Parks and Rec
Yes	Teuscher	Idaho Fish and Game
Yes	Berglund	BLM
	Osborne	Sho-Bans
	Rosebrough	National Park Service
Yes	Vincent	American Whitewater
Yes	Hoyt	Greater Yellowstone
Yes	Stenberg	PacifiCorp
yes	Myler	USFWS