

**Bear River ECC
Final Meeting Notes
August 21, 2013
Grace, Idaho**

ECC Members Present

Mark Stenberg, PacifiCorp
 Dave Teuscher, Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 Marv Hoyt, Greater Yellowstone Coalition
 Jim DeRito, Trout Unlimited
 Cary Myler, US Fish and Wildlife Service
 Lynn Van Every, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Others Present

Eve Davies, PacifiCorp
 Andrea Santarsiere, Greater Yellowstone Coalition
 Claudia Conder, PacifiCorp
 Gary Ratzlaff, Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
 Jerry DeBacker, Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
 Tom Lucia, interested citizen

Email Decisions Made Since the Last Meeting

- Approve Cove Spring Reconnection as a 2013 habitat enhancement project (see attached record of voting).

Decisions Made at This Meeting

- Approved Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust’s annual funding request in the amount of \$30,000.

Commitments Made at the August 21, 2013 Meeting	
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to discuss fish passage at Oneida.
Stenberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a call with Shana of FERC to discuss Twin Lakes’ FLP. Proposed date and time is Oct. 29, 9 a.m. • Route DeRito’s request for funding for Cottonwood screen construction (when available) to the ECC for approval process. • Prepare a draft conservation easement statement and route to ECC members for comment. • Add 5-year water bank discussion task to CMS for the Cove Water Right.
Van Every	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update ECC on whether additional studies on Station Creek are completed before the end of this field season.
Vincent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak with constituency about timing of whitewater boater flows. • Communicate Kimball Hatchery trespass concerns to whitewater boaters.
DeRito	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit request for additional funding for Cottonwood screens to Stenberg. • Submit billing for Bonneville cutthroat trout trapping.
Action items in blue have been carried over.	

Review of Agenda

Items added to agenda: Annual review of the ECC's decision making flow chart and calendar.

Updates

Station Creek – The ECC discussed this potential habitat enhancement project, which was proposed and reviewed but not ranked during the spring ranking session. Review of the project is now complete. Stenberg asked for comments from ECC and a discussion of the project followed. Hoyt proposed that the ECC not rank or fund the project. Myler agreed. Van Every noted that additional field work is still pending that would provide more information on fish habitat (IDEQ's Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program [BURP]) and proposed deferring a decision on the project. He will email ECC members to update them on whether work goes forward before the end of field season. The ECC would still need to review the information and rank the project prior to approval. Further discussion was deferred pending receipt of additional data.

Bunderson Fish Screens – The size of openings on the diversion screens at Max and Roy Bunderson's diversion was discussed. A site visit was held with Bear Lake SWCD, DeRito, Myler and Stenberg and Smith. It was decided that Myler and DeRito would work with the SWCD to replace the diversion screens with ones with smaller openings. A second issue of the function of the fish ladder at Max Bunderson's was discussed on site and during the meeting. The opening of the fish ladder is separated too far to the side of diversion structure's spillway. It was thought that because of this, fish may have a difficult time finding the fish ladder. Various fixes were brainstormed, including constructing a channel to connect the fish ladder outlet to the plunge pool directly below the diversion spillway.

Water Banking – Conder reported to the ECC on the number of times a water right placed into the state water bank can be renewed. She said the 5-year term can be renewed indefinitely. Stenberg will add ECC review prior to renewals to PacifiCorp's CMS.

Review of the ECC's Decision-making Flow Chart and Calendar

Stenberg reviewed the ECC's decision-making flow chart via overhead – this was a routine yearly review.

Stenberg reviewed the ECC's calendar. The ECC will skip October and then meet November 13 and December 11. Stenberg suggested holding a planned call with FERC at 9 a.m., October 29. Stenberg will confirm the date with FERC.

Project Review and Updates

Tingey – Stenberg said this project is in process now. **Hansen Fencing** project has been cancelled. **Pearl Creek** is also moving forward. **Screen Repair** and **Screen Tender** have both been paid. **Dead Horse Spring Restoration** – Consultants were on site recently to collect survey information. **Smith/Bear River Fencing** is going forward, but no update was available. **Keetch** will be administered by Bear Lake SWCD. **BCT Trapping** – OK, a report on the project is pending.

Cottonwood Screens – DeRito reported that the Treasureton screen was redesigned to use a paddlewheel. The project is now almost complete. A more favorable construction bid was received, so cost was lower than anticipated. Now the cost for both screens is \$230,000. Bottom line for

construction is a \$21,500 shortfall. Fall construction is anticipated. DeRito will make a request to Stenberg, who will route the request to the ECC for approval.

Black Canyon Extended Monitoring

Teuscher reported that a lot of the fish tagged for this study had disappeared and could not be found. He said Hillyard flew the area down to the Utah border, with no sign of the fish. Teuscher said this could possibly be due to a bad batch of tags. Only three active tags were located, he said. IDFG did not find tags from fish on the island, as in the previous year when the fish were consumed by cormorants. He said Hillyard is contacting the vendor to see whether there was any known problem with the tags.

Conservation Hatchery Update

Teuscher reported that IDFG held on to 7000 fish and will be stocking them this fall to see how they do compared to spring-released fish. These fish will be larger. He said that Hillyard electrofished Kackley Springs last week and sampled 13,000 fish (a very high density). Last year IDFG found a couple of rainbows at Kackley, which was a concern. This year, 75 to 80 percent were naturally produced BCT – all three year classes, he said. He said Hillyard did capture two large rainbows that appeared to have been from a hatchery. He also found and removed a couple of hybrid fish. Brown trout were also captured – a couple of larger fish and some young fish. So there are some issues, Teuscher said, but they are manageable ones. He said some reinforcement on the barrier is planned (a jump screen right above the surface of the water). The person fabricating it is looking at it tomorrow. If other fish continue to appear once that is in place, then it can be assumed that anglers are moving fish over the barrier. The possibility of placing a webcam at Kackley was discussed. Teuscher also suggested adding some improvements (gravel, cover) to increase fish habitat. He asked for PacifiCorp permission to work on the property.

Escalation of Funds

Stenberg updated the ECC on corrections needed to the escalation of ECC funds due to miscalculation by PacifiCorp Asset Accounting. He referred ECC members to the June discussion of this issue. In summary, he said, errors included that the base year was one year off and a calculation error was also introduced. This resulted in accounts being underfunded. He said he has now found a third spreadsheet error that resulted in overpayment of conservation hatchery and broodstock funds. Stenberg said he believes that it is not a large amount, as these payments were more recent. Stenberg said he has completed a review and has estimated amounts still due. This includes \$34,940.00 on the habitat enhancement fund and \$58,381 on the Land and Water Fund. The total for all accounts is \$125,592. Van Every asked what would happen with funds that have already been closed out. He said he would like to know how that funding would be redistributed. Stenberg said some funds specified that monies for BCT studies can be rolled into other BCT accounts. He said he will be making additional payments to the BLM and Road Department. Stenberg said he plans to send them a memo and tell them how much they can bill for.

Land Trust Updates

<Executive Session>

Stenberg introduced Devin Pharis to the ECC. Pharis is PacifiCorp's new Grace Production Manager.

Meeting adjourned to field review of Kimball Fish Hatchery.

**Bear River ECC
Record of Email Voting
Approval of 2013 Habitat Enhancement Project:
Cove Spring Reconnection
Query by Stenberg June 24, 2013**

Date: Mon, 24 Jun 2013 13:23:18 +0000 [06/24/2013 07:23:18 AM MDT]

From: "Stenberg, Mark" <Mark.Stenberg@pacificorp.com>

To: "Arn Berglund (aberglund@blm.gov)" <aberglund@blm.gov>, "cary_myler@fws.gov" <cary_myler@fws.gov>, "Cory Lyman (clyman@fs.fed.us)" <clyman@fs.fed.us>, "dan_miller@nps.gov" <dan_miller@nps.gov>, "Davies, Eve" <Eve.Davies@pacificorp.com>, Greg Mladenka <Greg.Mladenka@deq.idaho.gov>, "Kevin Colburn" <kcolburn@amwhitewater.org>, "Kirk Rich (krich@idpr.idaho.gov)" <krich@idpr.idaho.gov>, "Yvette A. Tuell (ytuell@sbtribes.com)" <ytuell@sbtribes.com>, Andrea Santarsiere <asantarsiere@greateryellowstone.org>, Blaine Newman <blaine_newman@blm.gov>, Charlie Vincent <charliev@xmission.com>, "David Kampwerth (David_Kampwerth@fws.gov)" <David_Kampwerth@fws.gov>, "Hunter Osborne (hosborne@sbtribes.com)" <hosborne@sbtribes.com>, James DeRito <JDeRito@tu.org>, Kevin Lewis <kevin@idahorivers.org>, "Lee W. Mabey (lmabey@fs.fed.us)" <lmabey@fs.fed.us>, Lynn Van Every <Lynn.Vanevery@deq.idaho.gov>, Marv Hoyt <mhoyt@greateryellowstone.org>, Miriam Hugentobler <yazoo@xmission.com>, Paul Burnett <pburnett@tu.org>, "Susan Rosebrough@nps.gov" <Susan_Rosebrough@nps.gov>, "Teuscher,David" <david.teuscher@idfg.idaho.gov>

Cc: "Michel Ybarrondo (michel.ybarrondo@cardno.com)" <michel.ybarrondo@cardno.com>

Subject: Cove Spring Reconnection - Email Vote

Part(s):

2 P76181_137184051735.PDF	[application/pdf]	1,501 KB
3 bear10822.jpg	[image/jpeg]	2,246 KB
4 bear10823.jpg	[image/jpeg]	2,258 KB
5 bear10824.jpg	[image/jpeg]	2,129 KB
6 Pacificorp Spring Passage Connection MJS 6.18.2013 Long Form.docx	[application/vnd.openxmlformats-officedocument.wordprocessingml.document]	44 KB
7 2013 Funding Proposals - Approved List.doc	[application/msword]	62 KB

Dear ECC Members and Alternates, please find attached the new habitat enhancement project we discussed at last week's meeting. This to connect a spring on PacifiCorp lands near the Cove Plant to the Bear River. Currently the spring cascades over a ledge to the Bear River. With the construction of about 400 LF of new channel we can provide passage into the spring complex that is both on BLM and PacifiCorp managed lands. The spring source originates on PacifiCorp crosses the BLM and returns to PacifiCorp. Please see attached docx file with project proposal, pdf of larger scale map that shows proposed route of new channel and jpg images of the overall spring complex. Eve scored this application at 148. Projects with scores between 100 and 155 were approved earlier this year. Please provide your endorsement for funding this project by email to Miriam and I.

Thank you.
Mark Stenberg, MBA
PacifiCorp Energy
Hydro License Program Manager - Idaho
208 852-5507 office
208 547-7305 cell

**Results of ECC Member Voting
Approval of 2013 Habitat Enhancement Project:
Cove Spring Reconnection
Email Query by Stenberg
June 24, 2013**

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