

**Bear River ECC  
Final Meeting Notes  
December 8, 2021  
Online Meeting**

<b>December 2021 ECC Meeting Participants</b>		
	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
x	Mark Stenberg	PacifiCorp
x	Lynn Van Every	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
x	Jim DeRito	Trout Unlimited
x	Corey Lyman	U.S. Forest Service
x	Jeremy Jirak	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
x	Carson Watkins	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
	Allison Michalski	Greater Yellowstone Coalition
x	Ryan Beatty	Bureau of Land Management
x	Kevin Colburn	American Whitewater
	Hunter Osborne	Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
	Kirk Rich	Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
	Susan Rosebrough	National Park Service
	Kevin Lewis	Idaho Rivers United
<b>Others Present</b>		
x	Steven Smith	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
x	Matt Schenk	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
x	Ryan Hillyard	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
x	Eve Davies	PacifiCorp
x	Matt Lucia	Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
x	Jaime Campbell	Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
x	Matt Coombs	Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust
x	Jennifer Cornell	Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust

<b>Commitments Made at the December 8, 2021 Meeting</b>	
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit any remaining signatures to the Paris Creek Restoration Agreement.</li> </ul>
Stenberg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact Dip Creek and Station Creek project proponents for updates.</li> <li>Contact engineers for an update on Kackley Pond demolition.</li> <li>Prepare Draft Kackley Plan for ECC review.</li> <li>Distribute tailrace agreement to ECC members.</li> <li>Forward ECC's decision-making flow chart to Miriam for Bear River website.</li> </ul>
Hillyard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on fish populations and distribution in Mink Creek. Summarize Twin Lakes data. Consider future sampling. – Likely winter 2021.</li> </ul>
Lyman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bring photos of Eightmile Creek to next ECC meeting.</li> </ul>
Smith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide contact information for Cottonwood Creek project to Stenberg and Campbell (<a href="mailto:jaime@sagebrushlandtrust.org">jaime@sagebrushlandtrust.org</a>).</li> </ul>
Lucia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information on water rights encumbered on SSLT's Mink Creek projects.</li> </ul>
Action items in blue have been carried over.	

**Decisions Made by Email Since Last ECC Meeting**

None

## **Decisions Made at This Meeting**

- Approved the ECC's 2022 calendar.
- American Whitewater approved PacifiCorp's proposed 2022 whitewater boater flow calendar, with consensus from the ECC.
- Authorized a sub-group to review and approve a letter of support for Trout Unlimited's WaterSmart grant application to Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) for a new irrigation structure on Paris Creek.
- Approved a letter of support for the Northwestern Band of Shoshone's WaterSmart grant application to BOR for Battle Creek ecological restoration of *Sowo Gahni*.
- Approved Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust's annual monitoring and maintenance invoice.

## **Items Added to the Agenda**

None

## **Review of Previous Meeting Notes and Action Items**

October meeting notes were approved without changes. Action items carried over appear in blue in the table above.

Smith, DeRito, and Watkins reported that they met with the Twin Lakes Canal Company board as planned and the meeting went well. DeRito said the Twin Lakes board seems willing to consider future partnerships with the ECC in areas of mutual interest. Smith said the State Agricultural Best Management Practices Program looks positive for future consideration.

Smith, Hillyard, and Lucia reported that they met to discuss water rights encumbered on Sagebrush Steppe Land Trust's (SSLT) Mink Creek projects. This will be an ongoing conversation and grant funding may be sought in the future.

## **2022 ECC Calendar**

The group reviewed and approved the ECC's draft 2022 calendar (Attachment 1).

## **2022 Whitewater Boater Flow Calendar**

The group reviewed PacifiCorp's proposed 2022 whitewater boater flow calendar (specific dates are included on the ECC's 2022 calendar, Attachment 1). The calendar was approved by Kevin Colburn, American Whitewater. Colburn thanked PacifiCorp for the 2021 late season flow and said it was appreciated by the whitewater community. Stenberg checked for ECC consensus on the 2022 boater flow calendar. There were no objections--consensus was reached.

## **ECC Letters of Support for the WaterSMART Grant**

### **Trout Unlimited**

A letter of support was requested by Trout Unlimited for a WaterSmart grant application to BOR to fund construction of new irrigation structure on Paris Creek in the amount of \$70,000. This would require a signed Tailrace Agreement and letters of support from PacifiCorp and the ECC. The grant application is due December 9, 2021.

The ECC agreed to have a sub-group review and approve the letter of support, to include Van Every, Hillyard, Lyman, Stenberg, and DeRito. Stenberg asked for consensus from the ECC. There were no objections--consensus reached.

### **Northwestern Band of Shoshone**

A letter of support was requested by the Northwestern Band of Shoshone for a WaterSmart grant application to BOR for Battle Creek ecological restoration of *Sowo Gahni*. Stenberg asked for consensus from the ECC. There were no objections--consensus reached.

### **Paris Creek Restoration Agreement**

Stenberg reported that he has requested a one-year extension for the project. He reviewed signatures received on the agreement to date.

The ECC adjourned to closed session for Land and Water Fund updates.

**Attachment 1: 2022 ECC Calendar**

<b>Bear River ECC 2022 Calendar of Activities</b>	
Jan 3 (Mon)	Email news release announcing availability of 2022 grant funds
Jan 14 (Fri)	2021 Annual Report to ECC for 30-day review
Jan 19 (Wed)	Regular ECC Meeting
Feb 14 (Mon)	2021 Annual Report – end of 30-day review – ECC comments due
Feb 21 (Mon)	Print-ready copy of 2021 Annual Report
Feb 28 (Mon)	2021 Annual Report due to FERC (electronic filing)
Mar 4 (Fri)	2022 grant funding proposals – Short forms due from ECC sponsors to Stenberg & Hugentobler.
Mar 16 (Wed)	Regular ECC meeting. Includes preliminary review of proposals.
Mar 26 & 27 (Sat/Sun)	Whitewater Boater Flow #1
April 8 (Fri)	2022 grant fund proposals – Long forms due from ECC sponsors to Stenberg & Hugentobler.
Apr 9 & 10 (Sat/Sun)	Whitewater Boater Flow #2
Apr 20 (Wed)	Funding Subcommittee – Review and rank 2022 habitat enhancement applications.
Apr 29 – May 1 (Fri/Sat/Sun)	Whitewater Boater Flow #3
May 14 & 15 (Sat/Sun)	Whitewater Boater Flow #4
May 18 (Wed)	Regular ECC Meeting – ECC votes on Funding Subcommittee recommendations. Recommendations go to PacifiCorp for review/approval.
Jun 15 (Wed)	Field review of projects (if desired/needed)
Aug 17 (Wed)	Regular ECC Meeting
Oct 19 (Wed)	Regular ECC Meeting
Dec 7 (Wed)	Regular ECC Meeting