

LEWIS RIVER TERRESTRIAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Facilitator: KENDEL EMMERSON
503-813-6040; CELL 509-774-8102

Location: TEAMS MEETING ONLY

Date: March 10, 2021

Time: 9:00 AM –11:15 AM

Agenda Items

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome
- Review Agenda, 2/10/21 Meeting Notes
 - Review and Accept Agenda, 2/10/21 Meeting Notes
- 9:15 a.m. Public Comment Period
- 9:30 a.m. Proposed Trail Concept at Speelyai Bay
- 10:15 a.m. WDFW – 10.3.3 Funding
- 10:15 a.m. Review TCC 2020 WHMP Report and 2021 Plan Comments/Questions
- 10:45 a.m. Study/Work Product Updates
- 2021 WHMP Funds
- 11:00 a.m. Next Meeting's Agenda
- Public Comment Opportunity
- Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at:
<https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/lewis-river/acc-tcc.html>
- 11:15 a.m. Meeting adjourn

TEAMS Meeting

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Phone Conference ID: 122 539 20#

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting
March 10, 2021
Conference Call Only

TCC Representatives Present: (8)

Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp
 Summer Peterman, PacifiCorp
 Kim McCune, PacifiCorp
 Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
 Eric Holman, WDFW
 Amanda Froberg, Cowlitz PUD
 Bill Richardson, RMEF
 Peggy Miller, WDFW

Calendar:

April 14, 2021	TCC Meeting	TEAMS Call Only
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Assignments for January 13, 2021	Status
Emmerson: Provide a list of past timber harvest areas that have been within the WHMP buffer, associated TCC meeting notes, and reference to the WHMP language.	In progress

Parking Lot Items	Status
Emmerson/McCune: Contact PacifiCorp’s properties department to discuss further TNC detail and report to the TCC at the next meeting.	In progress

Kendel Emmerson (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:05am. She reviewed the meeting notes from February 10, 2021. The meeting notes were approved at 9:10 am with no changes.

Public Comment Period

None

Proposed Trail Concept at Speelyai Bay and Cresap Lands; IP Road Trail Alternative Planning

Jessica Kimmick (PacifiCorp) provided the following background refresher of the efforts thus far on finding an alternative to the IP Road Trail (**Attachment A**).

- Kimmick presented a Saddle Dam Conceptual to the Terrestrial Coordination Committee on December 9, after providing it to them for a 7-day review. PacifiCorp requested TCC comment during the meeting. TCC representatives expressed concern about formalizing public use within Management Unit 10 and a field trip to see existing use was requested.

- On January 6, Eric Holman (WDFW), Eric White (Cowlitz Indian Tribe), Kendel Emmerson, Jessica Kimmick and Kim McCune hiked within MU10 to discuss the trails concept in addition to Saddle Dam Remediation and timber harvest activities. Holman and White requested PacifiCorp look at the lands around Cresap and Speelyai as a potential alternative to MU10 for a trail system as those areas have less habitat potential for elk.
- Kimmick reviewed the lands in GIS and drafted a conceptual trail design within the Speelyai area (WHMP Management Unit 7) and presented this internally.
- Peterman and Kimmick went out into MU 7 on March 3, 2021 to become more familiar with this location and see if the conceptual would hold water and to see what signs of wildlife could be found
- Kimmick presented the Speelyai MU 7 trail concept below on Page 3.

Peterman informed the TCC of her wildlife findings in MU 7 location. Additionally, she showed and discussed undesignated trails within MU 10 that were previously not brought forth- included in maps below shows as the red solid lines in western portion of the map.



Figure 1: MU 10 Saddle Dam Trail Concept Map

MU 7 Wildlife Observations:

Peterman identified many piles of coyote scat and one cougar scat pile on 700 road between 705 road and 160773. There were many piles of elk scat and I noted four significant game trails. Osprey Meadow is included in this area. Peterman and Kimmick twice smelled elk musk on the wind while hiking. Peterman identified areas of high use to be between the 700 road and Lake Merwin. The trail design was moved north of the high use areas; however, it is likely the animals are traveling between locations using the area NW of the 700 road Peterman identified as moderate use. Peterman found deer tracks and scat more often between the 160773 and Speelyai Bay with two game trails. There are four (4) active nests on the peninsula, two were occupied in 2019. Nest are shown as pink dots on the map below. The area that has the least elk/deer use will be challenging for trails due to the steep elevation.

At this time there is little human activity in MU 7, limited mostly to local homeowners, PacifiCorp, and contractors managing the area. No trespass issues were identified.



Figure 2: MU 7 Speelyai Area Trail Concept Map

MU 8 Wildlife Observations:

The Cresap campground was being cleared of fallen trees on the day of observation so nothing was surveyed on that day, however deer scat was found previously. Peterman found little to no scat or tracks in the group camping area as well as the parking lot. Peterman did find several piles of deer scat of different sizes in the volleyball area as well as tracks.

Cresap Campground is closed seasonally to meet requirement as described in Settlement Agreement 11.23.12.2

11.2.3.12.2 Cresap Bay Campground Schedule. Beginning upon Issuance of the New License for the Merwin Project, PacifiCorp shall keep Cresap Bay Campground and Day Use Area open through the month of September and shall close such areas from October 1 at least through May 1.

This requirement was to minimize disturbance to sensitive wildlife, so the Settlement Agreement language was also include in the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion and Lewis River WHMP 14.5.2.

In addition, Cresap Campground seasonally closure is discussed in the 12.5.2 Forestland Harvest Planning section of the WHMP and is described as additional winter forage in Cresap Park. However, this portion of Cresap Campground and Park are excluded from the WHMP and there not included in the cover:forage calculations.

12.5.2 Forestland Harvest Planning

Management Unit 8

<i>Area:</i>	<i>281.1 Acres</i>
<i>Existing Coverage Forage Ratio:</i>	<i>57:43</i>
<i>Proposed Management:</i>	<i>55:45</i>
<i>Permanent Forage:</i>	<i>3.4 (acres of meadow along with some additional winter forage in Cresap Park).</i>

This unit is not associated with a spotted owl management circle or within the 2-mile Spotted Special Emphasis Area bugger. The recommended cover:forage ratio is proposed as 55:45 for big game habitat because of the large stream buffers that limit management opportunities in this unit. There are approximately 66.9 acres of management habitat after buffers and deferred management areas are subtracted or only 24 percent of the Management Unit. Permanent forage is provided on approximately 3.4 acres of meadow, but additional winter forage is available in the Cresap Bay Campground during winter months. This foraging habitat is limited, but the grass parking area and play area were specifically designed to provide the added winter forage. Fall fertilization of this forage area after seasonal park closing provides a small amount of enhanced winter forage. Managing a minimum of 5 percent of the manageable acres is permanent forage would require a total of approximately 3.3 acres and is currently being achieved. At present the MU is receiving moderate elk use in the winter months and additional commercial thinning or small clear-cuts are proposed for evaluation in the first phase.

Human activity is from the campground and surrounding trails. There are some boaters that come onto Debris Beach, a beach located north and west of Cresap Campground, and local homeowners walking trails. No trespass issues were identified.

The TCC communicated strong concern about wildlife impacts that recreation/public use has on WHMP lands. They stated that they feel wildlife and recreation goals are not

compatible. Considerable discussion took place about existing use in MU 10 and the intent of the equestrian parking trailhead at Saddle Dam. It was noted that the Settlement Agreement was completed before PacifiCorp acquired the MU 10 property from Longview Fibre and the land had a long history of equestrian use. The TCC determined that in light of the longstanding use of the area and that the equestrian community were in good faith part of the Settlement Agreement negotiations with a resulting equestrian trailhead intended to facilitate their access to these trails, completely closing off access to MU 10 wasn't the best option.

The TCC expressed that they would like for PacifiCorp to try to negotiate a land purchase from the Department of Natural Resources to obtain the land adjacent to MU 10 and designate an "out and back" style trail from the existing equestrian trailhead to Arrowhead Road (see map above - this would consist of the yellow highlighted trails from the bottom center of map/north of Dam and along the east side of DNR).

A land purchase is primarily desired but if it's found not feasible, the TCC would like us to then try to negotiate a trail easement through their property for said "out and back" trail. The TCC would like to then focus efforts on removing/rehabilitating trails within the MU 10 lands west of DNR and Saddle Dam.

It was suggested that mitigation funds from the Saddle Dam remediation project could be used to purchase the DNR property. It is PacifiCorp's position that our efforts are exhausted as it is unlikely that the TCC would be amenable to any other location options on WHMP lands.

The TCC agreed that they want PacifiCorp to focus their efforts on pursuing purchasing a piece of land from DNR or an easement for an out and back trail that heads north through DNR land from the equestrian trail head across the 1020 north of the dam on up to Arrowhead Road. The TCC would like PacifiCorp to pursue a management strategy for developing and improving a trail-based recreation in Management Unit 10. *(Modified this sentence with approval from the TCC at the September 8, 2021 Meeting).*

The TCC further agreed that the Speelyai Bay and Cresap trail alternatives are no longer a consideration due to adverse impacts to wildlife on WHMP lands.

Break - 10:30am

Reconvene - 10:35am

WDFW – 10.3.3 Funding

Eric Holman (WDFW) communicated to the TCC that WDFW would like to present a formal proposal for Lewis River Settlement Agreement 10.3.3 funds (outlined below *in italics*) and provided the following details:

WDFW Wildlife Area Manager, Darin Hauswald, who manages both Mt. St. Helens and Vancouver wildlife areas which includes Eagle Island, North Fork of Lewis (about 300 acres). On two occasions Hauswald was successful in securing 10.3.3 Funds, paired with funds from the State Migratory Bird funds which paid for renting equipment that he could then take across the channel from the Eagle Island boat launch. This equipment was used for mechanical treatment of scotch broom and aerial herbicide application of the scotch broom.

Hauswald has an ask along those lines but slightly different and would like TCC input on how WDFW is to proceed with this ask for 10.3.3 funds and if the TCC can support. Hauswald would like to purchase a piece of equipment with a brush cutting head on it which allows reaching out over the edge of an embankment to gobble down invasive plant species in difficult to access areas. The most common are blackberries that are growing down over a bank. Blackberries are problematic for spraying since they are near or over the water and a tractor is not feasible due to steep banks.

With a combination of funding he has from the Vancouver wildlife area (largely BPA funded) as it offset wildlife habitat loss in the watershed of the Columbia. He also has some State funds for doing habitat management on WDFW lands, and by combining these funds he can use this piece of equipment on all the wildlife lands in his management areas (approximately 25 units). This equipment is capable of various applications for the units Hauswald is responsible for. The match Hauswald is asking for is \$16,000 and that would complement the purchase of the machine and the cutting head that are about \$80,000 in total. The \$16,000 is the equivalent of what it would cost to rent a machine and do this work twice on Eagle Island.

Holman noted that in the strictest since the 10.3.3 fund calls for the funds to go toward acquisition or habitat enhancement, but it would facilitate habitat enhancement where 10.3.3 funds have already been approved and this tool will be available for other WDFW wildlife areas in the Lewis River basin on an ongoing basis.

This piece of equipment would not be made available for others use outside of WDFW Region 5 management areas and would be housed in Hauswald's inventory. The TCC suggested Hauswald write into his proposal to mechanically treat Eagle Island for the next 2-3 years, to minimize herbicide use in the drainage and perhaps include Cedar Creek and any other wildlife areas and how this machine can be used for these areas and would be readily available rather than trying to rent one during high season. Erik White (Cowlitz Tribe) expressed that as long as there is some tie to habitat enhancement that seems equivalent to that amount of money, he does not see a problem with it. And that this equipment will minimize herbicide use over time.

Emmerson will speak to PacifiCorp management and report back to the TCC. WDFW will put something together more formalized and submit to the TCC for more formal consideration at the April 14, 2021 meeting.

10.3.3 Contribution of Additional Matching Funds. In addition to the contributions made under Section 10.3.1, beginning 18 months after Issuance of the New License for the Yale Project or Swift No. 1 Project, whichever is earlier, PacifiCorp shall match the contributions of local, state, and federal agencies, and other persons or organizations, made for the purposes of this Section 10.3, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 per year, and not to exceed \$500,000 in any ten consecutive years. Any Party may propose a source of matching funds under this subsection. If and only if a commitment of funds is made by a party other than PacifiCorp, for acquisitions of Interests in Land or for implementation of habitat enhancement projects approved by the TCC, PacifiCorp shall provide matching funds within the limits set forth above at closing of the real estate transaction; no fund will be created. The TCC will identify Interests in Land for acquisitions or identify habitat enhancement projects to be funded with matching funds, and PacifiCorp shall execute approved acquisitions and implement approved enhancement measures.

Review TCC 2020 WHMP Report and 2021 Plan Comments/Questions

PacifiCorp received only a few corrections, typos, etc. so we are good to go to final on the report and plan. Emmerson noted that the budget has been tweaked slightly (less than 1%) and it's really just moving money between different habitats, but we are still on target on the 2021 budget.

2020 ACC/TCC Annual Report

The ACC/TCC 2020 draft Annual Report is out for its 30-day review and comments are due by close of business April 5, 2021.

Mitigation Table - All proposed project impacts and BPA mitigation tables previously developed

Emmerson noted that the TCC did a good job determining which habitat was in which classification and of course we can revisit it and change it. The one thing the TCC needs to work on is where all these impacts are as we learn this topic is a moving target and very fluid still. Not sure if we are ready that 10 acres = this just yet but we should continue to ask these questions to get it right the first time.

Peggy Miller (WDFW) expressed that when we have a project to put through it will help show us the areas that need to be changed.

Study/Work Product Updates

2021 WHMP Funds; PacifiCorp's Contributions

- Fee Simple Lands - \$599,828.00 (15,798 acres)
- Conservation Easement Lands - \$300.00 (16 acres)

Lewis River License Implementation					Funding Start Date: 12/26/08
Lewis River WHMP Fund (Fee Simple Lands)					Contributions in 2003 dollars, Adjusted for inflation
Section 10.8.2					
Totals:					
	\$ 5,873,750.73	\$ (5,447,658.66)	\$ 187,823.86	\$ 613,915.93	
Release Date	Funds Received	Expense	Interest	Balance	Notes
12/31/20	\$ -	\$ (498,992.78)	\$ 25,003.86	\$ 14,087.93	As of 6/11/2020, current WHMP acreage total is 15,798; ANE 640 acre land purchase
1/1/21	\$ 599,828.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 613,915.93	

Lewis River License Implementation					Funding Start Date: 12/26/08
Lewis River WHMP Fund (Conservation Easement Lands)					Contributions in 2003 dollars, Adjusted for inflation
Section 10.8.2					
Totals:					
	\$ 3,293.44	\$ (2,993.44)	\$ 300.00		
Release Date	Funds Received	Funds Expended	Balance	Notes	
12/31/20	\$ -	\$ (295.30)	\$ -	Expenditure for 2020	
1/1/20	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00		

Land Acquisition Update – PacifiCorp is reviewing the agreement and many clarifications have been added. Cowlitz Tribe has also reviewed. Any additional information is confidential and proprietary and not for public viewing. The goal is to get the agreement signed in the next few months.

Other

Eagle and Osprey flights will not take place in April 2021, but PacifiCorp is hopeful for June 2021. June is when we get the most critical data, but we will miss the failed nesting attempts for eagles from the April flights. The Osprey ground surveys will take place May 2021.

Agenda items for April 14, 2021

- Review March 10, 2021 Meeting Notes **(TCC COMMENTS DUE April 5, 2021)**
- IP Road Trail Alternate Route Update
- 10.3.3 Funds, WDFW Proposal
- Land Acquisition Update
- Study/Work Product Updates

Next Scheduled Meeting

April 14, 2021
TEAMS Meeting Only

Attachments:

- March 10, 2021 Meeting Agenda
- Attachment A - Speelyai Bay and Cresap Lands; IP Road Trail Alternative Planning

Adjourn 11:25 a.m.



Speelyai and Cresap Lands

IP Road Trail Alternative Planning

Background

- ▶ Presented Saddle Dam Conceptual trail design to the Lewis River Recreation Committee on October 21, after providing it to them for a 30-day review. A decision was required of them at the meeting to determine if PacifiCorp may proceed. LRC agreed Saddle Dam Conceptual was ok to pursue.
- ▶ Presented Saddle Dam Conceptual to the Terrestrial Coordination Committee on December 9, after providing it to them for a 7-day review. PacifiCorp requested TCC comment during the meeting. TCC representatives expressed concern about formalizing public use within Management Unit 10 and a field trip to see existing use was requested.
- ▶ On January 6, Eric Holman (WDFW), Eric White (Cowlitz Indian Tribe), Kendel Emmerson, Jessica Kimmick and Kim McCune hiked within MU10 to discuss the trails concept in addition to Saddle Dam Remediation and timber harvest activities. Holman and White requested PacifiCorp look at the lands around Cresap and Speelyai as a potential alternative to MU10 for a trail system as those areas have less habitat potential for elk.

Cresap Lands

- Access for trail would be from Cresap Park- would need a license amendment to open park for year-round use or would require a parking area to be constructed outside of park gate.
- Land area is small with little variation in terrain.
- Area offers fewer points of natural interest.
- Other management concerns such as encouraging additional off-season use of park or additional costs associated with opening it year-round, additional shoreline access with multiple known archaeological sites, private neighbors along property boundary, etc.



Speelyai Lands

- Trail parking and access could be offered at Speelyai Hatchery. Some infrastructure to support this already exists.
- Land area is larger with variation in terrain, allowing for options in how the trail could be designed.
- Area offers natural interest such as old growth timber, shoreline views, rock outcroppings, etc.
- Land area allows for avoiding certain management concerns such as designing to take trail away from shoreline where known archaeological sites exist. Hatchery is staffed year-round and therefore reduces potential of vandalism associated with unmonitored/dispersed public use.



Speelyai Lands Preliminary Desktop Concept

- Trail concept is “lollipop” style, allowing for a varied out and back experience while lessening the construction distance
- Potential “viewpoint” trail offshoot leading to an oak area, offering a use challenge.
- Natural interest includes shoreline access, shoreline/water views, old growth timber.
- 700 and 730 road grades are inaccurately shown on this map and could connect to trail as shown, creating a shorter loop option for use.



