

**Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program
Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
Thursday, June 6, 2019 @ 1 p.m.
Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program – Salmon, Idaho**

Present: Daniel Bertram (USBWP), Abbie Gongloff (USBWP), Mike Edmondson (OSC), Chris Gaughan (USBWP), Windy Schoby (IDFG), Mike Overacker (NGO), Todd Blythe (USBWP), Linda Price (BLM), Harley Wallis (Pahsimeroi Landowner), Steve Stringham (Recreation), Kelly Schade (SCNF), Bruce Mulkey (Lemhi Landowner), V. Don Olson (Lemhi Landowner), Mike Kossler (LSWCD), Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Rosana Rieth (NRCS), Cindy Salo (Private Citizen).

Welcome and Introductions

February 8, 2019 Meeting Notes: Approved meeting notes.

Presentations:

- None.

New Business

- During the Andrus Center Conference on Energy and Salmon, Governor Little established a Salmon Working Group to be led by OSC. This will be an advisory group tasked with developing ideas leading to abundant future returns of Salmon in Idaho. The first meeting this summer (6/28/2019) will be a listening session. It is expected that the group will create a framework and timeline for future meetings during this first session.
- IDWR (Amy Cassel) updated the Advisory Committee on the Leadore water right applications. Kurt Bird's application was the first to hit the papers and received 11 protests. Bird would like to install 2 new pivots with large nozzles to disperse large amounts of water over a short period of time. A pre-hearing was held, and the protest hearing is scheduled for August 27-28. A total of 5 applications are advertised and 5 more applications will be advertised this week. The question was asked "If the Lemhi is totally appropriated where is there room for more water rights to be deeded?" Cassel answered; High water practice is acceptable in the Lemhi but not appropriated. It is estimated that on bad water years there will be 4-5 days of excess water and on good years up to 45 days. The Idaho Water Resources Board is concerned that transacted water for reconnects such as Big Timber Creek could once again be dewatered if these new water rights are used, particularly on the shoulder seasons.

Tech Team Update

- The SB-Tribe presented an update to the TT on the Panther Creek Proposal. The TT is planning to visit the Panther Creek sites during the August campout meeting. There were three project rankings last month. Subcommittees met. There are new landowner opportunities. Project sponsors are ramping up project work during the summer work windows. The ACOE asked the TT to keep them updated and aware of upcoming projects. Tree acquisition work is ongoing. Stokes Ranch Phase 1 work is completed and ready for a high-water event if we get one this spring. Phase 1 was bank roughening and supersacks, Phase 2 will include side channel habitat work.

USBWP project updates

Presentations by USBWP staff on upcoming projects included:

- Lower Lemhi Reference Reach – One-mile section on a reach of the Lemhi thought to be in good functioning condition with active floodplains and riparian habitat. However, the river is migrating to the west into private property without riparian vegetation. This project which is in the design phase is aiming to keep the reach in

healthy functioning condition which will conserve the good habitat, protect private property, create new habitat, and allow for dynamic river behavior.

- Hayden Creek Hermits – This project aims to improve instream habitat and floodplain connection. Hayden Creek is a primary production area for Salmon but lacks habitat complexity. USBWP and TU are in a design phase and planning to add wood structures to add heterogeneity to the system.
- Hawley-Eighteenmile junction – This project aims to realign the stream channel to add habitat complexity and reduce or remove pivot crossings. Concerns over temperature and sedimentation on this section will be addressed.
- Lemhi Beyeler – This is a 2.5-mile section of the upper Lemhi River which is a high priority for Salmon. It is currently a single channel with little slow water refugia and is thought to have had multiple braided channels and an active floodplain in the past. The project is in design phase and aims to benefit all life stages of Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout. The project will enhance habitat and maximize immediate habitat benefits while working towards long-term recovery. Methods will include planting riparian vegetation, browse exclusion, channel narrowing, island braiding, side channels, and BDA's.
- Beyeler Canyon Creek – This project is in the early concept phase and has been awarded IDEQ 319 grant funds. The goal is to remove 12 pivot crossings and 1 vehicle ford to reduce sedimentation, add riparian vegetation, and create sinuosity and habitat complexity instream.
- Playfair Irrigation and Highway 28 Culvert – This project is in the design phase. The objectives are to replace an undersized culvert with a natural bed open bottom culvert, remove an irrigation diversion which is a fish passage barrier, build an irrigation system which will leave more water in Little Sawmill Creek, and fence and plant willows on the lower end of Little Sawmill Creek to reestablish riparian habitat function.
- Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) in Lemhi and Custer Counties – This is an ongoing project utilizing BDA's as a method to repair riparian function on tributary creeks. USBWP is working with the Salmon BLM on a 5 year permit for Lemhi tributaries and with IDFG on a Pahsimeroi tributary. The Challis BLM and the Challis Experimental Range Tour is planning to visit the Sulphur Creek BDA's on August 22, 2019. All are welcome to join.

BLM update

- Seasonal employees are starting, the forester is working with Jeff DiLuccia on sourcing local wood for habitat projects. Chad Zens is the new lands employee and would like to get a drone license. The Challis Field manager position is open.

SCNF update

- Forest Plan Revision Standards, Guidelines, and Desired Future Conditions are moving forward. The team is identifying potential future problems and how the Forest Plan can help solve those.
- The Lemhi BiOp is close to complete. Looking to submit to USFWS and NOAA in July.
- Upper Salmon BiOp will be next

IDFG Update

- Chinook return numbers are low and IDFG will struggle to make brood stock this year.

Harley Wallis

- Pivot end guns are a waste of water.

NRCS

- Preproposal for targeted restoration and flow enhancement dollars was approved and moving forward to a full proposal in July.

LSWCD

- Need to keep on top of the high-water issue

UI Cooperative Extension – Salmon

- No update.

Lemhi Regional Land Trust

- The annual Land Trust BBQ is June 28

Recreation

- Outfitters are filling up trips and it should be a good river season.

Adjourn

The next Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2019.

Commonly used Acronyms:

25/35	Minimum flows required at L-6
ACEP	Agricultural Conservation Easement Program
AEM	Action Effectiveness Monitoring
AFS	American Fisheries Society
ANS	Aquatic Nuisance Species
AREMP	Aquatic and Riparian Effectiveness Monitoring Program
BA	Biological Assessment
BACI	Before, After, Control, Impact (study design type)
BEF	Bonneville Environmental Foundation
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMS	Beaver Mimicry Structure
BO/BiOp	Biological Opinion
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
CHaMP	Columbia Habitat Monitoring Program
CMZ	Channel Migration Zone
CREP	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
CRSO	Columbia River System Operations
CSWCD	Custer Soil and Water Conservation District
CWT	Coded Wire Tags
DEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
DPS	Distinct Population Segment
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
ELJ	Engineered Log Jam
EQIP	Environmental Quality Incentives Program
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESU	Evolutionarily Significant Unit
FCRPS	Federal Columbia River Power System
FIA	Forest Inventory and Analysis program (USFS)

FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
Four "H"s	The four factors affecting salmon recovery: Hatchery, Hydro, Habitat, Harvest
GIS	Geographic Information System
GM	Geometric Mean
HACCP	Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point
HGMP	Hatchery Genetic Management Plan
HPA	Hydraulic Project Approval
HSRG	Hatchery Scientific Review Group
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
IDWR	Idaho Department of Water Resources
IMW	Intensively Monitored Watershed
IS	Implementation Schedule
ISEMP	Integrated Status and Effectiveness Monitoring Project
ISRP	Independent Scientific Review Panel
IT	Implementation Team
L-x	L- "fill in the blank" refers to any Lemhi River Diversion e.g. L-63
IWRB	Idaho Water Resource Board
LRBM	Lemhi River Basin Model (Mike Basin Model for the Lemhi)
LRLT	Lemhi Regional Land Trust
LSWCD	Lemhi Soil and Water Conservation District
LW/LWD	Large Wood/Large Woody Debris
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPG	Major Population Group
NFF	National Forest Foundation
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NPCC	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
OSC	Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation
P-x	P- "fill in the blank" refers to any Pahsimeroi River Diversion e.g. P-16
PCSRF	Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund
PHABSIM	Physical Habitat Simulation
PIBO	PACFISH/INFISH* Biological Opinion
PIT Tag	Passive Integrated Transponder Tag
PNAMP	Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership
QAQC	Quality Assurance, Quality Control
QRF	Quantile Regression Forests
RA	Reach Assessment
RFP	Request for Proposals
RM	River Mile
RM&E	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation
RPA	Reasonable and Prudent Alternative(s)

S-x	S- "fill in the blank" refers to any Salmon River Diversion e.g. S-22
SBT	Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
SNRA	Sawtooth National Recreation Area
SOW	Statement of Work
STEM Database	Status, Trend and Effectiveness Monitoring database at NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center
TA	Tributary Assessment
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TRM&E	Tributary Research, Monitoring and Evaluation
TRT	Technical Recovery Team (NOAA)
TT	USBWP Technical Team
TU	Trout Unlimited
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USBR	Bureau of Reclamation
USBWP	Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USFS	US Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	US Geological Survey
VSP	Viable Salmonid Population
WAC	USBWP Advisory Committee
WAG	DEQ Watershed Advisory Group
WRP	Wetland Reserve Program
*PACFISH/ INFISH	The PACFISH/INFISH Biological Opinion (PIBO) Effectiveness Monitoring Program was initiated in 1998 to provide a consistent framework for monitoring aquatic and riparian resources on most Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands within the Upper Columbia River Basin.