

**Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program
Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
Thursday, September 6, 2018 @ 1 p.m.
Upper Salmon Basin Watershed Program – Salmon, Idaho**

Present: Shannon Williams (U of I extension; Chairperson), Tom Ford (USFS), V. Don Olson (Lemhi Rancher), Harley Wallis (Pahsimeroi Rancher), Linda Price (BLM), Paddy Murphy (IDFG), Daniel Bertram (USBWP), Abbie Gongloff (USBWP), Mike Edmondson (OSC), Rosana Rieth (NRCS), Rusty Hamilton (LSWCD), Chris Gaughan (USBWP), Hannah Dondy-Kaplan (BPA), Cindy Yenter (IDWR), Chad Fealko (NMFS), Amy Cassel (IDWR), Cindy Salo (Sage Eco Sci), Ryan Warden (IDWR)

On Conference Call: Windy Schoby (IDFG)

Welcome and Introductions

June 6, 2017 Meeting Notes: Williams made a motion to approve. Price seconded. All in favor.

Presentations:

- Groundwater Levels within the Lemhi Basin (Warden) – Warden presented on the IDWR study that is looking at how ground and surface water impact each other throughout the Lemhi Basin. Seventeen wells are measured manually by Rick Sager from March through December. Twenty-four wells are measured by an automatic pressure reducer that measures every 12 hrs. Sager is funded through BPA, and IDWR pays for the transducer wells. The IDWR study began in 2011 and drew on a USBR study done in 1995. The study is ongoing due to the variability and seasonality of groundwater. Data to date shows a reverse aquifer: when irrigation is on, groundwater is up; when irrigation is off, groundwater is down. Reith made a motion to continue supporting the study. Price seconded.

Old Business

- Upper Salmon Diversion and Screening BiOps (Ford) – USFS is finishing up consultation on the Upper Salmon. NOAA has drafted an offset plan and is waiting for USFS to provide input.
- Forest Plan Revision (Bertram) – USFS is field validating the plan for scenic values, botanicals, etc. Most of the streams with ESA fish species will fall out under sustainability and will not warrant additional protections.
- Grazing Study (Bertram) - BPA funding has been decreased; all monitoring has been cut significantly and the USBP office budget will no longer be able to fund the grazing study on Carmen Creek.

New Business

- Advisory Committee Membership (Bertram) - Kristin Troy has stepped down as Vice-Chairperson and the Recreation Representative. Stephanie Ellis has declined to fill this position. Cranney's may be interested. Green is interested. The NGO position vacated by Mark Davidson could be filled with Justin Petty, TNC, who is willing to accept it. Both open positions will be posted in the Recorder Herald and Challis Messenger and LSWCD will pay for the advertising. Williams's chairpersonship is up in December. It is a two year term for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

- USBWP staff changes (Bertram) – Chris Gaughan replaced Adair Muth. Twenty people applied for that position. Allen Bradbury has taken a position with IDWR in Boise and we will be filling that position in the near future.

Tech Team Update (Schoby) – The Tech Team took a break during the summer and held their annual camp out in Stanley this year, which was led by the USBR and focused on the IRA. In their meeting this week, they ranked four projects: two in the North Fork and two in the Lemhi.

USBWP Project Updates –

- Upper Pratt Creek Access and Flow Enhancement Project (Bertram) – Cultural has been completed.
- Little Springs Instream Structures (Gongloff) - Forty structures were installed.
- Pratt Creek Channel Restoration, Bridge, and Hedt Irrigation (Gongloff) – Added a stockwater component for Fred Snook that NRCS will design and the landowner will pay to install.
- Little Sawmill Creek Restoration (Gongloff) – Restoration component will begin late this month. Irrigation component will be completed this fall or early spring.
- Rattlesnake Culverts to Bridge (Gongloff) – This project will be implemented in October by Lemhi County.
- Beaver Mimicry (Gaughan) –

Advisory Committee Membership Update

- **Bureau of Land Management** (Price) –BLM is streamlining their NEPA. New categorical exclusions for restoration were requested. Price has received a directive to reduce her labor force by 10%, which they will complete by not filling vacant positions. She has been given advance warning that in 2019, there will be a directive to reduce the labor force by 24%.
- **Governor's Office of Species Conservation** (Edmondson) – Dustin Miller, the OSC administrator, has taken a new job as the Director of IDL, which he will begin on 10/1. An interim administrator has not been decided upon at this time. Idaho is negotiating a new Accord agreement. We will receive a 2.5% decrease in the Accord budget. Other programs have received a 12% decrease. The new Accord should be signed by 9/30/18.
- **Idaho Department of Fish and Game** (Murphy) – IDFG is using drone flights to survey redds this year. So far they three have crashed. The Shoshone Bannock tribe has had 145 Chinook pass over their panther Creek weir, and 42 passed the Yankee Fork weir last week. Last year's steelhead run was the latest to date. This year they are not catching up. Fish are moving up into the Pahsimeroi where projects have been completed. There is 35 cfs on the Big Spring side and 15 in the Pahsimeroi where it used to go dry by Hooper lane.
- **Landowner – East Fork** (Baker) – Not present.
- **Landowners – Lemhi** (V. Olson/Mulkey) – No update.
- **Landowner – Main Salmon** (Hoffman) – Not present.
- **Landowner – Pahsimeroi** (Wallis) – No update.
- **Lemhi SWCD** (Hamilton) – No update.
- **Lemhi County Commissioner** (Miner) – Not present.
- **Non-agency fish and wildlife interest** (Position not filled) – NA
- **NRCS** (Reith) – Obligated additional contracts through the sagebrush initiative. Farm Bill EQIP applications are due 10/5.

- **Recreation interest** (Green) – Chukar hunting was not so great in Salmon, but was better in Riggins. There were three redds on the mainstem Middle Fork and flows were good there and in the main Salmon.
- **UI Cooperative Extension – Salmon** (Williams) –. Sale prices were low for the animals this year at the fair, but attendance at the rodeos were up.
- **U.S. Forest Service** (Ford) – USFS budgets have remained flat. Fire season was busy. We had another red flag warning recently.

Vacant Positions

Shoshone – Bannock Tribe
Custer County Commissioner

Public Comment

- None.

Adjourn

The next Advisory Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2018.

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.