

Basin Study Work Group Update

August 4th-September 1, 2015

Study Team/Contracting Update

- The Deschutes Basin Board of Control is working with Salem Opeifa at Oregon Water Resources Department to finalize the contracts for:
 1. Technical Director (Watershed Professionals Network/Niklas Christensen; \$150,000)
 2. Water Conservation Assessment (Anderson Perry; \$72,000)
 3. Upper Deschutes Ecological Assessment (River Design Group-HDR; \$85,000)
 4. Middle Deschutes and Whychus Temperature Assessments (Upper Deschutes Watershed Council; \$10,000)
- Communications, Coordination, Technical and Project Management Support (Deschutes River Conservancy. \$50,000) *OWRD suggests a portion of this support public outreach and leverage local/community contributions.
- River Design Group-HDR is planning to start data collection the week of September 7th.
- The Planning Team is continuing to work with GSI/EE to finalize an integrated scope of work for the Water Rights, Legal, Policy and Socio-Economic Assessment.
- Niklas Christensen will be working with the Crooked River Watershed Council to coordinate the scope of work for the Crooked Temperature Assessment Phase I.
- The Deschutes Basin Board of Control and FCA (Farmers Conservation Alliance) completed scoping/budgeting proposals for additional water conservation assessment work in 8 districts, and are submitting applications to ETO (Energy Trust of Oregon) in the next week. Combined budgets for this work are up to \$850K. As a reminder, this is work that will inform the Basin Study, but is funded outside of the Basin Study.

Bureau of Reclamation Updates

- Lynn Holt, Public Affairs Officer, has retired, but we are fortunate to have Dave Walsh from our Public Affairs group available to participate on communications and outreach issues. Mike Relf will work to help introduce Dave to the communications subgroup and to get him up to speed on our issues.
- Posting to the Upper Deschutes Basin Study website was slowed down by some restrictions related to cybersecurity issues but Reclamation has now been able to post updated SC/subgroup meeting minutes, etc. on our website (<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/studies/deschutes/index.html>). The email address for public input/inquiry is up and working. bor-pnr-upperdeschut@usbr.gov
- Jennifer Johnson is staying in touch with Marshall Gannett and Jonathan La Marche as we continue to track development of the GSFLOW model and prepare to get fully underway on climate change analysis and model updates/development this fall.
- Initial work is underway on an internal service agreement, an interagency agreement, and a possible contractor task order relevant to supporting Reclamation's upcoming Basin Study tasks.

Engagement of the BSWG Steering Committee throughout the Study

This will be a topic of discussion at the October Steering Committee meeting, but the Planning Team discussed holding BSC meetings every other month throughout the study, and providing monthly updates on all ongoing work via email. We will also discuss the use of technical workgroups throughout the study to provide input as well as other venues for reviewing work.

Communications Update

- The Communications Subgroup is working on:
 1. Finalizing key messages
 2. Developing a schedule of public outreach to accompany the kick-off of the Study
 3. Developing a PowerPoint to be used and adapted for public outreach presentations
 4. Developing a media packet to accompany the kick-off of the Study
- The subgroup anticipates bringing some/all of these products back to BSC in October.
- Kate Fitzpatrick and Shon Rae (COID) participated in a panel August 18th hosted by Friends of Family Farmers at the Broken Top Bottle Shop in Bend where they discussed the Upper Deschutes Basin Study.