

Basin Study Work Group Steering Committee (BSC) Meeting

February 2, 2016, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

DeArmond Room, Deschutes Services Building, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97701

MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Shawn Gerdes, Arnold Irrigation District
Mark Reinecke, Avion Water Company
Betty Roppe, Central Oregon Cities Org.
Dave Dunahay, Central Oregon Fly Fishers
Craig Horrell, Central Oregon Irrigation District
Adam Sussman, City of Bend
Dennis Scott, City of La Pine
Betty Roppe, City of Prineville
Chris Gannon, Crooked River Watershed Council
Tod Heisler, Deschutes River Conservancy
Terry Smith, Lone Pine Irrigation District
Tom Bennett, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Bill Cronin, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Nicholle Kovach, Natural Resources Conservation Service
Russ Rhoden, Ochoco Irrigation District
Bonnie Lamb, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Jeremy Giffin, Oregon Water Resources Department
Bob Spateholts, Portland General Electric
Jer Camarata, Swalley Irrigation District
Marc Thalacker, Three Sisters Irrigation District
Pamela Thalacker, Three Sisters Irrigation District
Mike Tripp, Trout Unlimited
Doug DeFlitch, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Peter Lickwar, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bridget Moran, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jennifer O'Reilly, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jason Gritzner, U.S. Forest Service
Jeff Wieland, Upper Deschutes River Coalition
Ryan Houston, Upper Deschutes Watershed
Rex Barber, Water for Life
Brad Houslet, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation
Ken Rieck, Tumalo Irrigation District

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY PHONE

Kimberley Priestley, WaterWatch
Kyle Gorman, Oregon Water Resources Department
Margaret Matter, Oregon Department of Agriculture
Chandra Ferrari, Trout Unlimited

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY EMAIL

Bill Durden, City of Redmond
Tom Davis, Native Reintroduction Network
Richard Ladeby, City of Madras
Ken Rieck, Tumalo Irrigation District

Member Organizations Not Present:

Bend Paddle Trail Alliance
Deschutes County
North Unit Irrigation District
Oregon Land and Water Alliance

Also Attending:

Gail Snyder, Central Oregon Land Watch
Brandon Mahon, Anderson Perry & Associates
Chas Hutchins, Anderson Perry & Associates
Shon Rae, Central Oregon Irrigation District
Kevin Crew, Black Rock Consulting
Lisa Seales, Oregon State University
Jonathan LaMarche, Oregon Water Resources Department
Jim Powell, citizen
Shon Rae, Central Oregon Irrigation District

In addition, both Mike Relf, Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Project Manager and Jennifer Johnson, Bureau of Reclamation, attended. Niklas Christensen, Water Professionals Network Technical Director attended. Kate Fitzpatrick, Deschutes River Conservancy, attended as Process Coordinator. Kelsey Wymore, Deschutes River Conservancy, attended and recorded meeting minutes.

AGENDA

The group used the following agenda as a guide:

1. Welcome, introductions, and minutes
2. Study Element Updates
3. Water Conservation Assessment Check-In
4. Focus on Legal, Policy, Economics (LPE) Task 1
5. Communications Update
4. Oregon Spotted Frog Update
5. Public Comment
6. Next steps

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MINUTES

Meeting minutes approved from Nov 30th **ALL GREEN CARDS.**

STUDY ELEMENT UPDATES

Mike Relf reviewed Bureau of Reclamation's tasks:

- Climate Projections: complete; tech memo to come.
- Hydrology/groundwater modeling: work underway
- Change Management Form under review
- Update/develop water resource model: updates underway; technical meeting planned.
- Storage assessments: review with planning team and working group.
- Phase I inventory of structural storage opportunities
 - qualitative evaluations of opportunities by working group
 - working group to identify one option for Phase II assessment in Upper Deschutes Working group
 - Working group to determine scope/approach for phase II in Whychus and Crooked River
 - Next steps: inventory in February – evaluations in April.

Jennifer Johnson is leading most of the modeling work for the Basin Study. She gave an overview of the definition of climate change for BSWG modeling, goals of modeling and the modeling process. Progress thus far: climate projections selected. USGS is continuing work on GSflow model and calibrations of RiverWare model on the Crooked River.

STUDY ELEMENT UPDATES

Niklas updated the group on OWRD-funded elements:

- Water Cons #1, literature review (Anderson Perry) will present today
- WCA #2 (ETO/FCA) meeting with ID manages, boards and stakeholders and developing work plans; will present at BSWG March 3rd meeting
- Middle Deschutes and Whychus temperature assessments draft analyses complete. There will be a Working Group meeting March 10th.
- Crooked River temp assessment (phase 1 & 2) met on Jan 13th and no consensus was met. There will be another meeting February 16th where Niklas will present ~3 options to this subgroup for next steps.
- Additional task elements not yet contracted for were discussed in Crooked River subgroup. Mike Relf/Niklas will use input to make some recommendations back to the group.
- Legal Policy, Socio-economic (LPE): Ray Hartwell (Ecosystem Economics) and Adam Sussman (GSI) will present today.
- Upper Deschutes Ecological Assessment: RDG held a workshop January 12th and will send proposed HSC (habitat suitability criteria) memo for review and are working on criteria for “riparian conditions.”
- The habitat suitability curves developed will inform the development and evaluation of water rights scenarios. If anyone is interested in how the timing of flow and habitat is evaluated, Niklas is available to review it individually.

Brandon Mahon, with Anderson Perry, gave a presentation on the literature review for the Water Conservation Assessment they have done for each district. Important notes:

- It evaluates existing data (noted: there is old data and missing data)
- It helps identify data gaps
- On-farm numbers from some of the data sources (ex. DWPI) include everything past the district points of delivery, which can include on-farm as well as private laterals. Thus, some of the “on-farm” numbers are disproportionately high. Moving forward, efficiencies will be broken out by on-farm (on-field); and conveyance (private and district).
- Next steps are for districts to review.
- The Water Conservation Working Group will then be convened to review these, along with FCA’s scope of work that is being developed, to help guide next steps.

LEGAL POLICY ECON UPDATE

Adam presented GSI’s task of summarizing water demands in the Upper Deschutes Basin, again with the caveat that these numbers will be reviewed by water users.

- GSI tasks underway include: stored water, reservoir management, optimization, developing new or expanded reservoir storage, and mitigation demand/opportunities.

Ray Harwell with Ecosystems Economics reviewed their task of developing desired outcomes with BSWG to provide a framework for a multi-criteria assessment. This information will be used to evaluate alternatives when developing scenarios, as well as to evaluate the outputs of scenarios after they are run through the water resources model. How well do scenarios help us meet our collective goals, and how to we measure and evaluate this? The two main elements to develop are desired outcomes and evaluation criteria.

- Desired outcomes: water supply is sufficient to meet demand – agricultural, municipal, and environmental. The harder work will be defining objectives and metrics to evaluate this.
- Evaluation Criteria: efficacy/effectiveness, cost, equity, other criteria including economic efficiency and public acceptance.

The group supported the current approach and the initial list of desired outcomes and criteria. Discussion included:

- Reclamation will look into the requirements associated with the tradeoff analysis element of Basin Studies to ensure what we produce is consistent and comprehensive.
- Suggestion to consider greater community ‘externalities,’ for example, benefits to the Madras area of building a new reservoir.
- Suggestion to evaluate costs on a consistent time-frame (i.e. 100 years) so that the cost of restoring flows through an annual lease, for example, can be compared to a more permanent project.

The Planning Team will work with Ray to develop some draft objectives and metrics for the desired outcomes and will bring back to BSWG for discussion. The goal is to have a framework in place by the fall when scenario development will begin.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

The Communications Subgroup and Planning Teams have gone through several iterations of reviewing/revising the PowerPoint and the brochure. In an effort to balance BSWG input with expedience and the need to start communicating to the public, Kate proposed the following process for BSWG review/approval.

Agreed by CONSENSUS to a process to approve the BSWG Communications PowerPoint presentation and brochure as follows: once the Communications Subgroup and Planning Team review final revised versions of these two outreach tools, Kate will send them out to the Steering Committee via email. The Steering Committee will have 5 working days to review and flag any ‘red-card’ issues, after which the outreach tools will be available for use. If there are ‘red-card’ issues to work through, any subsequent versions will be emailed to BSWG with an additional 5 days for review. **ALL GREEN CARDS**

OREGON SPOTTED FROG

Craig said COID is working hard with all the districts. They are committed to working through the process. An HCP working group meeting is scheduled for February 8th at Redmond Public works building from 2pm – 4pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting is March 1, 2016 from 10-Noon. Location is Deschutes County DeArmond Room. Meeting adjourned by Craig Horrell.

MEETING EVALUATION

Members were provided forms on which to write feedback about four specific questions listed below. The following comments were received:

1. What concerns do you have about the Basin Study?
 - Looks like budget may limit some key questions
 - Need to assume integration with other ongoing paths and organizations
 - That the study moves forward in a cooperative manner across all interests and not be derailed by special interest litigation
 - Too many non-technical interests
 - Constant Change
 - Need to sharpen focus of group on the “study”
 - It will provide great information, but it will “sit on the shelf” when it comes to implementation
2. What Specific suggestions do you have to address these concerns?
 - Public outreach needs to occur – expedite
 - What do we need to know that we don’t?
 - How will the information be used or applied?
 - Work on funding, buy-in and other pitfalls now and moving forward
3. What general suggestions do you have?
 - Move the meetings to Redmond
 - Limit input on products to get what we need without more politics, emotions and biases
 - Keep the long range goals in mind
4. From your prospective, what are the biggest opportunities of the Basin Study?
 - Baseline information together with “tools”
 - To increase storage of water
 - To conserve water for irrigation districts
 - Simply gain critical knowledge about solutions scenarios and how they help and hurt the basin
 - Collaboration moving forward

ATTACHMENT 1: BSC ACTIVE MEMBERS LIST

From Section 3.a of the Charter: “If a member organization does not participate in decision-making at two consecutive meetings by attendance or by email (see 4.a.vi), that organization cannot participate in decision-making until after it participates at two of the prior four meetings.”

Organization	10/6/15	11/3/15	11/30/15	2/2/2016
Arnold Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Avion Water Company	P	P	P	P
Bend Paddle Trail Alliance				
Central Oregon Cities Organization	P	P	P	P
Central Oregon Flyfishers	P	P	P	P
Central Oregon Irrigation District	P		P	P
City of Bend	P	P	P	P
City of La Pine			P	P
City of Madras	P	O	P	P
City of Prineville	P	P	P	P
City of Redmond	O	O	O	O
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs	P	P	P	P
Crooked River Watershed Council	O	P	P	P
Deschutes County	P	P		
Deschutes River Conservancy	P	P	P	P
Lone Pine Irrigation District	P	P		P
Native Reintroduction Network	P	P	O	O
Natural Resources Conservation Service	P	O	O	P
North Unit Irrigation District	P		P	
Ochoco Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Oregon Department of Agriculture	P	P	P	P
Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality	O	P	O	P
Oregon Land and Water Alliance	P	P		
Oregon Water Resources Department	P	P	P	P
Portland General Electric	P	P	P	P
Swalley Irrigation District	O	O	P	P
Three Sisters Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Trout Unlimited	P	P	P	P
Tumalo Irrigation District	P		O	O
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	P			P
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P	P	P	P
U.S. Forest Service	P	P	O	P
Upper Deschutes River Coalition	P	O	P	P
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council	P	O	P	P
Water for Life	P	O	P	P
WaterWatch of Oregon	P	O	O	P

