

Basin Study Work Group Steering Committee (BSC) Meeting

March 1, 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
Craig Horrell, Central Oregon Irrigation District
Adam Sussman, City of Bend
Bill Duerden, City of Redmond
Chris Gannon, Crooked River Watershed Council
Alan Unger, Deschutes County
Tod Heisler, Deschutes River Conservancy
Terry Smith, Lone Pine Irrigation District
Tom Davis, Native Reintroduction Network
Mike Britton, North Unit Irrigation District
Russ Rhoden, Ochoco Irrigation District

Kyle Gorman, Oregon Water Resources Department
Jer Camarata, Swalley Irrigation District
Marc Thalacker & Pamela Thalacker, Three Sisters Irrigation District
Mike Tripp, Trout Unlimited
Bridget Moran & Peter Lickwar, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jeff Wieland, Upper Deschutes River Coalition
Ryan Houston, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council
Rex Barber, Water for Life

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY PHONE

Kimberley Priestly, **WaterWatch**
Russ Rhoden, **Ochoco Irrigation District**
Chandra Ferrari, **Trout Unlimited**
Scott Carlon, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Betty Roppe, **Central Oregon Cities Organization & City of Prineville**
Margaret Matter, **Oregon Department of Agriculture**
Jessica Graeber, **Portland General Electric**
Doug DeFlitch, **Bureau of Reclamation**

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY EMAIL

Paul Lipscomb, **Oregon Land and Water Alliance**
Ellen Hammond, **Oregon Agricultural Department**
Ken Rieck, **Tumalo Irrigation District**
Dave Dunahay, **Central Oregon Flyfishers**
Tom Bennett, **Natural Resources Conservation Service**

Member Organizations Not Present:

Bend Paddle Trail Alliance
City of La Pine
City of Madras
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs
Deschutes County Soil and Water Conservation District
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
U.S. Forest Service

Also Attending:

Gail Snyder, Central Oregon Land Watch
Stacy Lowery, Farmers Conservation Alliance
Julie O'Shea, Farmers Conservation Alliance
Margi Hoffman, Farmers Conservation Alliance
Jerry Bryan, Farmers Conservation Alliance
John Warinner, GIS Direct
Scott Nelson, Riviere Des Chutes
Shon Rae, Central Oregon Irrigation District
Lisa Seales, Oregon State University, Cascades Campus
Phil Chang, Senator Merkeley Office
Brandon Mahon, Anderson Perry & Associates (Phone)
Jim Powell, Citizen

In addition, both Mike Relf, Bureau of Reclamation Basin Study Project Manager, Bureau of Reclamation, attended by phone. 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: Farmers Conservation Alliance
4. Communications Update
5. Oregon Spotted Frog Update
6. Public Comment
7. Next steps

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MINUTES

- Meeting minutes approved from February 2nd **ALL GREEN CARDS.**

STUDY ELEMENT UPDATES

Mike Relf, Bureau of Reclamation, updates:

- Climate Projections complete pending tech memo.
- Hydrology/Groundwater modeling: Niklas and Jonathon LaMarche had a productive work session with Jennifer Johnson in Boise on February 10th & 11th. Next working group meeting is March 29th
- Update and develop water resource model. These updates are underway per the February 10th and 11th meeting outcomes.
- BOR staff has engaged in task-specific input and review on the Upper Deschutes Ecological Assessment, the Crooked River flow-temperature assessment and other Crooked River tasks.
- BOR will be coordinating with GSI on reservoir optimization.
- Storage Assessments: two-phase approach is underway

STUDY ELEMENT UPDATES

Niklas gave updates on state-funded tasks:

1. Water Conservation Assessment #1 (Anderson Perry)
 - Literature reviews for each district are under review by districts and are being used by FCA in interviews
 - AP will be used to summarize FCA results for inclusion into Basin Study
 - AP will be used for non-district land in Crooked River
 - Potential additional work, waiting for detailed FCA work plans
2. Water Conservation Assessment #2 (FCA)
 - FCA will be presenting today on this.
3. Upper Deschutes Ecological Assessment (RDG/HDR)
 - Consultants are finalizing Habitat Suitability Criteria memo
 - Finalizing topo and discharge data
4. Middle D/Tumalo and Whychus Temperature Assessments
 - The Upper Deschutes Watershed Council produced and evaluated preliminary results, with input from some technical experts, revised regression equations, and updated draft results memo.
 - This memo will be circulated to the working group in advance of a meeting to present results on March 10th.
 - Final report should be submitted by 3/31
5. Legal, Policy, Economic Assessment (GSI and EE)
 - GSI Water Solutions
 - Task 1 (summary of water rights and use): Delivered data to Reclamation, making edits to Task 1 memo that summarizes water use in the basin.
 - Task 5 (legal/policy issues associated with stored water): Developed draft memo, initiated review. Will finalize memo and send to workgroup for review in March.
 - Task 6: Compiled preliminary mitigation information
 - Ecosystems Economics
 - Task 1: Summarizing Desired Outcomes and Evaluation Criteria Task
 - Task 7: Evaluating district water usage and financial information
6. Crooked Temperature Assessment & 7. Other Crooked Tasks

Niklas reported that a large Crooked River group met January 13th and recommended that a smaller technical group meet to provide recommendations. This group met February 16th, make recommendations to the Planning Team, which are now brought before this group.

Niklas provided additional information about the CE-QUAL modeling steps:

- Model built by PSU (Portland State University) in summer 2016.
- PSU presents calibrated model in fall 2016. Presentation includes discussion on what drives reservoir/stream temperatures, recommendations
- • Information is used in fall of 2016 to inform water resource scenarios

- • Model given to Reclamation in winter 2017
- • Output from RiverWare (inflow, outflow, solar radiation, air temperature) from CC/WRS is then input into CE-QUAL to evaluate impacts from CC/WRS to stream temperatures.
- Results incorporated into Reclamation reporting

Niklas walked through the table (Table 1 provided below) of other Crooked River tasks and discussed the recommendations.

Kate asked the group to vote on the following recommendations for the Crooked Temperature-Flow assessment and the other Crooked River tasks, as outlined in the agenda and presented at the meeting

1. Pursue the CE-Qual model to evaluate flow-temperature relationships from Prineville Reservoir down to City of Prineville. Contract with Portland State University to develop the model. Allocate \$4,772 of the uncontracted OWRD funds (that were informally 'set aside' for Crooked tasks) to this task. This would increase the budget from the existing \$35K to \$39,772 (but not impact overall budget).
- ONE YELLOW CARD (by a member on the phone that reported this later by email), ALL OTHERS GREEN CARDS
2. Bring the existing habitat suitability curve for juvenile steelhead in the Prineville Valley reach (ODFW 2011) into Riverware to help evaluate effects of water management scenarios on fish habitat. No budget implications for BSWG. **- ALL GREEN CARDS**
3. Proceed with the original concepts for remaining Crooked River tasks #1-4 as outlined in Table 1 below. For Task #5: document the merit of these options for future evaluation, but do not further evaluate in the Basin Study. Eliminate Task #6. No budget implications for BSWG; potential BOR savings on reducing Task 5 to a small technical writing task and eliminating Task 6. **- ALL GREEN CARDS**

Table 1

Task	Lead	Budget	Concept	Contacts
1.Improve water supply forecasting	USBR	\$2K USBR \$500 BSWG*	Additional Snotel locations in U Crooked (2 currently)	USBR: Eric Rothwell, Chris Runyan BSWG: Niklas, Russ Rhoden
2.Increase on-farm efficiencies	BSWG	\$500 USBR \$5K BSWG	Focus on non-District lands. Wrap into Anderson Perry scope.	USBR: TBD BSWG: Niklas, AP
3.Improve efficiencies via better measurement at diversion points	USBR	\$4K USBR \$1K BSWG*	With OWRD: Identify 5 priority measurement points; rough outline of broader plan	USBR: Karl Tarbet BSWG: Jeremy Giffin, Niklas
4.Explore options to modify rule curve	USBR	\$6K USBR \$500 BSWG*	Leverage Pilot Study evaluations of rule curve approaches to	USBR: Chris Runyan, Lindy Johnson

		<i>(Suggest retaining budget pending detail on Pilot Study scope)</i>	maximize storage at Prineville (results approx. spring 2017)	BSWG: Russ Rhoden, Niklas
5. Evaluate non-structural storage opportunities above Prineville Reservoir – Recommend documenting options but not further evaluating.	BSWG	\$10K USBR \$10K BSWG <i>(budget not allocated to-date on BSWG side)</i>	Wetlands/floodplain reconnection, encourage beaver activity, juniper thinning	USBR: Mainly GIS assistance BSWG: Garry Sanders, Rob Tanner
6. Structural modifications to better manage storage releases Recommend eliminating task.	USBR	\$2K USBR \$500 BSWG*	Automate releases at Prineville Reservoir (Ochoco?)	USBR: Doug DeFlicht, John Roache BSWG: TBD

8. Overall Basin Study scope and 9. Overall Basin Study progress

Niklas said that he and Kate have been doing an internal “check-in,” evaluating whether the Basin Study work as a whole is encompassing the whole of the intended Basin Study scope, and also evaluating how the study is going and their performance managing the Basin Study. Niklas/Kate will structure a way to get input from the Planning Team and BSC on this and will set up a discussion at the April BSC meeting.

WATER CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT

Niklas introduced FCA (Farmers Conservation Alliance) to the group and clarified that although their work is an input into the study, they are not BSWG consultants and BSWG does not fund their work. FCA has individual contracts with each of the eight irrigation districts for its Irrigation Modernization Program.

Julie O’Shea, the Executive Director, told the story of FCA’s history. It formed with the goal of producing and installing fish screens throughout the Pacific Northwest. Over time, FCA realized that there are many projects and challenges in water delivery systems to make installing fish screens a complex and, often times, delayed process. They started to shift their approach to help other organizations and districts streamline the projects necessary before fish screen installation, essentially combining efforts and resources. FCA has now launched the Irrigation Modernization Program to work with stakeholder and districts to find a methodology for helping districts undergo modernization of their systems, producing multiple benefits in an integrated manner. This program is just getting off the ground and the eight Deschutes districts, along with four additional districts in Oregon, are the first round that FCA is working with. Energy Trust of Oregon is providing the funding (\$1.1M for the Deschutes districts combined).

Stacy Lowery, Program Director, explained the Process for Developing a Modernization Strategy slide to the group. Between phase 2 and 3, they check with managers to make sure they are on track

and have accurate information. Here, they can use budget to scale effort as needed according to each different district. Phase 4 (not listed) is currently being developed. FCA will also be talking with other stakeholders to understand the wider social and environmental benefit/impacts of modernization.

Jerry Bryan, Project Manager, explained the Irrigation Modernization Program with FCA. He first noted that the FCA process would need to be adapted to the Deschutes Basin as each basin is unique. He reviewed the topics below:

- Water Resource Reliability Studies
- Water Conservation Assessments – Conveyance and On-Farm
- Energy Conservation and Generation Assessments
- System Infrastructure Modeling
- Funding Plan Development

Craig commented that hydropower is the last priority in COID (Central Oregon Irrigation District) for their water management. He is concerned about speculation that hydropower is COID's number one priority. Water delivery to patrons is number one, followed by water conservation, energy conservation and then energy generation. He expressed a commitment to be open and transparent and invited questions and discussion either in this meeting or outside of it. Hydropower can be a powerful opportunity that helps fund the necessary infrastructure upgrades, and wants to do it the right way.

Marc said Three Sisters Irrigation District is diverting less water with hydropower. This allowed the district to put the last 12 cfs back instream.

Craig clarified that this is the right place to examine all concerns and be transparent to discuss this and other issues. Kate added that this is the right place to speak up.

Craig said there is always a seat at the table for anyone that wants to come and be involved in the BSWG process. He is always open to questions and conversations. He stated that we have real problems, we need real numbers and we need real solutions.

Jerry commented that he is available anytime to talk about the FCA process. He will be in Central Oregon for the month of March to work and will be available for any questions and concerns.

Kyle asked that people call himself, Jonathan, or Jeremy if they have any questions. They have over 65 years of combined experience with the Oregon Water Resources Department and are a good source of information.

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Kate reminded the group that last month they agreed that final revisions to the presentation and brochure would be reviewed by the planning and communications teams, and then would be emailed to the Steering Committee with five days to flag any red-card issues. The brochure and PowerPoint are out to the planning and communications teams right now.

OREGON SPOTTED FROG

Craig said March 22nd is the judge's decision on preliminary relief injunction.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting is April 5, 2016 from 10-Noon. Location is Deschutes County Barnes & Sawyer Room.

Meeting adjourned by Craig Horrell.

MEETING EVALUATION

Members were provided forms on which to write one piece of feedback about what they liked about the meeting, indicated below with a plus symbol (+), and one piece of feedback about what they would like to change for the next meeting, indicated with a delta symbol (Δ). Each check mark (✓) indicates that someone repeated an item. The following comments were received.

+	Δ
+ Good information	Δ Nothing
+ Went great	Δ Require brevity
+ Informative	Δ Continue talking about the elephant in the room
+ Everything	Δ We should allocate more time
+ Updates on overall progress	
+ Introductions of subcontractors	

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	11/3/15	11/30/15	2/2/16	3/1/16
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	O	P	P	
City of Prineville	P	P	P	P
City of Redmond	O	O	O	P
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs	P	P	P	
Crooked River Watershed Council	P	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	O	O	P
Natural Resources Conservation Service	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	P	O	P	
Oregon Land and Water Alliance	P			O
Oregon Water Resources Department	P	P	P	P
Portland General Electric	P	P	P	P
Swalley Irrigation District	O	P	P	P
Three Sisters Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Trout Unlimited	P	P	P	P
Tumalo Irrigation District		O	O	O
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation			P	P
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P	P	P	P
U.S. Forest Service	P	O	P	
Upper Deschutes River Coalition	O	P	P	P
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council	O	P	P	P
Water for Life	O	P	P	P
WaterWatch of Oregon	O	O	P	P