

Basin Study Work Group Steering Committee (BSC) Meeting

July 19, 2016, 10:00 pm - 12:00 pm

Barnes & Sawyer Room, Deschutes Services Building, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend, OR 97701

ATTENDANCE

Herb Blank, Central Oregon Fly Fishers

Craig Horrell, Central Oregon Irrigation District

Adam Sussman, City of Bend

Gail Snyder, Coalition for the Deschutes

Chris Gannon, Crooked River Watershed Council

Alan Unger, Deschutes County

Tod Heisler, Deschutes River Conservancy

Terry Smith, Lone Pine Irrigation District

Tom Bennett Natural Resources Conservation Service

Maria Snodgrass, Oregon Department of Agriculture

Paul Lipscomb, Oregon Land and Water Alliance

Kyle Gorman, Oregon Water Resources Department

Jer Camarata, Swalley Irrigation District

Marc Thalacker, Three Sisters Irrigation District

Mike Tripp, Trout Unlimited

Jason Gritzner, US Forest Service

Jeff Wieland, Upper Deschutes River Coalition

Ryan Houston, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

Rex Barber, Water for Life

Ken Rieck, Tumalo Irrigation District

Garrett Chrostek, Avion Water Company

Bridget Moran, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY PHONE

Robert Spateholts, Portland General Electric

MEMBER ATTENDANCE BY EMAIL/PHONE AFTER THE MEETING

Dave Dunahay, Central Oregon Flyfishers (in person)

Member Organizations Not Present

Arnold Irrigation District

Bend Paddle Trail Alliance

Central Oregon Cities Org.

City of LaPine

City of Madras

City of Prineville

City of Redmond

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

Deschutes County Soil and Water Conservation District

Native Reintroduction Network

North Unit Irrigation District

Ochoco Irrigation District

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

Bureau of Reclamation

WaterWatch of Oregon

Also Attending:

Hannah Satein, Deschutes River Conservancy Intern

Steve Parrett, Oregon Water Resources Department

Yancy Lind, Citizen
Sally Russell, Bend City Council
Margi Hoffman, Farmers Conservation Alliance
Julie Davies O'Shea, Farmers Conservation Alliance
Dave Walsh, Bureau of Reclamation
Migde Graybeal, Anderson Perry
Shon Rae, Central Oregon Irrigation District
Kevin Crew, Black Rock Consulting
Lauren Mork, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

In addition, Niklas Christensen, contractor with Watershed Professionals Network, attended, Kate Fitzpatrick, Deschutes River Conservancy, attended as Process Coordinator. Kelsey Wymore, Deschutes River Conservancy, attended as Process Support and recorded meeting minutes.

AGENDA

The group used the following agenda as a guide during their meeting:

1. Welcome, Self-Introductions, and Approval of Minutes
2. Study Element Updates
3. FCA Presentation on Water Loss Program
4. Contracting Budget Updates
 - Technical Director Budget
 - Ecosystem Economics
5. Communications Update
6. Oregon Spotted Frog Update
7. Public Comment
8. Next Steps

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MINUTES

Craig Horrell welcomed everyone and asked for self-introductions.

Meeting Minutes Approval

The minutes from the June 7, 2016 meeting were approved. **ALL GREEN CARDS**

Next Meeting Announcement

The next meeting will be held September 6, 2016 in the DeArmond room.

STUDY ELEMENT UPDATES

Mike Relf presented updates for Bureau of Reclamation tasks:

- Hydrology/Groundwater Modeling GSFLOW model is still being finished, hoped to have it further ahead by now, but it's still on track.
- With improved calibration of the Crooked River VIC, options should be finalized.
- Baseline RiverWare: complete and ready for use.

- Climate Change recommendations to be developed. We will come to the committee with three climate scenarios to use.

Task-Specific Input/Review – Reclamation staff involvement:

- Input regarding Upper Deschutes Habitat Suitability Criteria
- Draft memo on SNOTEL stations (Crooked River)
- Draft memo on diversion measurement (Crooked River)

Storage Assessment – June meeting action items:

- Finalize meeting notes, revise Phase I inventory of structural storage opportunities
- Compile preliminary info for Monner, U Haystack, O’Neil concepts in U Deschutes
- Summarize preliminary info for U Deschutes per Phase I evaluation criteria for Group consideration; Phase II plan tbd
- Data assessment for Whychus concept
- Outline Phase II possibilities for Crooked River basin re: increasing storage at Prineville Res
- Re-visit overall plan, schedule, budget for task
- Assembling a matrix of Monner, U Haystack and O’Neil concepts for further evaluation

Niklas presented updates for OWRD-funded elements:

- Upper Deschutes Ecological Assessment
 - River Design Group has distributed its draft Habitat Suitability Criteria memo for Oregon spotted frog and redband trout adult rearing. They are using velocity and depth for redband trout and velocity, depth and substrate for Oregon spotted frog. The end result of this work, when coupled with the hydrologic model, will be a graph showing area weighted suitability at a range of streamflows. RDG will also assess the relationship between flows and riparian function.
 - Bridget Moran clarified that USFWS is working with districts and will have a different analysis of Oregon Spotted Frog needs. The agency will be evaluating each life stage and will involve a more in-depth analysis. USFWS and BSWG are working to use consistent data, but methods and evaluation will differ. BSWG’s evaluation is a coarser tool for looking at a range of flow scenarios.
 - Discussion clarifying that the HCP is focused solely on the needs of a species, while the Basin Study is focused on broader goals.

Hydrologic Forecasting (WPN):

- Niklas created a hydrologic forecasting memo that Bureau of Reclamation and a small group have reviewed
- Niklas will make a few edits and send it out to the Planning Team for review next
- This will most likely be sent out to BSWG in August

Crooked River Temperature Assessment (Portland State University)

- Held kick-off meeting with PSU, Reclamation, CRWC, and WPN

- PSU gathering data, building model
- PSU will present at the beginning of December

Adam Sussman presented updates for GSI and Ecosystems Economics:

Task 3: Evaluate Ground Water-Surface Water exchanges and AR in Whychus Creek

- Developed concepts for AR/ASR
- Next step: complete analysis
- GSI is also looking at possible underground storage on Whychus and it's very much in the early stages right now.

Task 5: Evaluate new and expanded storage

- Completed draft memo in April, incorporated edits
- Final draft memo submitted – will address selected storage sites

Task 6: Evaluate Deschutes Basin groundwater mitigation

- Compiled and analyzed demand data, held small group meetings
- Next step: submit memo for review

Legal, Policy, Economic Assessment

- Completed:
 - Finalized willingness to pay/accept payment surveys for temporary leases of water to ag or instream
 - Distributing surveys to district patrons
- Coming up:
 - Analysis of survey results
 - Evaluation of the potential of different transactions

FCA PRESENTATION

Kevin Crew of Black Rock Consulting in Bend presented the water loss and assessment program. Kevin was hired through an ETO grant to provide several services on behalf of Farmers Conservation Alliance and the Deschutes Basin Board of Control.

Program Components:

- District Canals and Laterals
- District System Tail-Water
- Private Laterals
- On-Farm Evaluations.

Quality measures and staff:

- Student-staff partnership with OSU/Natural Resources Technical Professor Ron Reuter
- Professional staff: David Prull and Kevin Crew
- Irrigation district staff
- Farmers Conservation Alliance staff

- Civil engineer Abigail Centola

Protocols and equipment:

- USGS/USBR Discharge Measurements at Gauging Stations Manual (3-A8)
- Sontek Flow Tracker2
- RiverSurveyor
- Sontek Diagnostics
- PE review

Measurements:

- Central Oregon Irrigation District – in-district canals and laterals to approximate 5cfs flow rate when piped
- North Unit Irrigations District – total system
- Arnold/Tumalo/Swalley/Ochoco/Lone Pine Districts – generally total systems with turnout measurements below transects in some cases

District System Tail-Water:

- Central Oregon Irrigation District: measurement exists and will be documented
- North Unit Irrigation District: all laterals and most sub laterals to be measured
- Swalley and Arnold tails to be measures
- Lone Pine/Ochoco/Tumalo Districts measurement is planned
- All measurements performed by district telemetry or staff (typically at weirs)

Private Laterals:

- Central Oregon Irrigation District rotations and non-rotations being measured on all beats and assessed based upon existing on-farm delivery rates
- North Unity all five private system deliveries to be measured based upon individual delivery requirements
- Swalley and Arnold Districts private deliveries measured at primary turnout and loss assessed based upon acreage
- Lone Pine, Ochoco and Tumalo Districts private delivery measurements planned at primary turnout and loss assessed based upon acreage

On-Farm Evaluations:

- To be completed by Abby Centola, Kevin Crew
- Central Oregon and North Unit Irrigation Districts are under evaluation
- Obtain district database of ownership and tax lots
- Identify irrigation practices on all irrigated parcels
- Identify soil types on all irrigated parcels
- Identify crops by parcels in Central Oregon Irrigation District
- Working with OSU Agricultural Extension to determine the potential of identifying crops by parcels in North Unit Irrigation District
- Evaluate and tabulate water savings estimated from the transition of irrigation practices post-pressurization

- Evaluate and tabulate the estimates demands of existing crops based upon soil, region and crop type in Central Oregon and North Unit Irrigation Districts
- Natural Resource Conservation Service, OSU Agricultural Extension methods and practices to be followed

Approach and Deliverables:

- SIP – Central Oregon, North Unit, Swalley and Tumalo Irrigation Districts – goal is to pipe to individual deliveries (like TSID model)
- SIP – Arnold, Ochoco and Lone Pine Irrigation Districts – to be determined based upon specific district direction to be obtained under this program
- Given full piping to all individual turnouts, district tails-water, private lateral losses and district canal and lateral systems will be eliminated
- Loss information is planned to be included in a section of each district SIP with quantification of district canal and lateral losses, private lateral losses were evaluated and elimination of district tail-water losses
- On-farm losses estimate in Central Oregon and North Unit Irrigation Districts to be developed in separate report

CONTRACTING BUDGETING UPDATES

- Technical Director Update:
Kate explained that the planning team has forecasted a potential budget shortfall in covering Niklas' time. His contract is based on 10 hours per week, yet 15 hours/week has proven to be a more realistic estimate to provide sufficient technical direction to the Basin Study. The planning team will make more specific recommendations to BSC to consider.
- Ecosystem Economics Update: The two principals of EE are dissolving the firm and each starting their own firm. We are in the process of reassigning the contract to one of these firms. This will not affect the scope, deliverables, budget, or team of people doing the work, it will just be done under a different name.

OREGON SPOTTED FROG UPDATE

Bridget stated that the parties involved are working towards a settlement and the court has instructed them not to discuss it.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> + Abundant information and good progression ✓ + The overview and updates are always welcome + Room was the right size + FCA presentation was very informative + Information sharing was great + Good progress is being made towards conservation + Well organized and planned + Great to have slides before meeting + Good questions and comments + Excellent presentations and flow + Information is becoming more concrete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Δ Fear that too many small, isolated groups are working without sharing information with larger group. Δ Less discussion about topics not related to BSWG Δ Time awareness to ensure we cover the most critical BSWG needs Δ Increase length of meeting Δ Too many slides and text is too small to read

ATTACHMENT A: 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	3/1/16	4/5/16	6/7/16	7/19/16
Arnold Irrigation District	P		P	
Avion Water Company	P	P	P	P
Bend Paddle Trail Alliance				
Central Oregon Cities Organization	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				
City of Madras				
City of Prineville	P	P		
City of Redmond	P	P	O	
Coalition for the Deschutes			P	P
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs		P		
Crooked River Watershed Council	P	P	P	P
Deschutes County	P	P	P	P
Deschutes County Soil & Water Cons. Dist.				
Deschutes River Conservancy	P	P		P
Lone Pine Irrigation District	P		P	P

Organization	3/1/16	4/5/16	6/7/16	7/19/16
Native Reintroduction Network	P	P	P	
Natural Resources Conservation Service		P		P
North Unit Irrigation District	P		P	
Ochoco Irrigation District	P	P	P	
Oregon Department of Agriculture	P	P	O	P
Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality		O	O	
Oregon Land and Water Alliance	O	O		P
Oregon Water Resources Department	P	P	P	P
Portland General Electric	P		P	P
Swalley Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Three Sisters Irrigation District	P	P	P	P
Trout Unlimited	P	P	P	P
Tumalo Irrigation District	O			P
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	P	P		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	P	P	P	P
U.S. Forest Service		O	P	P
Upper Deschutes River Coalition	P	P	P	P
Upper Deschutes Watershed Council	P	P	P	P
Water for Life	P	P	P	P
WaterWatch of Oregon	P	P	P	