

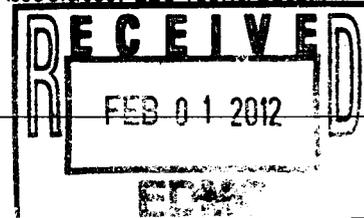
Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council

Tuesday, July 12, 2011, 1:00 - 4:00 pm

CONFERENCE CALL SUMMARY, v1 - FINAL

Meeting Participants:

Primary Trustees	Alternate Trustees	Others
Dana Ward, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)	Joe Bartoszek, FWS	Steve Wisness, YAHS GS (contract support to DOE)
Russ MacRae, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)	Daniel Diedrich, NOAA	Brian Barry, Yakama Nation
Charlene Andrade, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)	Dan Landeen, Nez Perce Tribe	Michael Calac, Yakama Nation
Jack Bell, Nez Perce Tribe	Dale Engstrom, State of Oregon	RoseMarie Lewis-George, Yakama Nation
Paul Shaffer, State of Oregon	John Carleton, State of Washington (Department of Fish and Wildlife)	Natalie Swan, Yakama Nation
Jay McConnaughey, Yakama Nation		Ruth Nicholson, Nicholson Facilitation & Associates, LLC (contractor)



Opening

Russ MacRae, Council chair, opened the call at 1:00 pm. There were two purposes for this conference call:

- To finalize the statements of work (SOWs) to be funded with Fiscal Years 2011 (FY11) money and
- To identify topics for the seniors meeting/conference call. The topics will determine the agenda and the Council's recommendation as to whether the seniors should meet in person or not on July 21st.

Since there was no representative from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the group agreed that it would not be able to make final decisions on which project SOWs to send out for formal bid. However, the group agreed that it could identify SOWs that were ready to send out to get cost estimates. The process will proceed with general project priority setting at the July 19-20-21, 2011 Council meeting. Final project decisions will be made when the cost estimates are available and the Council can make more informed decisions with more complete project and cost information.

A number of general concerns were raised prior to discussion specific SOWs, including:

- Many of the SOWs do not currently contain opportunities for Council collaboration and comment on work products.
- A concern was raised regarding the workload that the Council is undertaking with these SOWs and that there may be a need for some delegation of work to the Technical Working Groups (TWGs). This concern was balanced by the desire to ensure continuity and good communication.
- Point people or "shepherds" should be identified for each project.

- The need to prioritize the projects in relation to each other in the event choices need to be made about timing and/or funding.

The group then proceeded to review the following SOWs:

- #1 - Biota contaminant report
- #5 & #6 - PED
- #13 - Historic data
- #23 - Characterize upwelling plumes
- #25, #27, & #31 - Data acquisition
- #39 - Native mussel habitat
- #43 - Mussel chromium studies
- #44 - Lamprey
- #53 - Groundwater plume maps.

#1 - Biota Contaminant Report

Dan Landeen is the “shepherd” for this SOW. The group discussed minor revisions, including the addition of heavy metals and organics to the SOW in addition to radionuclides. Dan will incorporate those revisions and send this SOW in to DOE so it can be sent out to get a cost estimate from the prospective contractor.

#5 & #6 - Preliminary Estimate of Damaged (PED)

Jay McConnaughey is the “shepherd” for this SOW. The group discussed revisions to this SOW and concluded that it needed more discussion at the July Council meeting. Specific items flagged for discussion included:

- The broad scope of the PED vs. a more phased or focused scope
- Contractors who might perform the work, including IEc and Ridolfi
- Revisions to the SOW
- The Yakama Nation asked whether a non-federal trustee can contract on behalf of the Trustee Council. DOE answered “yes”.

#13 - Historic Data

DOE is the “shepherd” for this SOW. The group decided to table this SOW for now because an upcoming RIFS may collect data that would be useful. It was noted the importance that the data collected be useful and easy to find.

#23 - Characterize Upwelling Plumes

Paul Shaffer is the “shepherd” for this SOW. The Aquatic, Source & Pathway, and Groundwater TWGs have reviewed this project. Questions were raised about the balance of temporal and spatial components of the project. The group decided to put resolution of this issue on the July Council agenda.

#25 & #27 - Data Acquisition

Jack Bell is the “shepherd” for this set of SOWs which would go out to multiple contractors, including MSA, PNNL, Washington Hanford Closure, and CH2MHill. The two primary purposes are to acquire data and to enable key staff to be available for questions and discussions with the TWGs. There is a challenge regarding identifying a clear level of effort for the SOWs so the SOWs may be split between inventory and meeting activities in FY11 and more informed follow-on activities in FY12. Jack will make the revisions suggested by the group and send the SOW to DOE so it can be sent out to get cost estimates from the prospective contractors.

#31 - Data Jockey

Charlene Andrade is the “shepherd” for this SOW which has gone through a significant transformation due to the overlap of the previous project proposal with the IEC contract. Due to ongoing concerns about potential overlap with IEC’s work, the group decided to include a discussion of this SOW on its July Council agenda.

#39 - Native Mussel Habitat

Joe Bartoszek is the “shepherd” for this SOW. The group offered minor revisions. Joe will polish up the SOW and send it to DOE so it can be sent out to get a cost estimate from the prospective contractor, likely MSA or one of its subcontractors.

Senior Trustees Meeting/Conference Call

The group took a break from discussing SOWs to consider topics for the senior trustees to discuss in July. The recommendation was that the seniors have a conference call instead of a face-to-face meeting. The topics identified for the agenda were:

1. Introduction of new senior trustees to the group: Kate Benkert, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, and McCoy Oatman, Nez Perce Tribe
2. Update on major Council activities, including progress on developing statements of work for studies to be funded with FY11 monies
 - o Ability to obligate vs. spend FY11 monies
 - o Concern about retaining ability to carry over FY11 funds into FY12
 - o How might the budgetary concerns of the current Congress and DOE headquarters affect the Council’s work in future years?
 - o Discussion of any contracting issues or other project concerns that may arise during the Council’s July 19-20-21 meeting
3. Do the seniors wish to meet in person with the Council for part of the Council’s September meeting? The September Council meeting is traditionally a time for reviewing the past year’s progress and mapping out the future year’s work and priorities. It also is traditionally held outside of the Tri-Cities to provide more of a retreat-like setting.
4. Clarification of how seniors wish to schedule future meetings, including agenda development and choosing whether to meet in person or via conference call.

Steve Wisness will get a call-in line for the seniors’ conference call, and Ruth Nicholson will send out an e-mail to the seniors with the call-in information and proposed agenda.

The group then decided to extend the conference call past the scheduled 4:00 pm end time to complete work on the remaining three (3) SOWs.

#43 - Mussel Chromium Studies

Joe is the “shepherd” for this SOW. This work could be done through USGS or through a public bid process. There is a preference for USGS as it is familiar with the topic and is also doing similar studies at Lake Roosevelt. Monies could be passed through FWS to USGS, although the administrative fees of those agencies should be included in the budget. The group also discussed the number of meetings called for between the contractor and the Council, as well as the desirability of an expert panel. Joe will make the minor revisions to the SOW and send it on to DOE so it can be sent out to get a cost estimate from the prospective contractor(s).

#53 - Groundwater Plume Maps

Dale Engstrom is the “shepherd” for this SOW. He emphasized the importance of engaging an independent, impartial contractor for this work, perhaps USGS. Dale will make minor revisions to the SOW and send it on to DOE so it can be sent out to get a cost estimate from the prospective contractor(s).

#44 - Lamprey

The challenge with this SOW is that it is a combination of two earlier project proposals. It is on the list of potential FY11 projects as a placeholder back-up in the event that one of the other SOWs cannot move forward. The group decided to postpone work on this SOW at this time.

The conference call ended at 4:30 pm.