



BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE

Terrestrial Resources Implementation Group Technical Meeting

January 4th, 2007 (9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.)

U.S. Forest Service Office
21905 64th Avenue West
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043
425-744-3236 (office # 425-775-9702)

Conference Call Line: 1-866-297-7238, ID: 225370, Password: 6268 until 12:30pm, then
ID: 1444097, Password: 6229 after 12:30 until 2pm.

Please tell Tony (425-462-3553 (w) or 206-276-1204 (c)) if you plan to call into meeting

AGENDA

1. Review notes/agenda/action items from December 7th, 2006 meeting
2. Review recent BRICC meeting activities, licensing updates?
 - Any updates on BiOp?
3. Discuss legal mechanism for filing and reviewing/revising the TRMP
4. Chapter-by-Chapter TRMP Review (using the clean copy)
 - Updates from Teamlet meetings (e.g., Elk Teamlet land management criteria, etc.)
 - Unresolved issues
 - TRMP “finalization” plan
5. Other?
6. Evaluate meeting, set date and agenda for next meeting

Baker River Project License Implementation

**Terrestrial Resource Implementation Group
Final Meeting Notes**

January 4, 2007
9:00 am - 2:00 pm
WDFW Mountlake Terrace

FINAL MEETING NOTES

Team Leader: Tony Fuchs (PSE), 425-462-3553, tony.fuchs@pse.com

PRESENT

Tony Fuchs and Jacob Venard (PSE); Kathy Smayda (Smayda Environmental Associates); Lou Ellyn Jones (USFWS); Brock Applegate (WDFW); Bob Nelson (RMEF); Laura Potash (USFS); Cathy Baker (TNC); Marty Vaughn (Biota-Pacific); Don Gay by phone (USFS); and Jamie Riche (PDSA Consulting).

NEXT MEETING DATES

Elk Teamlet Meeting: January 25, morning, PSE Mt. Vernon

Osprey/Loon Teamlet: January 25, afternoon, PSE Mt. Vernon

Joint ARG/TRIG Meeting: February 1, 2007, 9 am – 12 pm, Mtlk Terrace (*Joint Mtg: Tentative*)

TRIG Meeting: February 1, 2007, 12 pm – 3 pm, Mtlk Terrace

Future TRIG Meetings: Mar. 1, Apr. 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6

TODAY'S AGENDA TOPICS

Review Notes, Action Items, Agenda

BRICC, License and BiOps Updates

Chapter-by-Chapter Review of TRMP

- Teamlet Updates
- Unresolved Issues
- TRMP finalization plan

Evaluate meeting, Set next agenda

ACTION ITEMS

- Bob – Invite Wayne Marion to Jan. 25 Elk Teamlet Mtg.
- Brock & Tony – Invite Mike, others to Jan. 25 Elk Teamlet Mtg
- Tony / Marty – Ask Connie about FERC's requirements for Addendums vs. Implementation Plans
- Tony – Talk with Connie about the sections we've "assigned" to her
- Tony - Button up with Chris about bringing information to the Jan. 25 elk meeting
- Tony – Send Elk and Loon/Osprey Teamlets map & directions to Mt. Vernon PSE office
- Tony - Talk with Cary about Tribal representation at TRIG so he can address this in his BRICC quorum teamlet

PREVIOUS – STILL RELEVANT – ACTION ITEMS

- All – In reviewing the TRMP land acquisition sections, consider how to list primary and secondary decision criteria.
- Chris & Mike D – Bring information about current land use / elk distribution to Jan. 25 Elk Teamlet meeting so we can identify areas that are good candidates for land acquisition
- Jacob – Coordinate with Tony & Arnie to schedule a joint ARG/TRIG meeting for Aquatic Riparian Habitat – February 1? (Alternates: February 5 or 7)
- Tony – Distribute the loon study/report
- Tony – Forward information about all potential land acquisition parcels to elk teamlet with a reminder about the need for confidentiality of all such information

REPORTS ON PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS:

Baker's Vegetation Management Plan:

Tony spoke with Lou Ellyn and Lynn Bell (PSE's Baker River maintenance supervisor) about Baker's current and future vegetation management relevant to the BiOp process. They agreed that PSE *would* develop a hazard tree removal *protocol* in coordination with the appropriate agencies (*such as the USFS, USFWS and the WDFW*) as a condition of the BiOp. In the meantime, emergency tree removal will be conducted as needed. Tony shared that any planned (non-emergency) tree removal will be reviewed by an arborist or biologist pending completion of the *protocol*.

BRICC, License Update, & BiOps Update

Tony shared that most folks think we aren't likely to see the license until April. And, if the diking districts appeal, this could add another 9 months to the process. Cary will be leading a teamlet to discuss the BRICC's operating definition of quorum, and the next BRICC meeting will be Feb. 28.

Lou Ellyn shared that the storms, holidays and sick leaves have delayed progress on the Biological Opinions, so they have extended their expected completion date to the end of February.

Legal Mechanism for Filing and Reviewing/Revising the TRMP

Tony shared that Cary and Connie don't feel we need to involve PSE's legal folks until the license is issued. His vision is that the TRMP will be a core guidance document, rather than a compilation of detailed plans. As we develop the detailed plans (ex: after land acquisition), we would send them to FERC as addendums that show we are in compliance with the requirements we describe in the TRMP. This would allow us to minimize administrative overhead since we would not be re-filing the entire TRMP

with each addition.

Article 505: Aquatic Riparian Habitat Protection, Restoration, and Enhancement Plan

Joint ARG/TRIG Meeting: Article 505 designates \$10m (at least \$1m in the Baker Basin) for the protection, restoration and enhancement of aquatic riparian habitat. Both the Aquatics and Terrestrial Groups will need to work together to prioritize the use of these funds. Jake Venard, PSE, will be coordinating the joint process. Brock, Tony, Cathy, Don, Lou Ellyn and Bob are interested in representing TRIG. Marty and Kathy will participate as needed. Jake will be meeting with the ARG next Tuesday to ask for their volunteers and will coordinate the joint meeting. Our suggestion for the first joint meeting is to start our Feb. 1 TRIG meeting with the joint meeting. If that doesn't work for the ARG folks, we suggested Feb. 5 and 7 as alternatives.

TRMP Review

Tony projected the December 2005 draft of the TRMP onto a screen, renamed it January 4, 2007, and made live changes as we walked through the document chapter by chapter.

We started with a discussion of the sections which state “insert final license article here,” and agreed that it is our intent to ensure that the final TRMP reflects both FERC's license requirements and the full intent of the Settlement Agreement (SA). Unless FERC specifically disallows something in the SA, we agreed to include any “missed” SA items in the TRMP under the FERC license.

We also noted the benefit of adding an “executive summary” of our intent and objectives to both the whole document (could go in section 1.4), and the introduction to each chapter to help future readers understand our intentions. These “executive summaries” could reference the article language each section refers to.

Marty will ensure that each chapter follows the format Tony typed into Chapter 3:

- 3.0 Objectives and Requirements
- 3.1.1 Objectives (a high-level look at our intent / objectives within the chapter)
- 3.1.2 FERC Requirements (the license article)
- 3.1.3 Settlement Agreement Requirements (any additional SA items not covered by FERC's article)

We discussed addendums and specific implementation plans; Tony reiterated the idea that the TRMP be a core guiding document rather than the actual implementation plan. Marty noted that he and Tony need to talk with Connie about FERC's needs/requirements around this.

Chapter 2: Sections 2.3 & 2.4, Marty will look at collapsing these two and renumber the rest. Within this chapter, we noted the need to clarify how we'll monitor implementation and effectiveness, and how we report those things to FERC. We also discussed the multiple definitions of the buzz-phrase “Adaptive Management” and asked Marty to describe our activities rather than use that particular phrase to minimize confusion.

Section 2.12, within General Provisions under ESA Compliance: Marty will craft wording that states that future Implementation Plan development will include consultation with appropriate agencies (*such as the*

USFS, USFWS and the WDFW).

Chapter 3: In addition to the edits Tony noted, Marty and Kathy will review the Pre-Acquisition Habitat Assessment section in detail since this activity has been “field tested” for the Elk Teamlet. The Pre-Acquisition form will be added as an addendum.

Chapters 4 and Beyond: Marty will capture repeating changes (ex: topographic maps, age of trees, etc) as they show up throughout the document.

We ended in the Post-Acquisition Habitat Assessment section of Chapter 4 (Elk).

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- TRIG December 7, 2006 Final Meeting Notes

PARKING LOT

- Develop protocol for pre-acquisition field visit

MEETING EVALUATION

What Went Well

- Folks came prepared
- Don toughed it out by phone
- Food! ... like the deviled eggs, too
- Projection and live editing working well (thanks Tony!)
- Energetic facilitation
- Great discussion
- Background information helpful for newer folks

What to Do Differently

- Still missing tribal folks ... hope for future representation. Note: if we need to make a decision, we don't have a quorum under current rules
- Poor Don ...

AGENDA FOR ELK TEAMLET MEETING

January 25, 2007, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Mount Vernon PSE

1. Welcome, review notes, action items, agenda
2. Update on Land Acquisition Activities
3. Meet Ray (RMEF)
4. Land Selection Criteria / Nooksack Herd Plan
5. Land Acquisition Planning
6. Other?
7. Evaluate meeting, set next meeting date and agenda

AGENDA FOR OSPREY/LOON TEAMLET MEETING

January 25, 2007, 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Mount Vernon PSE

1. Welcome, review notes, action items, agenda
2. Design Criteria and location of loon platforms
3. Location for Osprey platforms
4. Other?
5. Evaluate meeting, set next meeting date and agenda

AGENDA FOR NEXT TRIG MEETING

February 1, 2007, 9 am – 3 pm, Mountlake Terrace

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Joint meeting of ARG/TRIG

12:00 – 3:00 pm, TRIG Meeting

6. Welcome, review notes, action items, agenda
7. Update from Jan. 25 Teamlet meetings
8. Continue Chapter-by-Chapter TRMP Review (using the clean copy)
9. Other?
10. Evaluate meeting, set next meeting date and agenda