



PUGET SOUND ENERGY



**Baker River
Project Relicense**

Baker River Project License Implementation Meeting

Title: *Recreational & Aesthetic Resources Working
Group Meeting*
Date: *Wednesday, March 18, 2009 (following Resort Site Visit)*
Time: *1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.*
Location: **Baker Lake Lodge**
47266 Baker Lake Dam Rd
Concrete, WA 98237
425-456-2950, extension 86-2064
Facilitator-Lyn Wiltse-cell-(425)-890-3613
Pam Garland-(360)-424-2912/cell (360)-661-2243

AGENDA FOR RRG MEETING

March 18, 2009 (following Resort site visit)

1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Note: Estimated times are approximate.

1:00-1:15	1. Welcome, Review Notes, Action Items, Agenda	
1:15-1:30	2. Working Lunch (lunch to be provided)	
	3. Decisions Required at Today's meeting-(None at this time)	
1:30-2:45	4. Follow-up on Resort Site visit	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Notes from USFWS Consultation meeting on Feb 5, 2009• Review Alternate designs• Debrief of Resort Site Visit• Next steps• Resort Redevelopment Schedule	
2:45-3:00	5. Evaluate Meeting/Set Agenda for April Meeting	

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NEW ACTION ITEMS

- All-Consider RRG activities to date, notify Pam if you think of any pre-license decisions
- Dave-Coordinate w/ Rich Johnson to identify WDFW reps to BRCC & RRG
- Dave-Work w/ WDFW- I.T. folks to give Sergio access to water safety sign templates/content
- Jamie-Incorporate edits into RRG norms, send to Pam to distribute w/ these notes
- Pam-Coordinate March meeting w/ CRAG; ask Elizabeth if CRAG could meet at the Baker Lodge so RRG could present the redevelopment plan after the 3/18 Resort site visit
- Pam-Connect w/ Stan re: Tribal representation for plan approval (need quorum)
- Pam-Connect w/ Lyn to ID potential dates to meet w/ agencies re: Law Enforcement Plan

PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS

- Pam Continue to coordinate cross-resource group collaboration as needed (ex: I&E)

CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION:

Dial in from your phone:

Meeting Place Main Number 425-456-2500

Internal Number 81-2500

Toll Free Number 888-228-0484

Meeting ID: 10597513

Password: 12345

Driving Instructions:

To drive to the the Baker Lake Lodge, from I-5, take Exit 232 (Cook Rd) and drive east to State Route 20 (N Cascades Highway). Turn left onto SR 20 at light in Sedro Woolley. Drive east 16.5 miles to Baker Lake Rd. Turn left onto Baker Lake Rd and proceed 14 miles north. Turn right onto Baker Lake Dam Rd and proceed into PSE Compound (approx 1 mile). You will enter through Gate 1 to the Baker Lake Lodge. If gate is closed, please dial 2064 on the call pad at the gate. Approx 50 minutes from Cook Rd exit.



Baker River Project License Implementation

Recreation Resource Group Meeting Final Meeting Notes

March 18, 2009, 1:00 am - 3:00 pm

Baker Lake Lodge, Concrete

FINAL MEETING NOTES

Team Leader: Pam Garland, PSE (pamela.garland@pse.com)

Facilitator: Lyn Wiltse: 425-890-3613 (call if running late or if plans to attend the meeting change)

***Note:** To verify whether a meeting will occur during inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstance, call Pam Garland the morning of the meeting at home: 360-826-3087 or cell: 360-661-2243.*

PRESENT

Pam Garland, Haley Edwards, (PSE); Ann Dunphy (USFS); Jamie DeVanter (Van DeVanter Group), Lou Ellyn Jones and Deanna Lynch (USFWS), Paula Mann (Town of Concrete); David Geroux (WDFW); and Lyn Wiltse, facilitator (PDSA Consulting)

NEXT RRG MEETING DATES

April 2009, Pam will coordinate a meeting if needed (Mill Creek is reserved for April 21), or will schedule a conference call (perhaps after April 2 TRIG meeting), and will notify members accordingly.

June and August 2009 meetings are scheduled to be held in Burlington.

NEW ACTION ITEMS (See also Next Steps on page 2)

- All Come to April 21 meeting prepared to officially approve the Resort Redevelopment Plan.
- Dave Coordinate w/ Rich Johnson to identify WDFW reps to BRCC & RRG.
- Haley Type up field notes and send out to all by March 20.
- Jamie Incorporate changes on maps to reflect agreements made during today's field trip. Ensure they are consistent with Haley's field notes. Send out by March 20.
- David Send Pam letter on WDFW letterhead stating that if USFWS is okay with the plan then WDFW concurs (by March 20).
- Pam Send out revised letter to USFWS by March 24.
- Lou Ellyn Email affirmative response to Pam's letter by end of March.
- Ann Begin process of gaining USFS staff approval of resort re-development plan.
- Pam Connect with Lyn to ID potential dates to meet with agencies re. Law Enforcement Plan.

PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS

- Haley Draft consultation notes for submission w/ concurrence plan (use Dave's example).
- Pam Continue to coordinate cross-resource group collaboration as needed (ex: I&E).

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 24, 2009 MEETING NOTES

We reviewed and approved the draft February Meeting notes with a few additions to Agency Consult Comments section on page 3:

- Added "and assumed to be occupied" to end of second bullet.
- Changed "two issues" to "three issues" and added "3. Tree removal due to aesthetic reasons" to last bullet.

These changes will show in italics on the final version of the notes.

Field Trip Debrief:

We all took a walking tour of the resort area to review each tree slated for removal. A brief summary of our observations and discussion follows:

In day use area: Near first cabin – pruning is okay in that area (19 inch tree). Conifers have an important purpose with climate control. They tend to limb themselves. They also provide wind shelter – taller canopy trees. They also offer some protection from predation. We agreed that the 19" conifer will remain and can be limbed to open up the view.

Need to be careful to fall trees away from habitat areas. Where possible we will prune instead of remove. Just past the second cabin we will retain some of the hardwood trees and remove some of the smaller conifers.

Near the beach, wind off the water was a concern. If we open up the front end (near the water) there might be impacts to climate further back. We will assume this is occupied habitat. We removed flags from two 20 inch trees.

Discussions indicated concern for lay-down techniques. Ann assured us that they would try to direction fall in every case.

We will fall all hazard trees and leave large limbs for Marbled Murrelet. We will leave most where they lay - especially those on the periphery. We may have a harder time doing this in the interior.

At the end of the field trip we discussed possibly re-aligning the road to take advantage of naturally open deciduous area, with more deciduous than conifer. This would help keep a buffer between the entrance and the campgrounds. We could buffer the forest and the people both. This would also mean moving the kiosk further back by the road. We need also to consider whether 40 foot long rigs can make it into these campgrounds and into these sites. That is why we changed that intersection – to accommodate these large rigs.

Want to look at retaining some of the shorter snags (rather than removal where possible) for woodpeckers and small animals. There are safety considerations here (for the faller as well as for any unsuspecting resort visitors). This will differ by tree, depending on use and where it is rotting. We will leave behind

some vertical structure if at all possible.

Next Steps:

- Jamie – Document the plan according to what we agreed to during the field trip. Update the map and send out as “Consultation and Site Visit Agreements from March 18” by March 20.
- Pam – Send Lou Ellyn updated letter and map that outlines our agreements today by March 24.
- Lou Ellyn – Respond to letter (by End of March).
- Haley – Create a list of each comment and how we responded to each by March 20.
- David – Send Pam letter on WDFW letterhead stating that if USFWS is okay with the plan then WDFW concurs (by March 20).
- Jamie – Send out update entrance, pull-off, and kiosk design to all by March 24.
- Ann – Get staff approval in anticipation of RRG approve the plan at the April 21 meeting.
- Sergio – Integrate today’s feedback into the management plan. Get out in draft form prior to April 21 RRG meeting.
- Pam – Submit plan to FERC before Memorial weekend.

Next Agenda:

- BRCC Update
- Review the Master Implementation Schedule and the Master Reporting Schedule (Cary)
- Review updated Proposal for Concurrence (Pam, Ann)
 - Review comments from second site visit (Haley, David)
 - If available: Review draft design narrative and vegetation management plan (Ann)
 - If available: Review draft of consultation / accommodation notes (Haley)
- Review Recreation Plan Development timeline

Handouts:

- February 24 Notes and March 18 Agenda
- February TRIG notes

Meeting Evaluation

Worked Well:

- The snow – great exercise and great field trip!
- Pam arranged logistics – hot food and road plowing
- Jamie’s and Haley’s support
- A truly collaborative process
- Great communication all around!
- Having the meeting at the Baker Lodge facility

Do Differently:

- We will miss David!!!
- Better color coordinate facilitator outfit
- Write in rain paper and maps