

Baker River Project Relicense
Cross Resources Working Group Meeting
May 14, 2003
Agenda

Desired Outcomes:

- Shared understanding of 2nd Draft PME's (changes made to February 24 proposed draft actions)
- Discussion and resolution of cross resource issues that still need work
- Action plan to resolve remaining issues and move into 3rd draft PME's

Time	Topic
8:00 a.m.	Coffee and registration
8:30 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
8:45 a.m.	Second Draft PME Review: What has changed since March? Where are we getting close to agreements? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview and summary of working group/cross resource work occurring in March and April • Terrestrial • Recreation • Aquatics
10:00 a.m.	Break
10:10 a.m.	Second Draft PME Review (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatics (continued) • Cultural • Economics and Operations • Shared Proposed Draft Actions
11:20 a.m.	General Discussion and Feedback from PDEA Consultants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do the PDEA consultants have what they need to do the draft analysis? • What are the most important cross resource—and other—concerns to talk about today? (E.g., access issues; erosion control; reservoir management)
Noon	Lunch
12:45 p.m.	Dealing with Cross Resource/Other Concerns <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For each issue listed, discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What is the issue here? ○ What are the concerns and needs (i.e., interests) of the various parties? ○ What are some ways to address these concerns and needs? ○ Where do we go from here (next steps)?
2:30 p.m.	Break
2:40 p.m.	Dealing with Concerns (continued)
3:30 p.m.	Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conclusions reached from today's discussions • Action plan for resolution based on today's discussion • Next steps—third draft PMEs, beginning of license article drafting • What needs to happen to get us there?
4:30 p.m.	Adjourn

**Baker River Project Relicense
Cross Resources Working Group Meeting
May 14, 2003
Directions**

Embassy Suites Hotel

20610 44th Ave. West
Lynnwood, WA 98036
Phone: 425-775-2500
Fax: 425-774-0485

From I-5 Northbound:

- Exit 181A
- Take a right off the exit onto 44th Ave. W.
- Take a right at the Quadrant I-5 Center sign

From I-5 Southbound:

- Exit 181 (Lynnwood 524)
- Stay in the far left lane
- At the intersection, take a left onto 196th St. SW (going west)
- Go to 44th Ave. W. and take a left
- Stay on 44th Ave. W. under I-5 for about 2 blocks
- Turn right at the Quadrant I-5 Center sign

**Baker River Project Relicense
Cross Resources Working Group Meeting
May 14, 2003
Meeting Attendees**

Adams, Brian – Skagit Co.
Aspelund, Arnie – PSE
Barson, Len – The Nature Conservancy
Brookings, Dave – Skagit Co.
Campbell, Larry – Swinomish Tribe
Ebel, Chuck – Corps of Engineers
Efird, Carol – Berger Group
Endelman, Dee – Agreement Dynamics
Eychaner, Jim – Interagency Comm. Outdoor Recreation
Feldmann, Cary – PSE
Fransen, Steve – NMFS
Freeland, Connie – PSE
Fuch, Tony – PSE
Goldsworthy, Patrick – N. Cascades Conservation Council
Hatfield, Andy – PSE
Lawson, Chris – Huckell/Weinman
Mace, Rod – USFS
Mierendorf, Bob – NPS
Mohn, Rob – Berger Group
Nelson, Bob – Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation
Olin, Kris – PSE
Pernela, Lloyd – PSE
Piper, Jessie – PSE
Reinard, Bill – Wildcat Steelhead Club
Sakrison, Rod – DOE
Schild, Ed – PSE
Thoreen, Arn – Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Vaughn, Marty – Biota Pacific
Verretto, Nick – PSE
Walsh, Stan – Skagit System Cooperative
Wetherbee, Paul – PSE
Wiltse, Lyn – PDSA Consulting

BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE

Cross-Resources Workshop

May 14, 2003
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, Washington

MEETING NOTES

PRESENT

Brian Adams – Skagit Co., Eli Asher – Agreement Dynamics, Arnie Aspelund – PSE, Ken Brettmann – Corps of Engineers, Dave Brookings – Skagit Co., Keith Brooks – FERC (by phone), Lorna Ellestad – Skagit Co., Dee Endelman – Agreement Dynamics, Jim Eychaner – Interagency Comm. Outdoor Recreation, Cary Feldmann – PSE, Steve Fransen – NMFS, Connie Freeland – PSE, Tony Fuchs – PSE, Patrick Goldsworthy – North Cascades Conservation Council, Andy Hatfield – PSE, Phil Hilgert – R2 Consulting, Ron Kent – Corps of Engineers, Mark Kilgore – Berger Group, Pam Klatt – Berger Group, Linda Lehman – FERC (by phone), Rod Mace – USFS, Kevin Malone – Berger Group, Brian Mattax – Berger Group, Bob Mierendorf – NPS, Rob Mohn – Berger Group, Joel Molander – PSE, Bob Nelson – Rocky Mt. Elk Foundation, Kris Olin – PSE, Lloyd Pernela – PSE, Jessie Piper – PSE, Bill Reinard – Wildcat Steelhead Club, Desiree Robinson – PSE, Susan Rosebrough – NPS, Rod Sakrison – DOE, Ed Schild – PSE, Kathy Smayda – Berger Group, Gary Sprague – WDFW, Arn Thoreen – Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Marty Vaughn – Biota Pacific, Nick Verretto – PSE, Pat Weslowski – Berger Group, Paul Wetherbee – PSE, Lyn Wiltse – PDSA Consulting, Bob Wright – DOE.

AGENDA

May 14, 2003 Agenda – Embassy Suites, Lynnwood, WA
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Desired Outcomes:

- Shared understanding of 2nd Draft PME (changes made to February 24 proposed draft actions)
- Discussion and resolution of cross resource issues that still need work
- Action plan to resolve remaining issues and move into 3rd draft PMEs

Welcome and Introductions

Second Draft PME Review: What has changed since March? Where are we getting close to agreements?

- Overview and summary of working group/cross resource work occurring in March and April
- Terrestrial
- Recreation
- Aquatics
- Cultural
- Economics and Operations
- Shared Proposed Draft Actions

General Discussion and Feedback from PDEA Consultants

- Where have we made some good progress?
- Do the PDEA consultants have what they need to do the draft analysis?
- What are the most important cross-resource and other concerns to talk about today? (E.g., access issues; erosion control; reservoir management)

Dealing with Cross-Resource/Other Concerns

- For each issue listed, discuss:
 - What is the issue here?
 - What are the concerns and needs (i.e., interests) of the various parties?
 - What are some ways to address these concerns and needs?
 - Where do we go from here (next steps)?

Next Steps

- Conclusions reached from today's discussions
- Action plan for resolution based on today's discussion
- Next steps—third draft PMEs, beginning of license article drafting
- What needs to happen to get us there?

Adjourn

NEW ACTION ITEMS

- Team Leaders: Email sign-up lists for your workgroup members for cross-resource teamlets by May 16.
- Kris: Send email memo to group explaining NAVD update.
- Phil: Distribute CD with newly calculated daily flows and other relevant info by May 24.
- Connie: Distribute Workshop minutes by May 19.
- PSE: Draft operating plan for Berger to use in PDEA by June 1 (combination of PME 3.3.1 Flow Regime and 6.3 Reservoir Management)

PME PRESENTATIONS

A representative from each of the working groups presented an update on the 2nd draft PMEs from their resource working group. They highlighted changes from the initial draft actions (proposed by PSE in February), the current status (to what extent working group members are in agreement about the PME), and the focus (in terms of next steps).

Terrestrial Presenter: Marty Vaughn

Recreation Presenter: Andy Hatfield
Aquatics Presenter: Steve Fransen
Cultural/Historic Presenter: Bob Mierendorf
Econ/Ops Presenter: Paul Wetherbee
Shared Cross-Resource PME Presenters: Cary Feldmann and Andy Hatfield

HYDROPS UPDATE

Paul Wetherbee reported on the status of the Economics/Operations Group's PME regarding Flood Control. He also gave a HYDROPS update: the most recent version was received by PSE last week and is currently being tested and evaluated. The Technical Scenario Teamlet was formed to deal primarily with the HYDROPS model. The Teamlet has met several times and has more meetings scheduled in coming months.

FERC

Keith Brooks and Linda Lehman of FERC joined the discussion via telephone. Keith addressed the issue of the timeline for this relicensing process. Keith stated that the license application must be filed by April 30, 2004, and should be accompanied by the completed settlement agreement. This is the only way to keep the decisions local. If a completed settlement agreement cannot be reached by license application deadline, a schedule for future work on the settlement should be submitted with the license application. Keith addressed both recent cases in which FERC provided more time for settlement: Chelan and Box Canyon, which received extensions of only a few months. Long-term extensions (such as a year) will not be granted.

PDEA

Rob Mohn of the Louis Berger Group presented an update on the PDEA, including the current timeline and the need for HYDROPS modeling in early June. He distributed a paper copy of updates on the PMEs and explained the methodology behind the spreadsheet, as well as its purpose. He stressed the need for clarity and rationale in the various PMEs. He addressed the specific problems that the Louis Berger Group had with individual PMEs. Rob requested that the current PME package be redrafted in order to facilitate drafting of license articles. He also requested that Puget provide an instream flow release plan. The group split into working groups to discuss the Berger Group's comments on the PMEs.

CROSS-RESOURCE ISSUES

The group reviewed the following list of cross-resource issues from the March 4-6 workshop in Mount Vernon:

1. Road and Trail Access (road management requires USFS EA before action)
2. Dispersed Camping
3. Developed Sites
4. Large Woody Debris management
5. Reservoir Management (all aspects)
6. Instream Flows and Ramping (falls under reservoir management)
7. Land Management (cross-species/working group synergies)
8. Upstream Fish Passage
9. Downstream Fish Passage
10. Sensitive Areas

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11. Ground Disturbing Activities (including re-vegetation)
 12. Surface Water Uses
 13. Cultural Review of Proposed Land Disturbing Activities

The group discussed the relative importance and relevance of the above issues to cross-resource discussion. The group discussed the formation of a teamlet (possibly virtual, over email) to deal with cross-resource issues.

The group discussed dispersed and developed sites and decided to merge them into one issue. (Andy/Rec)

The group discussed Large Woody Debris, including Skagit County's interest in the issue. Specifically, the County owns bridges that require maintenance to remove collected debris and deals with homeowners who suffer erosion problems from logjams, etc. Rob Mohn suggested that the County be a consulted party in post-license management planning of Large Woody Debris. (Arnie)

The group discussed Reservoir Management as it relates to all of the working groups. (Arnie)

Land Management synergies and conflicts were discussed. Possible "Tony Teamlet"? (Tony)

Upstream Fish Passage was discussed and amended to include "availability of salmon carcasses." Downstream Fish Passage was also briefly discussed. (Nick)

Sensitive Areas were defined and integrated into Ground Disturbing Activities and Road and Trail Access. (Jessie/Tony)

Surface Water Uses (e.g., "loons and boats") were discussed, including shoreline management plans, which are linked to sensitive areas. The group discussed the details of jurisdiction over surface water usage. The county has regulatory jurisdiction over surface water use. The group distinguished issues surrounding surface water use (over which Puget has no control) and non-regulatory shoreline management plans for PSE-owned lands on Baker Lake and Lake Shannon, which are Puget's responsibility. (Connie) They renamed "Road and Trail Access" to "Road, Trail and Shoreline Access."

The group brainstormed some possible ground disturbing activities related to the Project: trails, campsites, trap & haul activities and facilities, downstream construction, plantings/wetland enhancement, fill, boater safety/stump removal, culverts, boat ramps, access roads, utility/water, sewer, fishery enhancement, and other development in undeveloped areas.

The facilitation team developed this condensed, revised list of cross-resource issues and their working group leaders:

1. Access Management (Roads, Trails and Shorelines) – Leader: Andy Hatfield (Recreation Working Group)
2. Campsites – Leader: Andy Hatfield
3. Large Woody Debris – Leader: Arnie Aspelund (Aquatics Working Group)
4. Reservoir Management/Instream Flows – Leaders: Arnie Aspelund and Paul Wetherbee

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- (Technical Scenario Teamlet)
5. Land Management Synergies – Leader: Tony Fuchs (Terrestrial Working Group)
 6. Upstream Fish Passage/Salmon Carcass Availability – Leader: Nick Verretto (Aquatics Working Group)
 7. Ground Disturbing Activities – Leaders: Jessie Piper (Cultural Resources Working Group) and Tony Fuchs

North American Vertical Datum

Phil Hilgert of R2 Consulting brought up a cross-resource issue regarding mapping datum: the maps for the Project area will be updated to the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) 1988 reference. Kris will send an email memo to the group explaining the change. PSE plans to have a new data set on daily flows and reservoir levels on CD by May 24. This change also affects past and future surface area, volume, and perimeter calculations.

NEXT STEPS

Team Leaders will email out sign-up lists for their working group members for cross-resource teamlet(s) by May 16.

The Louis Berger Group expressed concern over substantial data missing from PME for two issues. One in particular is the Area of Project Effects. Evaluation is dependent on definite boundaries. In order to prevent future conflicts and facilitate accurate assessment, the boundaries of the Area of Project Effects need to be set. The other is the need for a pool level baseline for continuing impacts analysis. At issue are competing interests from different working groups (terrestrial vs. recreation, for example).

The group discussed the Project boundaries, clarifying the difference between the existing boundary and proposed boundaries that are included in the PMEs.

Dee distributed a flow chart that the Solution Team has been discussing as a path to settlement. She explained the function of the chart to the group. Dee hopes that most issues can be resolved in the working groups in the next few months, using the RESOLVE process. She further reviewed how the Solution Team would become involved in approving working group recommendations and in resolving issues that could not be resolved by the working groups. If the Solution Team cannot resolve some issues, these would be sent to a Policy Team, to be called together if needed.

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Suggested Ground Rules
- Packet of PME PowerPoint presentation slides
- Packet of 2nd Draft PMEs (May 7, 2003)
- Packet of Revised Aquatics Resources 2nd Draft PMEs (May 9, 2003)
- Feedback from PDEA consultants (Louis Berger Group)
- Flow Chart: PMEs to License Articles & Settlement Agreement



**PUGET
SOUND
ENERGY**

2nd Draft PMEs For Baker River Project



Terrestrial



Overview

Terrestrial BAWG reviewed February 2003 draft and

- suggested changes to some actions
- added new actions
- noted concurrence with others

Terrestrial Working Group has not had the opportunity to discuss the February 2003 draft or the BAWG response in detail.

Current PME draft presents the range of actions represented by the February 2003 draft and the BAWG response.



1.1.1 Provide Young Deciduous Forest, Mixed Forest, Forested Wetland, Shrub Dominated Riparian, Shrub Wetland and Wet Meadow

Changes:

- Added *Mixed Forest* and *Shrub Dominated Riparian*
- Possibly eliminated *Forested Wetland* and *Wet Meadow*
- Increased range of acreage targets

Status:

- Very wide range of acreage targets being discussed

Focus:

- Determine bases for acreage targets
- Seek consensus on scope of action



1.1.2 Evaluate the Potential for Establishing Beneficial Vegetation in the Fluctuation Zones

Changes:

- Clarified that successful species will be planted operationally within the Project Area

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



1.1.3 Old-growth Forest Edge Effects

Changes:

- New action

Status:

- Has not been discussed in detail in working group
- Scope of action undetermined

Focus:

- Determine Project effect (conduct studies if necessary)
- Discuss potential actions available for meeting interests
- Seek consensus on action



1.2.1 Provide Foraging Habitat for Elk

Changes:

- Increased range of acreage targets

Status:

- Very wide range of acreage targets being discussed

Focus:

- Determine bases for acreage targets
- Complete related on-going studies
- Seek consensus on scope of action



1.2.2 Provide Spring Foraging Habitat for Grizzly Bears

Changes:

- Increased range of acreage targets

Status:

- Range of acreage targets being discussed

Focus:

- Determine bases for acreage targets
- Complete related on-going studies
- Clarify potential actions available for meeting interests
- Seek consensus on scope of action



1.2.3 Provide Summer Habitat for Mountain Goats

Changes:

- Increased scope of action to fund regulatory compliance

Status:

- General consensus on scope other than regulatory compliance funding

Focus:

- Discuss options to set cap on costs
- Seek consensus on scope of action



1.2.4 Provide Breeding Habitat for Amphibians

Changes:

- Increased range of acreage targets

Status:

- Very wide range of acreage targets being discussed

Focus:

- Determine bases for acreage targets
- Determine need for additional studies
- Seek consensus on scope of action



1.2.5 Provide Connectivity Habitat for Low Mobility Species

Changes:

- New action

Status:

- Has not been discussed in detail in working group

Focus:

- Determine Project effect (conduct studies if necessary)
- Discuss potential actions available for meeting interests
- Seek consensus on action



1.3.1 Provide Nest Structures for Osprey at Lake Shannon

Changes:

- None

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



1.3.2 Provide Floating Nest Platforms for Common Loons

Changes:

- Increased number of floating platforms
- Increased duration of test phase
- Extended action beyond Skagit basin (potentially)

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Finalize wording



1.3.3 Provide Habitat for Riparian Cavity Dwellers

Changes:

- Added comprehensive snag management plan

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



1.3.4 Support the Development of Bald Eagle **Nest Management Plans**

Changes:

- None

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



1.4.1 Protect Plants of Special Status

Changes:

- Clarified USFS requirements

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Review and finalize wording



1.4.2 Develop and Implement a Noxious Weed Management Plan

Changes:

- Clarified USFS requirements

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Review and finalize wording



1.5.1 Provide a Terrestrial Enhancement and Research Fund (TERF)

Changes:

- None

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



Provide Up- and Down-stream Fish Passage

Changes:

- New action in Terrestrial Working Group

Status:

- Deferred to Aquatics Working Group under 3.1.1 and 3.1.2

Focus:

- Coordinate with Aquatics Working Group



Recreation and Aesthetics



Overview

Meetings to review and edit Draft Proposed Actions:

- March 28th, 12:00pm - 2:30pm
- April 21st, 12:00pm - 2:30pm
- April 28th, 12:00pm - 2:30pm



2.1.1 Implement Water Recreation Safety Program

Changes:

- None

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Develop scope of implementation



2.1.2 Develop and Implement Boating Hazard Management Plan

Changes:

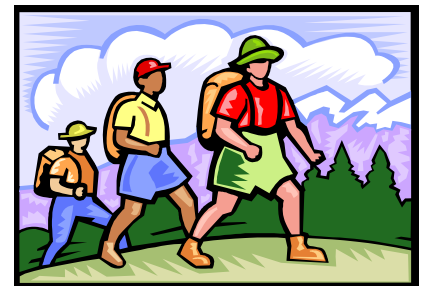
- Scope of hazard stump removal needs at boat launches to be addressed on a site specific basis
- Potential actions would include assessing environmental impact

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Which sites to address
- Scope of actions



2.1.3 Develop Law Enforcement Support

Changes:

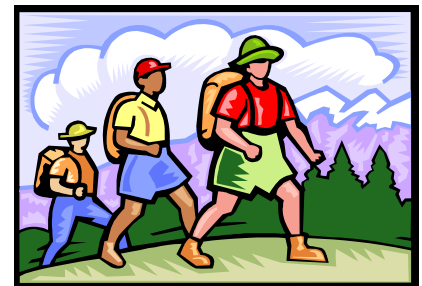
- Expanded to include an agreed upon level of funding for law enforcement agencies and/or housing for a locally stationed deputy
- Included an agreed upon level of fire prevention

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Determination of appropriate actions & cost share



2.2.1 Fund Dispersed Campsite

Improvement, Operation and Maintenance

Changes:

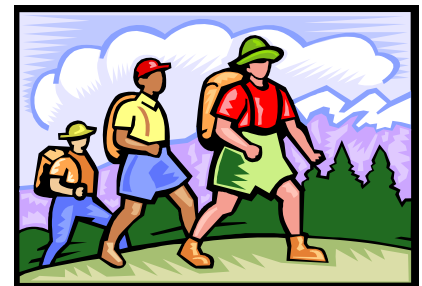
- Address funding versus responsibility
- Coordinate with Aesthetic Management Plan

Status:

- General Consensus

Focus:

- Funding versus responsibility
- Agree on percentage of Project responsibility



2.2.2 Manage Dispersed Camping Impact

Changes:

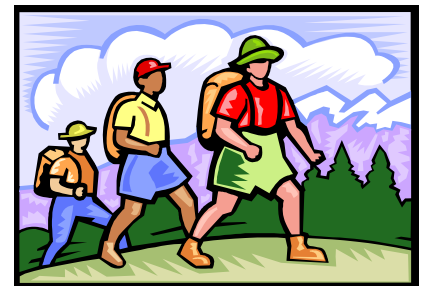
- Bring sites up to acceptable standards
- Include management plan and cost sharing schedule

Status:

- Agreement in concept for Baker Lake sites
- Discussion ongoing regarding the need for action on Lake Shannon

Focus:

- Define acceptable standards



2.3.1 Develop and Implement an Aesthetics Management Plan for Upper Baker and Lower Baker

Changes:

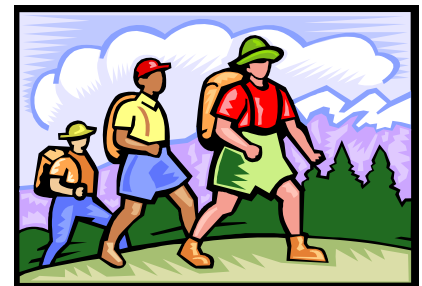
- Redefined to include all Project-related facilities including reservoirs

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Final approval and implementation of R5, Aesthetic study



2.4.1 Create New Trails

Changes:

- Create trails in accordance with a comprehensive development plan
- Provide facilities for water trails
- Proposed “triggers” to initiate development of expanded trail network based on need

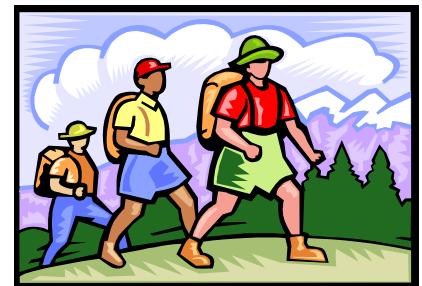


Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Develop comprehensive management plan
- Identify the “triggers” that initiate trail section development
- Explore trail development planning on land that may be acquired for conservation easements around Lake Shannon



2.4.2 Maintain Existing Trails **and Trailheads**

Changes:

- Removed Swift Creek Trail from roster to receive maintenance funding

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Identify percentage cost share responsibility for trail maintenance



2.5.1 Enhance Bayview Campground

Changes:

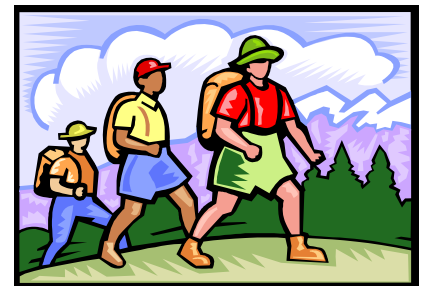
- None

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.2 Fund USFS Campground **Operation and Maintenance**

Changes:

- Redefined scope of funding support for O&M to include all campgrounds “associated with the Project”

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Work to identify percentage of Project effect at developed sites
- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.3 Provide Access and Development to Lake Shannon or Another Suitable Lakefront Site

Changes:

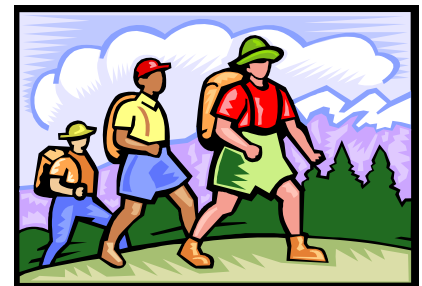
- Potential alternate site on Lake Shannon should be on the lake and be supported by camp hosts if feasible

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Continue to research alternate developed site location on Lake Shannon
- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.4 Provide Improvements to Kulshan Campground

Changes:

- None

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.5 Support Redevelopment of Baker Lake Resort

Changes:

- Baker Lake Resort redevelopment to include a development plan that would adapt the site to better meet future needs

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.6 Provide Funding for Wildlife Observation Facility

Changes:

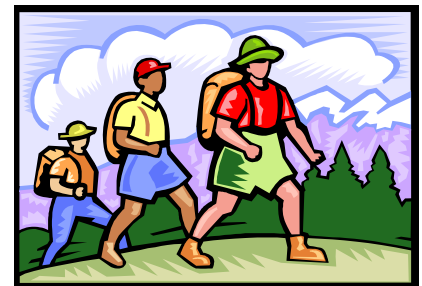
- Added potential location for facility

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Incorporate information from study reports into proposed actions



2.5.7 Provide and Fund ADA Compliance

Changes:

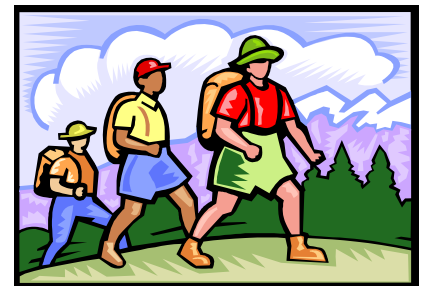
- Apply universal access principles to ADA compliance funding if acceptable to working group participants

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Review universal access principles



2.6.1 Provide a Recreation Adaptive Management (RAM) Fund

- Discussion deferred until after technical teamlet meeting



Current Status of Aquatic Resources Draft Proposed Actions



Overview

Aquatic Resources Working Group reviewed February 2003 draft and:

- Suggested changes to some actions
- Added new actions
- Added language to some actions previously included in HERC fund
- Noted concurrence with others

- **Convened the Technical Scenario Teamlet**
- **Resumed the Technical Sub-committee on Instream Flows**

- **Elevated Discussions on Fish Passage (Baker Agency Group Standards and Criteria)**



3.1.1 Create Habitat Enhancement, Restoration, and Conservation Fund (HERC)

Changes:

- Expanded resident salmonid program to include recreational fishing opportunities

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Range of HERC Fund Amounts
- Finalize wording



3.1.2 Provide Fish Propagation and Enhancement Programs and Facilities

Changes:

- Retain Spawning Beaches 2 or 3 (or decision of BRCC)
- Current placeholders for numbers, species and programs (possible modifications and alternative language may be substituted)
- Increase sockeye production

Status:

- Under development

Focus:

- Consider package of Baker Agency Group (BAG) performance standards for fish passage
- Address philosophical differences about Fish Propagation Methods (Hatchery vs. Natural)



3.2.1 Provide Upstream Passage Continuity for **Migratory Fish Species (Anadromous,** **Adfluvial, Fluvial, Resident)**

Changes:

- None

Status:

- Close to agreement

Focus:

- Finalize wording



3.2.2 Address Connectivity Between Baker Lake and Lake Shannon (combined Upstream and Downstream Migration)

Changes:

- Combined Upstream and Downstream Migration
- Expand range of study methods, move toward development of trap and haul facility or programs if connectivity is needed

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Complete related ongoing studies
- Finalize wording



3.2.3 Provide Downstream Passage Continuity for Migratory Fish Species (Anadromous, Adfluvial, Fluvial, Resident)

Changes:

- No specific language changes made pending results of Baker Agency Group (BAG) list of performance standards

Status:

- Under development (BAG)

Focus:

- Complete related on-going studies
- Clarify potential actions available for meeting interests
- Seek consensus on scope of action



3.2.4 (Addressed in 3.2.2) Connectivity Between Baker Lake and Lake Shannon for Downstream Migration

Changes:

- Addressed in 3.2.2

Status:

Focus:



3.3.1 Implement Flow Regime for the Baker River Project

Changes:

- Minimum flow to Instream flow
- Project minimum flows proportional to spawning flows (to reduce project induced redd dewatering)
- Consider maximum flows, monthly or seasonal pattern, duration, frequency and rate of change

Status:

- Flow schedules to be determined. Retained placeholders for instream flow, ramping, amplitude and cycling

Focus:

- Craft HYDROPS scenarios and obtain results
- Develop habitat models and complete analyses (flow schedules needed [TWG - June 2003])



3.3.2 (Moved to 3.5-Implement Flow Release Water Quality Management)

Changes:

- Moved to 3.5.1

Status:

Focus:



3.4.1 Implement Fluvial Geomorphic Management

Changes:

- New language provided for restoring natural function of sediment transport to lower Baker and Skagit Rivers and for actions to enhance channel morphologic function of the lower Baker alluvial fan
- Gravel augmentation plan would determine need for placement (monitoring), amount, timing, location, methods, material sources, grades, permitting, coordination (with other projects) and reporting

Status:

- Under review by Aquatics Working Group

Focus:

- Develop in concert with study A16 and A24
- Seek consensus on scope of action



3.4.2 Implement Large Woody Debris Management

Changes:

- ARWG adopted new language provided by USFS for developing and implementing a Large Woody Debris Management Plan
- Plan addresses wood over 12 inches in diameter and 8 feet long
- Components of Plan address supply, timing and removal; decision making process for mitigation and enhancement uses, costs, logistics and data management

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Finalize wording



3.4.3 Erosion Management (one erosion control article to address Project impacts with several topics and plans covered)

Changes:

- Combined construction, emergency containment and reservoir shoreline erosion control plans under one article
- USFS provided language for developing and implementing a Reservoir Shoreline Erosion Control Plan

Status:

- Under review by Aquatics Working Group

Focus:

- Finalize wording (ARWG members expressed desire for specifics on treatments and control methods)



3.4.4 Implement Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Conservation Measures for Impacts to Public Lands Administered by the USFS

Changes:

- Previously addressed within HERC Fund Measures (3.04d/3.04e)
- USFS provided draft language of actions to restore habitat impacted by Project or secure lands of similar type for restoration/protection

Status:

- Under review by Aquatics Working Group
- Proposed as compensation for continuing impacts

Focus:

- Determine Project effect (aquatic studies A17 & A37)
- Seek consensus on action



3.5.1 Implement Flow Release Water Quality Management

Changes:

- Combined into one Water Quality Article (moved from Flow Management and renumbered)
- No changes to 1st draft language

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Review and finalize wording



3.5.2 Implement Reservoir Water Quality Management

Changes:

- Combined into one Water Quality Article (renumbered)

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Review and finalize wording
- Need to specify operations for minimum pool elevation



3.5.3 Implement Spill Prevention and Containment Clean-up Plan (HazMat)

Changes:

- New action to develop Spill Prevention Containment and Clean-up Plan - interest previously expressed in Reservoir Stage Management PME 3.05a

Status:

- General consensus; specifics yet to be discussed

Focus:

- Finalize wording



What's Hot

- Downstream Fish Passage
- HYDROPS runs needed to advance discussions on Reservoir Rule Curve and Flow Issues
- Instream Flow Evaluations and development of Flow Schedule
- HERC Fund Amounts
- Philosophical differences about Fish Propagation Methods (Hatchery vs. Natural) to be addressed
- Continuing Impacts Analysis



Cultural



Overview

- CHRWG met April 8 and discussed proposals
- Decided to consolidate all previous actions into one proposal
- Decided to draft new funding proposal
- Revisions assigned to Team Leader and Consultants



Previous Proposed Actions

- 4.1.1 Implement Historic Properties Management Plan
- 4.2.1 Provide Annual CR Planning Review
- 4.2.2 Develop CR Decision-Making Protocol
- 4.2.3 Create a CR Coordinator Position
- 4.3.1 Provide CR Training for Local Law Enforcement
- 4.3.2 Develop & Implement CR Training



Revised

4.1.1 Implement Historic Prop. Mgmt Plan

4.2.1 Provide a CR Management Fund



4.1.1 Implement Historic Properties Management Plan

Changes

- Merges all previous actions

Status

- HPMP under development by CHRWG

Focus

- Developing sections of plan



4.2.1 Provide a Cultural Resources Management Fund

Changes

- New proposal

Status

- General consensus

Focus

- Finalize wording



Historic Properties Management Plan

- HPMP under development by CHRWG
- Meet Draft HPMP Deadline 9-1-03
- Meet Final HPMP Deadline 3-1-04
- HPMP accompanies License Application



Economics / Operations



5.1 Maintain Current Levels of Flood Control at Upper Baker

Changes:

Two PME's are under consideration by the Economics and Operations work group:

- the existing Article 32 for Upper Baker flood control, and
- the Army Corps of Engineers revised Article 32, which provides for the district engineer to request that PSE provide up to an additional 26,000 acre-feet, given that the additional storage meets benefit-cost criteria



Status:

- A study request to determine optimal flood control storage at Baker Project is being revised by Skagit County

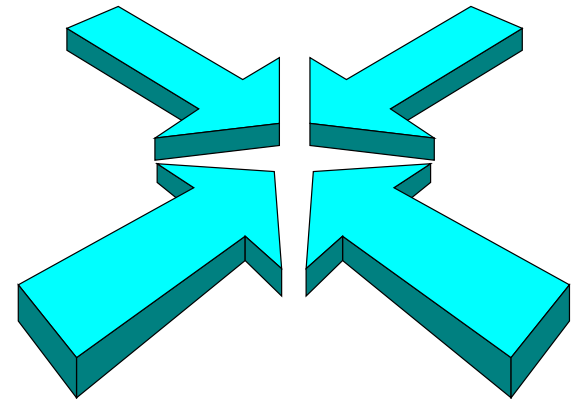
Focus:

Use existing Article 32 or craft a License Article:

- that recognizes a 16,000 acre-feet loss of original storage
- that satisfies Congressional Authorization for 58,000 acre-feet of storage at Upper Baker
- that allows the Army Corps of Engineers District Engineer to specify additional storage, provided that storage meets Army Corps of Engineers economic criteria, and
- that continues to provide compensation to Licensee for power loss



Shared Resource Proposals



6.1 Utilize Adaptive Management

Principles

Changes:

- None

Status:

- Discussions are under way
- General consensus

Focus:

- Details of implementation



6.2 Create Baker River Coordinating Committee (BRCC)

Changes:

- None

Status:

- General consensus

Focus:

- Refinement of implementation



6.3 Implement a Reservoir Level Management and Operations Plan

Changes:

- Corrected elevation levels for Baker Lake for July, August and October

Status:

- Under development

Focus:

- Getting all interests on table and using HYDROPS to resolve differences

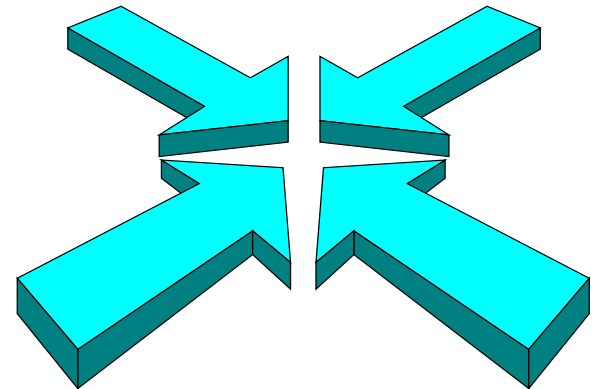


Overview

Recreation Working Group review of Shared Resources

Draft Proposed Actions:

- March 28th, 12:00pm - 2:30pm
- April 21st, 12:00pm - 2:30pm
- April 28th, 12:00pm - 2:30pm



6.4 Implement an Access Management Program

Changes:

- Provide funding to help manage and maintain Project-related roads to appropriate standards
- Maintain and perpetuate natural features of the North Cascade National Park affected by the Project
- Provide access to east side of Baker Lake

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Determine extent of Project-related impact on roads and appropriate cost share



6.5.1 Provide Visitor Information

Changes:

- Upper basin visitor information kiosk may be located on Baker Lake Road if feasible
- Informational and interpretive material to include other media as well as printed material

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Identify appropriate site for informational kiosk to best serve public needs
- Explore potential cost share for kiosk construction and land acquisition



6.5.2 Provide Interpretive Services

Changes:

- Informational and interpretive material to include other media as well as printed material
- Clarified when interpretive services would be available

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Finalize program details



6.5.3 Provide Cultural and Natural Resource and Conservation Education

Changes:

- Specified level of funding supporting educational programs at the Baker Lodge will be diverted to another educational program with a nexus to the Project if not used

Status:

- Agreement in concept

Focus:

- Finalize program details

