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## **BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE**

### **Recreational & Aesthetic Resources Working Group**

October 30, 2000

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

PSE Mount Vernon Business Office  
1700 East College Way  
Mt. Vernon, WA

### **AGENDA**

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| 1. Review/revise agenda   |
| 2. Review previous meeting notes                                |
| 3. Review action items  |
| 4. Presentation on Forest Service hydro structure (Ardis Bynum) |
| 5. Continue defining issues and interests                       |
| 6. Set agenda for next meeting (November 27)                    |
| 7. Evaluate meeting   |

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### MEETING NOTES

**Mission:** *“To develop alternative solutions and recommendations addressing recreation, education and aesthetic resources related to the Baker River Project and its operations leading to a settlement agreement.”*

**Team Leader:** Chris Lawson (Huckell/Weinman Associates) (425) 828-4463,  
clawson@huckellweinman.com

**PSE Contact:** Tony Fuchs: (425) 462-3553, tfuchs@puget.com

### PRESENT

Chris Lawson (Huckell/Weinman Associates, Inc.), Ann Dunphy (US Forest Service), Jim Eychaner (IAC), Ardis Bynum (US Forest Service), Lauri Vigue (Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife), Tony Fuchs (PSE), Lyn Wiltse, facilitator (PDSA Consulting)

**NOTE:** Team members will meet at the PSE office in Mt. Vernon for the remaining meetings this year. Those dates are Nov. 27, and Dec. 18. Times will remain 10:00-1:00 p.m.

### ACTION ITEMS

- Chris: Email draft outline of Bob Barnes' Hydro 101 presentation to all team members and ask Bob to present at December 18 meeting instead of November meeting *[or just notify Bob the group elected to defer his presentation to an unspecified future time?]*
- Ann: Email updated Forest Service list of interests to Chris to add to minutes

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- All: Review list of organization-specific interests- get feedback from respective organizations
  - Chris: Contact missing members and encourage their attendance. Let them know about option to participate via conference call.

### **October 30, 2000 Agenda**

#### **10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at PSE Office in Mt. Vernon**

1. Review/revise minutes/agenda
2. Review Action Items
3. Presentation on Forest Service Hydro Structure (Ardis)
4. Continue defining issues and interests
5. Set agenda for next meeting (November 27 meeting)
6. Evaluate meeting

### **REPORT ON OLD ACTION ITEMS**

- Chris reported that Bob Barnes was prepared to give his Hydro 101 presentation to this working group at the November meeting. Anyone interested in providing input to influence the content of the presentation should contact Chris. After consideration of progress to date, the group agreed that the Hydro 101 presentation should be deferred.

### **DEBRIEF OF RESOLVE TRAINING**

#### Well-Dones

Good, proactive training.

Instructor had good energy

Useful techniques for communication within the Working Group- will allow us to really hear each other

RESOLVE steps were helpful

Strong on styles

Showed the value of interest-based negotiations

Some of the examples were helpful

#### Opportunities to Improve

Too much for one day

Weak on negotiation tools

Weak on interests

Weak on collaboration process

Long on style, lacking in substance

Felt like having my horoscope read

Too many family-based examples

Didn't walk away with specific tools to use.

#### Suggestions

Do a follow-up training 6 months down the line

Need to link colors (styles) with appropriate tools.

#### Question

PSE called RESOLVE training mandatory for Solution Team Members. Will this hold true?

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## **SOLUTION TEAM MEETING DEBRIEF**

The Solution Team met for the first time on October 25 at the Forest Service Office in Mountlake Terrace from 9:00 to 3:00. They were missing some key organizations (NMFS, USFWS, Ecology, etc.), but were otherwise well represented. Representatives have been identified from these organizations and full participation is expected at the next meeting, December 13. At the Oct. 25 meeting, members introduced themselves and described their experiences with FERC. They also cited factors contributing to and detracting from success in FERC projects they have been involved with in the past. They drafted a mission statement: *By April 30, 2004 develop a settlement agreement and associated documents for relicensing of the Baker River Project that (best) meet the interests of the participants.* They will finalize the mission statement and define norms at their next meeting. They will also be putting together a template for working groups to use in submitting options for solution to the Solution Team.

## **PRESENTATION OF FOREST SERVICE HYDRO INFRASTRUCTURE**

Ardis described the extent and complexity of the Forest Service Hydro Infrastructure and the decision making process associated with it. If there is a settlement agreement, 4(e) conditions would reflect that agreement. If you have further questions on this topic, please contact Ardis.

## **ISSUES AND INTERESTS**

The team defined the following draft interest statements by organization:

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation:

1. Develop recreation plan consistent with SCORP document. Meet all requirements of laws, policy, and management plan direction (including Wild and Scenic Rivers Act)
2. Meet FERC requirements re: aesthetics and recreation, including need to address potential recreation, not just current recreation
3. Employ a process that produces recreation plan consistent with data gathered under credible studies required of the applicant.
4. Give recreation equal consideration to other resources including fish and wildlife
5. Provide non-motorized trails associated with water.

WDFW:

1. Provide recreational opportunities and experiences in balance with resource protection needs and constraints.
2. Understand current and future carrying capacity for recreation use in the Baker River Basin.

Forest Service:

1. Scenery and Aesthetics:

Maintain or improve scenic and aesthetic quality including sense of place, facilities, and visitor experience

Develop and maintain replicable baseline information for scenery and aesthetics including sense of place

Develop an adaptive scenery management plan that addresses present and future scenery and aesthetic needs

Maintain cultural connectivity with historic and culturally significant sites

Improve visual access to scenery

2. Resource Protection

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Ensure that the project is consistent with all regulations of laws, policy & direction in management plans (include Wild & Scenic Rivers Act)

Recreation interests do not prevent the attainment of ecosystem function and habitat connectivity goals

3. Developed Facilities

Provide a variety of recreational opportunities and experiences consistent with resource protection needs and constraints

Provide well maintained and safe recreation facilities.

Develop and maintain replicable baseline information for developed recreation.

Support the generation of revenues from recreation use on NFSL which help defray the cost of operations and maintenance of recreation facilities and provide visitor services, where cost effective .

Provide accessible facilities where appropriate.

Provide recreation facilities and opportunities which are consistent with the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS).

4. Dispersed Recreation

Provide sanitary and other resource protection measures to ensure that dispersed recreation use is consistent with FP S&G

Provide a variety of dispersed recreation opportunities.

Develop and maintain replicable baseline information for dispersed recreation.

5. Trails

Provide a variety of trail opportunities.

Provide trail links to areas off Forest where appropriate.

Provide accessible trails where appropriate.

6. Interpretation and Visitor Information

Ensure that visitors are oriented to the area.

Ensure that visitors respect natural resources.

Provide a gateway to the Baker Lake Basin.

7. Water Based Recreation

Ensure that recreational users have visual and physical access to Baker Lake.

Provide a variety of water-based recreation opportunities.

8. Winter Recreation

Provide a variety of winter recreation opportunities

9. Safety and Communications

Provide a safe recreational experience for users

Provide access to emergency services

10. FERC Related

Develop and adaptive recreation plan that addresses present and future recreation needs

11. Access and Travel Management

Provide public access to NFSL

The team best-guessed the following in the absence of representatives from these organizations:

Town of Concrete: Provide socio-economic support for the Town of Concrete

North Cascades Institute: Improved public education, outreach, and interpretation

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Curt Miller: Develop scenic/aesthetic management objectives and management strategies to meet the objectives (needs clarification)

## **PARKING LOT**

Visioning exercise

Organizational/agency goals

Bounce around with meeting locations

Demystify the decision making process of Forest Service *[this item can/should now be removed, following Ardis' presentation Oct. 30]*

List authorities that this team must be aware of

Be sure someone from Recreational Resources area sits on the Solution Team.

Look at dispersed recreation with the Project as a whole.

Get guest speaker from Seattle City Light

Offer "Hydro 101" course (lake levels, operations)

## **EVALUATION OF MEETING**

Things Done Well

- Ardis' presentation
- POG (fruit juice)
- We are communicating well

Need for Improvement

- Bagels (plain with cream cheese) instead of doughnuts
- Ran over (late)
- Assignment re: interests was unclear (level of interests)

## **TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

**November 27, 2000 Agenda**

**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at PSE Office in Mt. Vernon**

1. Review/revise minutes/agenda
2. Review Action Items
3. Finish defining interests and issues
4. Begin defining studies
5. Set agenda for next meeting (December 18 meeting)
  - Bob Barnes' Presentation (Hydro 101)
  - Solution Team Update
  - Timeline
  - Continue defining studies
6. Evaluate meeting