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## **BAKER RIVER PROJECT RELICENSE**

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

February 19, 2008  
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**Mill Creek WDFW Office**  
16018 Mill Creek Blvd  
Mill Creek, WA 98012-1541  
(425) 775-1311, ext. 130

**Lyn Wiltse-Facilitator 425-890-3613 (call for meeting information)**

### **AGENDA**

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|--------------|---|
| 9:00-9:30    | 1. Welcome, Review Notes, Action Items, Agenda  |
| 9:30-9:50    | 2. FERC/BRICC Status Update/Proxy review-Paul Wetherbee   |
| 9:50-10:05   | 3. Decisions Required at Today's meeting  |
|              | 1. Decision Item #1 (Title of Issue, Name of Proponent)   |
|              | 2. Decision Item #2 (Title of Issue, Name of Proponent), etc                                      |
|              | • Please designate Proxy to express your view if you cannot attend!                               |
| 10:05-10:30  | 4. Decision-Making Process Flow Chart (Article 601)-Paul/Cary                                     |
| 10:50-11:00  | Break   |
| 11:00-11:30  | 5. Teamlet Review-Pam Garland, Ann Dunphy   |
| 11:30-12:00  | Lunch-Hot veggie Lasagna, salad and garlic bread  |
| 12:00- 12:15 | 6. Recap of 2008 Capital Programs (PSE-Wetherbee)   |
| 12:15-12:30  | 7. Recreation Plans and Deliverables for 2008 RRG   |
| 12:30-1:00   | 8. Recap of 2008 Resort Operations  |
| 1:00 -1:15   | 9. Evaluate meeting, Set location (Mill Creek WDFW) and agenda for Next meeting (April 15, 2008). |



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**\* Time allows for other agenda topics if anything has been overlooked or newly arises.**

### **To join the meeting by phone**

**Meeting Place Main Number** 425-456-2500

**Internal Number** 81-2500

**Toll Free Number** 888-228-0484

**Meeting ID:** 3117

**Password:** 12345

### **Driving Instructions to WDFW Office in Mill Creek:**

- From I-5, take Exit 183 onto 164<sup>th</sup> St SE
- Continue eastbound about 1.5 miles
- At the bottom of the hill, turn left onto Mill Creek Boulevard
- WDFW on left about 1 ½ blocks north directly across from Bank of America.
- Parking is available.

Phone is 425-775-1311

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## **Baker River Project License Implementation**

### **Recreation Resource Group Meeting Final Meeting Notes**

February 19, 2008  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm

**WDFW Office, 16018 Mill Creek Blvd., Mill Creek**

### **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**

Ann Dunphy (USFS), Paula Mann (Town of Concrete), Pam Garland, Paul Wetherbee, and Cary Feldmann (PSE), David Gerox (WDFW), Lyn Wiltse, (facilitator, PDSA Consulting).

### **NEXT RRG MEETING DATES**

April 15, June 17, Aug 19, Oct 21, Dec 16, 9 am – 2 pm, at WDFW's Mill Creek Office

### **NEW ACTION ITEMS**

- Brian: Is the easement for Lake Shannon considered a completed ROW? Give us an update on easement for Lake Shannon at our December meeting. Check with Steven Falquest on this. The easement was done by resolution decree by the commissioners.
- Dave: Look for past surveys re. Marbled Murrelet, Spotted Owl
- Pam: Check with Nick re. field trip dates for FSC – let team members know.
- Pam: Bring "Plan" version of PM gates to next meeting for review.
- Pam: Bring detail of each of the PM gates for all to review at next meeting.

### **FERC / BRICC STATUS**

The BRICC met in January and discussed response to proposal by Diking Districts and the Cities of Burlington and Mt. Vernon to amend the Settlement Agreement. No BRICC members responded affirmatively and the issue is now closed.

During the January BRICC meeting they also reviewed implementation of Article 601: Decision making for resource groups.

Steve Fransen reported the NMFS Bi-Op is now in the hands of NMFS lawyers. After their approval it will go to FERC who has assured us they will expedite the process to the extent possible.

#### Article 601: Decision Process Flow

Paul walked us through the flow chart outlining the consensus decision making process for resource groups. The intent is for most decisions to be made at the resource (technical) level.

The sign-in sheet for each group will be formatted to illustrate members present in each of these groups (Federal, State, Tribes, Licensee) as required by the license. There are 2 ways to achieve this quorum. One is by attending the meeting in person. The second way is to send your vote via proxy. In situations like we have in the RRG, where we have no tribal representation, they may send their vote/approval through one of the other members.

Next steps: Flesh out the “start here” piece, i.e., what constitutes a “decision”. Another aim of this flow chart is to institutionalize the process so it is applied consistently over the next few decades as team members come and go. While we need representation of the 4 groups to make a decision, all who signed the Settlement Agreement participate in decision making.

Plans represent the boundaries of the playground. We will ask FERC to accept the process by which we make decisions and then report to them the specifics of what we have done in our annual report. This should help ensure that decisions are kept local.

#### **RECAP – 2008 CAPITAL PROGRAM**

The Settlement Agreement contains some requirements to construct projects regardless of when the license is issued, e.g., build Upper Baker FSC to be operational in spring of 2008 and at Lower Baker to be operational in spring of 2012.

Paul walked is through a list of major construction projects for 2008. He outlined the 7 key project phases that PSE will be using as they construct these projects.

The Upper Baker Hatchery may be held up based on permitting requirements (may be handled through special use permit or MOA). Paul also reviewed the status of other major 2008 projects, including:

- LB Adult Fish Trap
- LB Powerhouse Modifications
- Elk Habitat Acquisition
- Floating Loon Nest Platforms
- Resource Redevelopment
- Water Quality

We discussed the need to “share the playbook” access each of the phases/gates. We will modify the gates to apply to our plan development for Articles 301-305, 308, 309, 318. Pam will bring a draft for us to

review/revise at our next meeting.

### **TEAMLET UPDATE**

Pam reported that she, Ann and Jamie Van De Vanter met in November and visited the resort site and took pictures and identified the layout for each site. Jamie then drafted some ideas for circulation. They hope to be able to use existing roads. They also discussed how the function would change as it becomes more of a FS campground.

They met again in December and began to lay out the schedules using MS Project through the first 6 years of license implementation, assuming a license is granted in April of this year. Jamie brought a drawing of the site layouts for them to review. We have a lot of construction projects – some owned by PSE, some by USFS, and some with shared ownership. They discussed a common framework for tracking progress.

In January, they conducted a site review (including changes suggested at the last meeting) and also did more work on the schedule.

They met again on February 11 to further refine the circulation patten (using existing roads), parking, etc. Plans are to be conservative in areas where Skunk Cabbage was found (link to wetlands). We will attempt to minimize impact on hydrology of that area (through construction and ongoing use).

Next Steps: Pam will conduct an in-house review on February 26 with the aim of bringing a proposed drawing to our April 15 meeting for all to review. Few trees will be removed. This will be done in consultation with USFWS to address any potential impacts on Marbled Murrelet or Spotted Owl. PSE hopes the 2 years of survey for these species may not be necessary.

### **REC PLANS / 2008 DELIVERABLES**

Pam reviewed with us the list of Articles that require plan development. We hope to have draft plans for Articles 301-305, 308, 309 and 318 complete by the end of 2008. EDAW will be assisting us with this process. PSE is working to standardize the model for plans across all resource groups. RRG has led the way on this with Article 303.

### **RECAP OF RESORT OPERATIONS FOR 2008**

In November of 2007, Joel Molander requested of Jon Vanderheyden that PSE be allowed to operate the resort on a reduced schedule: from mid-June to mid-September (90 days instead of 150 days of operation) to cut operating costs. PSE then met with the Forest Service again in February to review this plan which would also help with decommissioning. The Forest Service expressed concern about the impact on Memorial Day weekend and conflicts with FS campgrounds. As a result, PSE agreed to open May 22-27 and then re-open June 13 and close in mid-September. They won't have to re-do the Special Use Authorization. Next Steps: PSE will inform the public about the new schedule.

### **USFS ANNOUNCEMENT**

Ann announced that Rod Mace will be stepping back and Greta Movassaghi. will become involved as the new FERC Coordinator for the FS. Jon Vanderheyden will continue his involvement as District Ranger.

## **HANDOUTS**

- Agenda
- Notes from October 16, 2007 RRG Meeting
- List of Recreation Plans for Development – Licensee and USFS
- Notes from February 6, 2008 PSE/USDA-FS Meeting re Baker Lake Resort Operations 2008
- Flow Chart: Resource Group Decision Process illustrating Article 601 of Settlement Agreement
- PSE Project Life Cycle Baker License Implementation 2008 Gate Schedule (Gantt Chart showing Major Capital Construction Projects for 2008)
- Baker FERC Conceptual Project Coordination Outline
- RRG Representative and Alternate List

## **MEETING EVALUATION**

### **What Went Well:**

- Welcome Dave!
- Welcome Paula!
- Nice lunch
- Nice location
- Paul and Cary's leadership
- Cary's slide show
- Out early!

### **What to Do Differently:**

- Don't schedule a meeting right after a holiday!
- Broader attendance
- Video conferencing?

# Baker Plan Model - Purpose

- Standardize planning documents among all license articles
- Be generally descriptive for FERC adoption of processes rather than specifics
- Create most flexibility and local control of specific actions
- Allow real-time adaptive management without necessity of prior FERC approval

# Baker Plan Model - Outline

## 1. Introduction-

- Recite Article
- General Summary
  - Highlights
  - List Actionable Items
- General Schedule
  - Milestones
  - What permitting may be required
  - When will things be filed with the FERC
  - When does project begin and end



# Baker Plan Model - Outline (cont.)

## 2. Processes

- a. Goals of Plan - List specific goals
- b. Plan Development Process
  - Who does what – input and review
  - Scope outline
- c. Description of “BMPs” necessary for Plan
  - Criteria selection
  - Contractor selection process
  - How will work be done
    - Oversight
    - Standards
    - QA/QC
  - When will work be allowed
    - Schedule development process
    - Consultation process

# Baker Plan Model - Outline (cont.)

## 2. Processes

- d. Specific Design Parameters (if necessary)
  - Detailed design criteria
  - Cost and Schedule development milestones
- e. Selection process -How will contractors be selected
- f. Design review process (if necessary)
- g. Detailed Plan review process
- h. Completion (turnover) process
- i. Funding process and mechanism
- j. Annual updating process

# Baker Plan Model - Outline (cont.)

3. List of Appendices - Updated periodically
  - Tabs added for each year' specific plan and actions as necessary
  - Contacts (Updated as needed)
  - Documented decisions
  - Annual reports

# Resource Group Decision Process

*Article 601 of Settlement Agreement*

