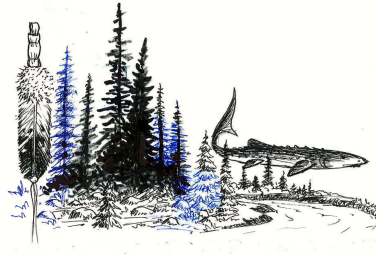


**Final Notes**  
**KRHRP PMT Coordination Call**  
**April 22, 2019**



**On the call**

Billy B., Matt D., Sarah F., Charlie H., Sue I., Robyn R., Jason S., Alison S., and Shawn Y.

**1. Ball Creek Tributary Project (2019 implementation)**

EC and/or permitting updates.

- JPA. The JPA was submitted Thursday. The wrong address was listed on the application site for USACE will correct address. Sue got a call from the person who is replacing Amity at IDL on Friday and will follow-up.
- Draft BA. Jason will get the BA to Sue this week. Sue will send it to Ted, Ted will send it to USFWS, and hopefully they will respond with an email or one-page concurrence.
- Section 106. Sue asked Ted about the cultural resource consultation but hasn't heard back from him yet. The consultation was completed in 2017, but BPA hadn't sent anything to the Tribe.
- Fish and mussel rescue. On future call will discuss details of fish salvage and mussel rescue work. Sue noted that she would like to involve Tribal youth in the mussel activities.

Landowner coordination and agreements

- All of the landowner agreements are signed.
- Fence lines walk through with landowners should happen in May. Sarah suggested co-scheduling the walk through with the BSWMA meeting.

Design and engineering

- To accommodate the permitting timeline for coordinating with IDEQ, RDG completed a permitting plan set. That went out ahead of the RFP. Over the next couple weeks RDG will be pulling together the bid package.

Contracting

- Matt sent out the following schedule for the 2019 GBI RFP and released:
  - May 10, 2019 – RFP issued
  - May 20, 2019 – Bid tour
  - May 21-31, 2019 – Value engineering, questions and proposal refinement
  - June 7, 2019 – Proposal due
  - June 10-26, 2019 – Tribal internal review and approval of proposal
  - June 28, 2019 – Issue construction task order
  - July 15, 2019 – Start in-water work

- Contract NW tree for weed management and maintenance. Sarah is working on the contract and it will be ready to go shortly.
- Tribal Council approval of RFP. Sue will get on council agenda when the RFP is ready. The next Tribal Council meeting is May 7.
- Pre-project weed control. Sarah suggested confirming what weed control needs are at the same time as the fence walk though.
- Floodplain no rise. Matt provided Sue with the floodplain no rise memo. **ACTION: Matt will send planning and zoning (John) the memo and follow-up with him to see if additional action is needed.**

#### Materials

- Alan Flory shared the following update by email: *Work is going well. We have procured some nice root balls. County roads should be opening up soon. I am going to get a hold of Ron Jordan before the end of April so we can check the staging area/site out. I would like to start delivering #1's before the end of June. At 1 maybe 2 #1's per load we are looking at 150 trips for #1's so it would be good to have a jump on them. The long-term weather forecast is for hot and dry. Meaning we could be looking at daily work restrictions.*

## 2. Currently planned outyear concepts/projects

### Ball Creek Ranch

- Field data collection. Matt and crew completed the field work. The vegetation was very thick, so the GPS didn't work in one spot. Matt hopes to get back out and do that last bit in conjunction with groundwater well installation.
- Groundwater wells. Ted G. has been in consultation with SHIPO and KTOI. He said as soon as he hears back from SHIPO we can move forward. Ted wanted to have a monitor on site, but it wasn't clear if that needs to be someone from the Tribe or if HRA. **ACTION: Sue find out if the on-site monitor needs to be someone from HRA or the Tribe.** Should be ready to install the ground water wells by the week of May 6. Matt wants to capture the peak that usually occurs around mid-May along with some information a bit before that. "Maybe do it next week if they can just get their SHIPO together..."
- Bathymetry from DU. Matt received the bathymetry from DU and compared that with the green Lidar. It turns out the best info was from the 2010 Lidar. RDG will do a couple test elevations to confirm that the design team has everything they need.
- RDG geomorphic risk evaluation of S. Fork Trout Creek avulsion. Matt said it is scheduled and should be done in May. Coordination with Scott Soultis is ongoing as well.
- Confirm landowner coordination needs (e.g., USFS parcel, landowner upstream from S. Fork Trout Creek, etc.) Matt said that access to working on South Fork Trout creek will require coordination with the Forest Service (Kevin Knath, Bonners Ferry District Ranger). **ACTION: Sue will coordinate with Kevin Knath to tell them about the project, access needs, and identify what needs to happen from Forest Service perspective.**
- Schedule Boise meeting with TNC. Sue still thinks it's a good idea to have an in-person meeting. She has been working back on forth with Bob U. on the revised design for the Ball Creek Tributary project and has a better idea of how Bob looks at things now. Next step is to reach out to Bob U. and confirming where we are with the design. Matt indicated that the next iteration

of the design incorporating input from the December meeting and other information will be ready in June. **ACTION: Sue will check with Bob U. to see if he would like to meet in person meeting in Boise, or online.** Alison noted that in addition to incorporating the design input, Bob U. wanted assurances / clarity around risk questions (e.g., likelihood of failure, responsibility in case of failure) and long-term M&E and maintenance.

- Other. Sue noted there was a massive fish kill in the BCWMA pond this year. There was also a big fish kill at Nimz too. Both were caused by ice cover. Shawn said at Nimz they were able to go out and quantify the fish kill. They got fin clips and lengths off of the fish. They found burbot, perch, small largemouth, yellow perch, sunfish, blue gills, and tench. The winter kill throughout the valley killed off a lot of non-natives in the Kootenai.

#### Kootenai National Wildlife Refuge

- Reschedule in-person meeting. Sue got email from Alice on Friday. She'll be up at the KNWR on May 9. Call participants agreed that May 9 at 3 PM Pacific works. **ACTION: Alison will send a confirmation and call-in number for May 9 at 3 PM Pacific. The in-person meeting will be at Tribal crew quarters for those who can come**
- RDG/Geum field evaluation (Cascade Creek, Cottonwood Pond and outlet, ditch bathymetry). Geum is preparing a special use application to do the wetland delineation, etc. later in the summer. RDG hasn't done anything data collection there yet and will coordinate with Geum on the schedule to get out in the field.
- Coordination with City on power line access. Hasn't happened yet. Sue suggested just going and talking to them together when Matt is in town, just give Sue a heads up.
- Other. Shawn has been running on the Deep Creek loop. He noted the south end of the Refuge is interesting right now. All of the ponds are flooded. You can really see the potential on the south end of the refuge. It is only disconnected by 25 feet of artificial dike. There is a series of 6 or 7 different wetlands. Shawn took some pictures because deep creek is very low since there isn't much runoff. **ACTION: Shawn will send Sarah his Deep Creek photos to RDG and Geum (or Alison for distribution).** Matt looked at that area a few years ago. He said the whole area collects a lot of hill slope drainage, then they ditch it back to the Refuge and pump it out. He agreed it would be great spot to connect, but there would be flooding concerns.

#### Boundary Smith Creek Wildlife Management Area

- Field data collection. Matt said they were able to get everything they needed in their April visit. Now have a better feel for what's going on in Boundary Creek. The habitat looks really good for fish. There is significant side channel and main channel habitat, it is dynamic.
  - Matt noted concern about losing that habitat is a valid concern. He noted the previous idea of only partially diverting boundary creek through the cells on the refuge. The tradeoff is the limited amount of water at baseflow.
  - Shawn said there aren't that many fish in that area in general. Burbot are only there periodically. They would spawn there in low flow in the winter. Larvae will get blown out. They'll go pelagic and get washed down lower in the river if that channel gets washed down in the dikes. That area is more for different life stages than for resident fish.

- Matt said he saw a lot of complex habitat in there. Alcoves and side channels.
- Shawn noted part of the problem is that by keeping Boundary Creek confined in its current state, when that ice and snow melt comes down it stays very cold in there and doesn't have a chance to warm up. All the water in the artificial containment sections stays colder.
- Groundwater well installation (BPA/cultural resources). See Ball Creek Ranch, same process and timeline.
- BSWMA meeting. Note after the PMT call the date for this meeting was changed to May 22 at 9 AM. Tentative location is Tribal HQ. **ACTION: Sue to confirm availability of Tribal HQ or Tribal crew quarters.**
- Landowner outreach (e.g., Forest Trust). Sue would like to wait until after the May 22 BSWMA meeting, confirm what the concept design looks like, then confirm what additional outreach is needed. **ACTION: Keep landowner outreach to Forest Trust and any others on PMT agenda pending outcome of May 22 meeting and additional decisions.**
- Marc-Andre regarding Dale Marsh Unit CVWMA (tentative, with CVWMA coordination). Subsequent to PMT call, Tom confirmed that Marc-Andre will participate in CVWMA meeting. Will talk about there (see below).

#### Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area

- Meeting with CVWMA scheduled for May 21 (note date confirmed after PMT call). Marc-Andre will attend, Tom has extended invitation to Val Evans (BC MoFLNRORD) and Curtis Wulllum (Ktunaxa), and others as well.
- Lidar. After the PMT call, Matt heard from Marc-Andre who said the Regional District of Central Kootenay received the Lidar about 1.5 weeks ago. Marc-Andre didn't think it was publicly available yet but promised to let Matt know ASAP.
- Geum develop draft restoration concepts (without Lidar) in April/May. Update pending.

#### Confirm 2020 Project

- When, what needs to happen? Discussed timing and agreed to make decision by end of May if possible and not later than the end of June. **ACTION: Document rationale for project decision when that occurs.**

### 3. Technical Coordination

- April or May KTOI data protocol coordination meeting (to ensure that all KTOI projects have updated and similar data protocols).
- **ACTIONS:**
  - Sarah/Geum will work on compiling existing methods for different programs and do a crosswalk to identify similarities and gaps by mid-to late May.
  - Once that is compiled, we will schedule email outreach to KTOI staff and/or a coordination call or in-person meeting if needed. Late May or early June.
  - Confirm process and timeline on next PMT call.

- PRAT membership and SOWs.
  - Alison is working on synthesizing input on Lisa K. SOW and will share that with Sue, Matt, Tom and Dan for input by May 3. Sue, Dan and Alison will coordinate on SOW language. Tom suggested including task in SOW that allows Lisa to coordinate directly with design team. Shawn noted that Genny H. would also like to have Lisa K. look over some of the data she has collected.
  - Will not be adding Stan Gregory to PRAT since he is currently an ISRP member and it would pose a conflict.
- Send poll for June/July KTOI, co-manager subgroup, and IKERT workshop. Complete, Alison sent a poll out on April 30, response requested by May 10.
- Poll out for fall PRAT-CMART workshop. **Action: Alison will send poll after confirming IKERT and co-manager workshop dates.**
- PRAT review of Meander Reach concepts. Plan is to complete revisions to concepts by about the end of May. That would mean a June review. Will use IKERT-comanager dates as first option to schedule a follow-up PRAT zoom call to review the concepts/projects together. **ACTION: Alison to send poll and update after IKERT-comanager meeting scheduled.**

#### 4. Communication and outreach

- Presentation and publication tracking update
  - Alison has a working template that lists: 1) publications related to the KRHRP (i.e., outside entities such as IDFG, USGS, not internal publications), 2) project presentations (e.g., AFS, etc.), and 3) projects and/or actions inspired by KRHRP projects and/or overall program. Per guidance from Sue we'll add the topic of updating our communication and outreach (papers, presentations, etc.) to the PMT call so that we can capture things as they come up.
  - Sarah said Jesse is also working on a spreadsheet compiling documents. Alison will coordinate with Jesse to see if there's overlap and/or to incorporate both efforts into one.
  - Sue noted the desire to update the Tribe's website with publications as well.
- Jason said in addition, he would like to compile in one location all of the construction monitoring data (e.g., turbidity monitoring) to put that all together to support a future presentation and/or communications with regulatory agencies at some point.

#### 5. KTOI Fish & Wildlife Dept. update

- The Nimz Central Quad RFP is on schedule and following a similar schedule to the Ball Creek Tributary project.
- Shawn explained that at the recent April Sturgeon Annual Review Program, participants agree to significant changes and compromises within sturgeon production program. There is a continued lack of growth and recruitment in the Meander reach. There is agreement that we have hit carrying capacity for hatchery fish. In discussing the issue with staff and Tribal Council, developed a new proposal. Will release no more than 5,000 juveniles per year, culling out the remainder to leave only the largest individuals to make family groups. This will be done in a

specific manner with supporting releases. This will be complemented by implementation of in river culling program in the future (i.e., culling autopolyploidy fish and overrepresented year classes) to make niches for new year classes and to reduce resource allocation for existing population. Success of sturgeon is dependent on habitat conditions in the future

- Shawn noted he will also be discussing limited release of burbot larvae into Nimz Ranch. This would be an experiment similar to last years, but with lower numbers. Nimz Ranch will probably not reconnect this year due to the lower water year.

## **Adjourn**