



The Dalles Watershed Council

Fostering stewardship of Threemile Creek, Mill Creek and Chenowith Creek watersheds

c/o Wasco County Soil and Water Conservation District

2325 River Road, Suite 3, The Dalles, OR 97058

(541) 296-6178 x102

MEETING MINUTES

October 11th, 2017 6:30-8:00 PM

USDA Service Center 2325 River Road, The Dalles

Attendees:

Abbie Forrest, *Coordinator*

Mark Poppoff, *Member*

John Dodd, *USFS*

Tatiana Taylor, *SWCD*

Andy Johnsen, *CTWS*

Martha Blair, *Member*

Ken Bailey, *Co-Chair*

Shay Workman, *CTW*

Steve Byers, *Member*

Introductions

Ken Bailey called the meeting to order and led introductions. Ken asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Abbie subtracted the ODFW presentation.

Steve moved to approve the minutes as presented. Martha seconded and the motion passed.

Lamprey Monitoring Update

Andy Johnsen attended the meeting to present the council with updates and future plans of the Lamprey Monitoring in Fifteenmile Creek and Mill Creek. Andy began with discussing the Dalles office and its' focuses on Fifteenmile Creek and Hood River. He discussed the hope to start a distinct focus on Mill Creek. In the last few years there have been few monitoring projects. There are two pit tag detection antennas at Cushing Falls and at Bonneville Dam. At the Bonneville detection site, there were over 150 Lamprey tagged. Andy discussed how numbers were down, and that ideally there would have been 500 tagged. Andy then discussed the focus on juvenile detection and density of Lamprey in Mill Creek and Fifteenmile Creek.

Andy briefly described Lamprey and their characteristics. They are an eel like fish that are native to the Pacific Northwest. Lamprey have great cultural significance to the Native Americans, as they were traditionally used as food, medicine, and a variety of other uses. Lamprey live in the sediment and filter feed for four years. After this time they migrate to the ocean for another four years, at which point they migrate back, spawn, and die. Lamprey are nocturnal bottom feeders, thus are rarely seen. Lamprey are cartilaginous fish with no bones, and develop a bright blue eye near spawning. There was a petition to list the species in 2003, however it was decided that there was not enough information.

Martha questioned future goals of the project and if there were any problem areas for the Lamprey. Andy discussed that although Lamprey are hardy and tolerant of temperatures up to 20°C, there are many problem areas in the watershed. Discussion ensued.

New Recruitment and Expiring Terms

Ken Bailey discussed the resignation of Bruce Lumper and the need for a new co-chair. Ken also discussed that Gary Wade had not been attending watershed council meetings, although he had been an active representative from The Dalles on the small grant team. Gary had been notified of the requirement to attend watershed council meetings in order to be active on the small grant team. Gary Wade then resigned from his position as a member of The Dalles Watershed Council, and small grant team.

Abbie discussed the fact that terms expire at the end of December for John Dodd, Martha Blair, and Steve Byers. They are all up for reappointment for 3 year terms. John mentioned his concerns that he is moving, possibly out of Watershed boundaries. The council discussed the boundary requirements for participating in each individual watershed. Steve looked into the by-laws and it was determined that John and Martha could be reappointed. John Dodd, Martha Blair, and Steve Byers, all requested to be reappointed to the council.

The council began discussing new recruitment options. Martha mentioned that she would begin looking into a recruitment process and would step-down if new recruits were interested in her position. Abbie mentioned she would continue to advertise the vacancies in the SWCD Newsletter as well as by word of mouth.

The council circled back to the vacant co-chair position. Abbie mentioned that she needed a co-chair for her quarterly reporting requirements to OWEB. After some deliberation Steve Byers was appointed Co-Chair.

Updates and Announcements

Abbie began the discussion about the ODFW South Fork Wier project on Mill Creek. She mentioned that an ODFW Engineer is currently working on the design plans. Abbie proposed that The Dalles Watershed be the applicant for the small grant application. Abbie proposed the Council ask for \$15,000 from OWEB, \$5,000 through the District cost share, and ODFW will apply through their grant process. Total award amounts possible through the District cost share and OWEB small grant program would be \$25,000.

Abbie distributed the Work Plan to the council and expressed her idea to have it available on the SWCD website. Martha asked about the Mill Creek monitoring presentation. Abbie replied that she would try and get ODFW to present in the near future.

John Dodd mentioned the Joint Cheifs grant, which is an all land, oak restoration and wildlife fuel reduction grant. The grant would present 9 million dollars over 3 years.

New Meeting Time

The council discussed potential new meeting times. It was decided that the next meeting would start at 5:30PM rather than 6:30PM. Abbie mentioned that the next meeting would have an E.coli report as well as the annual fish report from ODFW.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm

Minutes prepared by Tatiana Taylor.