

# Chehalis Basin Partnership Steering/Technical Committee Meeting Summary

June 7, 2001 -- WDFW Montesano -- 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Present: Mark Swartout (Chair), Lonnie Crumley, Patrick Wiltzuis, Margaret Radar, Michelle Anderson, Lee Hansmann, Chad Stussy, Kahle Jennings.

## Agenda

### 1) Organizational Issues

- Role of the Steering/Technical Committee (STC) – What had it been, what should it be (relate to proposed by-law changes)
- STC work assignments and schedule as it relates to the Partnership's Annual Plan of Work
- The 6-month advanced agenda
- Meeting times and dates

### 2) Watershed Plan Scope

- Role of the STC
- Schedule of STC involvement
- Summary of Ecology's recent agency watershed planning support work session

### 3) Salmon Recovery Strategy

- Role of the Partnership's STC vs. the Salmon Recovery Technical Advisory Group (TAG)
- Schedule
- Process

## Role of the Steering/Technical Committee (STC)

**General** - The STC carries out functions that are a blend of the Steering Committee that was formed when the Partnership was being established and the Technical Advisory Committee formed in the current by-laws. Other committees can be formed around specific issues, such as the committee that has worked on the local prioritization of basin water quality grant/loan applications. The draft operating procedures (revised by-laws) do a nice job explaining the role of the Steering/Technical committee. The draft operating procedures will be sent out to the STC at the same time they are distributed to the Partnership with the June meeting announcement and agenda.

**Salmon Recovery** - We next discussed the SRF Board's schedule for salmon recovery project proposals and how this will fit into the STC 6-month agenda. This led to a discussion of the need for a representative from the Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force on both the Partnership and the STC due to the resignation of John Penberth from the Task Force. The STC agreed that we should recommend to the Partnership that it seek out a replacement representative from the Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force.

**Partnership Agendas** - The STC discussed its potential role in reviewing proposed Partnership agenda items and, depending on the specific issues the Partnership is working on at the time, making recommendations about which should be a priority. There was general agreement that this is a role the STC could perform on an “as needed” basis. This responsibility should be incorporated into the draft operating procedures.

**Specific Assignments** - Mark will contact people to see if we can get more active participation in the Steering/Technical committee. Kahle will take notes at the STC meetings and prepare a meeting summary, which will be mailed out to the Partnership each month. Kahle will send Mark the STC E-mail list. Kahle will add the STC to the committee report section of the Partnership monthly meeting agenda and Mark will make a report at that time. Lonnie will talk to the Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force about getting someone to represent them at the Partnership and the STC.

#### Status of the CBP Annual Plan of Work

The Partnership approved it at the May 25 meeting with the understanding that it is a working document and that as the year progresses, changes will have to be made.

A suggestion has been made that it be broken into two lists: a list of the substantive actions and a list of the on-going regular work items. This is a good suggestion and the version sent out with the June Partnership meeting announcement will show the change.

#### Steering/Technical Committee Six-Month Advanced Agenda

The draft six-month advance agenda was reviewed thoroughly. It was suggested that the actual meeting date be provided in the left column as a reminder. Additional details were added under both the S/TC and Partnership columns.

#### STC Members

Grays Harbor Conservation District and Mason Conservation District to the E-mail distribution list.

#### Meeting Times, Dates and Location

The current meeting date (generally the first Thursday of the month) and time (1:00 to 3:00) seems to be working OK. Montesano is a bit far for some to come. Oakville was mentioned as a possibility. For now meetings will continue to be in Montesano.

#### Watershed Planning (90.82)

Lee handed out the contract Grays Harbor County has signed with Triangle Associates Inc. for helping the Partnership develop a scope for the Phase 3 plan. The committee discussed the schedule and made recommendations to Lee. Individual interviews should focus on the following Partnership members: Commissioners representing Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason and Thurston Counties; Chehalis Tribe and Quinault Tribe; Water Districts; combined Citizens' Advisory Committee and Steering/Technical Committee. These interviews will be held from Mid-June through approximately July 6<sup>th</sup>. The

combined Citizens' Advisory Committee and Steering/Technical Committee meeting with Triangle will tentatively be scheduled for June 28. The first formal workshop for Partnership members will be July 13<sup>th</sup>. The second workshop will be held at the regular July Partnership meeting August 24<sup>th</sup>. An outline of the draft scope for the phase 3 plan will be out in early September and most of the September Partnership meeting will be spent on reviewing and discussing the draft scope for the plan. The schedule calls for the scope of the plan to be approved during the September Partnership meeting.

### Salmon Recovery

Quite a bit of the initial work on a basin salmon recovery strategy is done. This strategy will focus salmon recovery activities.

Acting in its role as Salmon Recovery Lead Entity, Grays Harbor County has scheduled a work session for potential salmon recovery project sponsors for June 21<sup>st</sup>. The salmon recovery strategy will be explained to potential project sponsors at this meeting. Another emphasis of the meeting will be to explore opportunities for partnerships between potential project sponsors.

### Other recommendations

The Partnership agenda should include the next months meeting date and any special agenda items that are known at the time.

The STC wants to encourage activities that get Partnership members out "on" the river and Grays Harbor. Next summer (2002) might be a good time to do some events...that is when we will really be starting to deal with some complicated issues. Activities need to be fun to attract people. A tour of the harbor to look at shoreline management and shoreline habitat issues aboard the Lady Washington was suggested as one idea that might draw people out. Ecology and WDFW are measuring river flows at six sites this summer to provide information on how flows affect fish to the Partnership. It may be possible to schedule on-site visits while flow measurements are being taken so that people can see how it is done.