

Terrestrial Resources Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2021
Call in Meeting
10:00 a.m. (MST)

TRTAC Representatives Attendees:

Avista – Nate Hall, Arthur Potts
Green Mountain Conservation District (GMCD) – Terry Hightower
Elk Creek Watershed Council – Judy Hutchinson
Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) –
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho – Shannon Ehlers
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks – Dave Landstrom
Montana State Historic Preservation Office – Jessica Bush
Noxon-Cabinet Shoreline Coalition – Rick Robinson
U.S. Forest Service (USFS) – Les Raynor
U.S. Fish Wildlife Service – Wayne Kasworm

Other Attendees:

Avista – Lisa Vollertsen, Davina Brown, Eric Oldenburg and Avista Grant Writer Susan Drumheller; Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) – Ken Bouwens, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) – Dave Bennetts, Noxon-Cabinet Shoreline Coalition – Richard Reich

Welcome

Nate welcomed those in attendance. The purpose of today’s meeting is to review the draft 2021 Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs), make any necessary corrections, and recommend forwarding them for Management Committee's (MC) review and approval at their upcoming meeting March 17, 2021.

Other business

- KLT Closed on a donated conservation easement on 43.6 acre parcel along East Fork Bull
- Investigating two potential acquisitions on Graves Creek
- There is one potential opportunity being investigated in Idaho on Twin Creek
- Investigating a potential protection opportunity, a conservation on easement on the Bull River
- Grant Writer Update
- Fall Meeting Date set for August 25, 2021

Appendix G: Implementation of the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)

1. Administration of the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
 - a. Five-year update of the LUMP – need to be addressed in 2021- although note that current document continues to work well.
2. Managing Aquatic Invasive Plants on Noxon and Cabinet Gorge Reservoirs

- a. Request is the same as last year for facilitation and other assistance to the Sanders County Aquatic Invasive Plant Task Force
3. Monitoring Associated with the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
4. Enforcement Associated with the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
 - a. Note that new MT warden will be in place by this coming fall. In the interim we are receiving assistance from other wardens in adjacent patrol districts.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix G as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix H: Implementation of Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP)

1. RRMP Administration and Resource Integration
2. RRMP Recreation Facility Development
 - a. Potts noted that due to challenges in 2020, many of these projects were not completed. As such most of the proposed projects are carried over from 2020.
3. RRMP Monitoring – Note that 2020 Recreation Monitoring Report is available for anyone that would like a copy.
4. Operation and Maintenance of Recreation Facilities
5. Interpretation and Education Program

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix H as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix I: Aesthetics Management Plan

- There are no specific project plans associated with this PM&E.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix I as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix J: Wildlife, Botanical and Wetland Management Plan

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Potts explained that the primary activity under the PM&E is updating the spreadsheet and ensure the MC is reviewing ownership on a regular basis.
- Bald Eagle, peregrine falcon, and loon observations can be tracked through this PM&E.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix J as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix K: Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Enhancement, and Management Program

1. Operation and Maintenance of Acquired Property and Contingency Fund
2. Habitat Acquisition and Conservation and Contingency Fund

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix K as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix L: Black Cottonwood Habitat Protection and Enhancement

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that primary protection is provided through implementation of the LUMP.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix L as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix M: Wetlands Protection and Enhancement Program

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Potts explained that we will continue looking at wetland enhancement opportunities at the Twin Creek property.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix M as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix P: Forest Habitat Protection and Enhancement

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E but Potts outlined the objectives and tasks associated with Appendix P and explained how any revenue generated through timber management remains within the Clark Fork Settlement Agreement.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix P as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix Q: Reservoir Island Protection

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that this PM&E was developed in recognition of the importance in protecting the Avista owned island habitat along the project area.
- There is no budget associated with this PM&E for 2021, as the activities are covered under the implementation of the LUMP.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix Q as presented to the MC for review and approval.

Appendix S: Erosion Fund and Shoreline Stabilization Guidelines

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- In 2021, work efforts will focus on addressing erosion concerns identified by the CRMG; and utilize engineering assistance to help evaluate erosion control proposals received by Avista from adjacent landowners.
- Provide technical assistance for an erosion project proposed by an adjacent landowner in the Vermilion Point area.

With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix S as presented to the MC for review and approval.

- Meeting Adjourned 11:30