

Klickitat Technical Committee

The role of the Klickitat Technical Committee is to provide technical advice to the Klickitat Citizens Review Committee on the identification, sequencing and prioritization of stream reaches and projects for salmonid recovery and the evaluation of the technical merits of candidate projects submitted to the Klickitat Citizens Review Committee.

The Klickitat Technical Committee was officially established by the Lead Entity in July, 2004. Previously, the group functioned in an unofficial capacity as the Lead Entity's technical committee and was known as the Klickitat Technical Advisory Group.

Klickitat Technical Committee Bylaws

Name

The name of the technical committee shall be the "Klickitat Technical Committee" (TC).

Geographic Area of Concern

The TC's geographic area of concern encompasses WRIA 30, 31, and the area of WRIA 29B extending from the White Salmon River east, inclusive. The Klickitat River drains approximately 1,350 square miles of Klickitat and Yakima Counties and enters the Bonneville Pool of the Columbia River at river mile (RM) 180.4. That portion of WRIA 29 that is within the Klickitat Lead Entity's geographic area includes the White Salmon River basins and several tributaries that flow directly into the Columbia River, including Catherine, Jewett, and Major Creeks. The White Salmon River drains approximately 386 square miles of Yakima, Skamania, and Klickitat Counties and enters the Bonneville Pool of the Columbia River at RM 167. WRIA 31 contains approximately 1,654 square miles in Klickitat, Yakima, and Benton Counties. Within WRIA 31, Rock Creek is the primary basin of concern for salmon habitat.

Purposes and Functions

The TC purpose is to fulfill the functions of a technical sub-committee (TC) of the CRC pursuant to 77.85.050, and 77.85,060 RCW. These functions are as follows:

- Forward technical project comments and recommendations, with supporting rationale, to the CRC in support of the CRC developing habitat project lists;
- Provide the CRC with credible scientific advice in support of the CRC establishing priorities for individual projects and defining the sequence for project implementation;
- Provide the CRC with credible scientific advice in support of the CRC developing, maintaining, and implementing the *Klickitat Lead Entity Salmon Recovery Strategy* and habitat work schedule;
- Provide credible scientific advice to the CRC regarding such salmonid recovery matters as the CRC may forward to the TC; and
- As may be constrained from time to time by the availability of TC resources or other reasons, provide outreach and other *Klickitat Lead Entity Salmon Recovery Strategy* implementation assistance requested by the CRC or Klickitat Lead Entity.

Duration

The TC shall fulfill its TC purpose and functions so long as it is enfranchised by the Klickitat Lead Entity.

Committee Membership

To fulfill its TC functions, the TC shall have a number of voting seats for which primary and alternate members shall be appointed by the Klickitat County Board of County Commissioners in its role as the Klickitat Lead Entity. The Board of County Commissioners may appoint any number of ex-officio members. Members shall serve three-year terms. The TC may recommend candidates for TC membership to the CRC, which advises the Klickitat Lead Entity. Previous TC members may serve at the discretion of the Klickitat Lead Entity.

Ex-officio members may participate in all discussions and deliberations, but shall have no vote on matters before the TC.

The TC membership should represent a broad range of expertise, including (but not limited to) the following: fish and habitat biology; hydrology; geomorphology; forestry; agriculture; soils; civil engineering; and other environmental issues or topics relating to fish recovery.

TC Executive Committee

The TC shall have an executive committee composed of a Chair and Vice-chair to assist with carrying out the TC's various roles and responsibilities. Executive Committee members shall serve for 1-year terms. Responsibilities of the Chair shall include facilitating meetings and representing the TC before the Citizens Review Committee, and other entities as necessary. Responsibilities of the Vice-chair include serving as pro-tem in the Chair's absence. If the Chair and Vice-chair are both absent, the Chair shall designate another member of the TC to serve as Acting Chair prior to the meeting.

Meetings

Meetings shall be open to the public and advertised to the extent practicable in accordance with CRW 40.30. The TC's regular meetings shall be held starting at 9:00 A.M. on the third Thursday of each month as needed. If any regular meeting falls on a holiday, such regular meeting shall be held on the next business day. The TC shall conduct meetings in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. A copy of approved meeting minutes shall be provided to the CRC.

Absentee Policy

A TC member seat (as represented by the primary or alternate appointee) that misses three consecutive meetings or four meetings in a 12-month period may forfeit his/her position on the TC membership. If any seat is vacant for three consecutive meetings or four meetings in a 12-month period, then, until the member seat establishes acceptable attendance for a 12 month period, the number of members needed to achieve a simple majority of members may be reduced by one whenever that seat is vacant.

Quorum

A quorum for the transaction of business exists when a simple majority of voting members is in attendance at any meeting. The number of voting members needed to achieve a simple majority

may be reduced in accordance with the Attendance Policy. Meetings may occur when there is not a quorum though no decisions will be made.

Passing Vote

Consensus shall be the preferred method of decision-making. Consensus shall be defined as general agreement between and among TC members with no member opposed. If consensus cannot be reached on any matter, then a vote will be called and must receive a majority to pass. A minority opinion report may be submitted by any voting member of the TC with the recommendation report of the full TC.

Conflict of Interest

TC members shall not use their position on the TC for personal gain. Even where no conflict of interest exists under the law, TC members are encouraged to disclose ex parte contacts or exposure they have had regarding a matter before the TC. TC members shall be allowed to participate in discussion, ranking, and comment on all projects including any that they have a potential conflict of interest. TC members are required to clearly disclose any known or potential conflicts of interest in their ranking forms.

Bylaws

TC members shall operate with written ground rules that specify its mission and operating procedures. Ground rules pertaining to TC functions may be altered by the CRC with recommendations from the TC.