

**KLICKITAT LEAD ENTITY TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**  
**Hybrid Meeting at Klickitat County Services Building**  
**115 W. Court Street, Room 307, Goldendale, WA**  
**and via Google Meet**  
**March 13, 2024**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Joe Zendt in person and via Google Meet at 9:05 A.M. and a quorum was established.

**Roll Call & Introductions**

Present: Brady Allen, Adrienne Grimm, Jill Hardiman, Amber Johnson, Gardner Johnston, Pat Hayden, Margaret Neuman, Rashawn Tama, Tova Tillinghast, Nate Ulrich, Chairman Joe Zendt

Absent: Sharon Frazey (resigned), Sean Gross, Nicolas Romero (resigned)

Staff: Lead Entity Coordinator Keaton Curtice

Guests: Kay Caromile (RCO), Carly Lemon (UCD)

Keaton Curtice was introduced as the new Lead Entity Coordinator, and the committee introduced themselves and their roles.

**Agenda Review and Approval**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**Review and Approval of June 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes from June 8, 2023 were approved by consensus.

**Administrative Items**

**Review of Committee Roles and Bylaws**

Keaton reminded the committee that the role of the technical committee is to act as a technical advisory board for the citizens review committee. The role of both committees are to provide their own expertise in order to support the funding and development of high-quality projects that have the aim of restoring fish habitat and populations.

**Open Public Meeting Act Reminder**

Keaton reminded the committee that the technical committee meetings are subject to the Open Public Meetings Act, which means that the meetings are open to the public, to not communicate TC business unless there is a quorum, and to be mindful of the rules and regulations the committee is required to adhere to.

**Conflict of Interest Reminder**

Keaton reminded the committee that they are to not use their committee role for personal gain, and that they are required to disclose conflict of interest.

### **Committee Membership Updates**

Sharon Frazey from WADNR representing fish biology expertise, and alternate Nicolas Romero from the Yakama Nation Fisheries also representing fish biology expertise have both chosen to not seek reappointment to the technical committee. There was discussion as to finding professionals who would like to fill the open spots on the committee.

### **2024 Chair and Vice-Chair Elections**

Keaton reminded the committee that the technical committee has an executive committee composed of a chair and a vice-chair. The role of the chair is to be the public facing member of the technical committee for the citizens review committee, to assist the citizens review committee with their technical expertise, and to facilitate the technical committee meetings. The role of the vice-chair is to fill in for the chair when they are absent.

*The committee moved for Joe Zendt to retain the role as chair, and for Nate Ulrich to stay the vice-chair. The reappointments were approved by consensus.*

### **Business Items**

#### **2024 SRFB Grant Round Calendar & TC Meeting Dates**

Discussion was had about the viability of the April 11th meeting date, with the committee ultimately agreeing that the 11th worked for the second technical committee meeting. It was noted that the LE SRFB calendar is the responsibility of the lead entity, and that changes can be made as long as projects are submitted, and site visit dates are made. It was also suggested and agreed upon that the committee meet at the Pioneer Center in White Salmon for future meetings for ease of in-person participation. Additional discussion was had about CRC membership changes, and candidates for the TC.

#### **Salmon Funding Discussion, 2024 Grant Round Changes**

Keaton gave a presentation to the committee about the overall goal of the lead entity, the watersheds and regional organizations involved, and the types of projects that are eligible for SRFB funding (acquisition, planning, design, restoration, etc) The topic of note was the additional 24M in riparian funding that has been made available on top of the SRFB funding. There was discussion over what exactly qualified as a riparian project, and whether riparian projects encompass more than just riparian planting. Additionally, there was discussion over when the committee would learn about the amount of funding afforded to the Klickitat Lead Entity, and whether or not the LE qualifies for the new Targeted Investments Program.

#### **LE Active and Funded Project List**

Swale Creek Habitat Enhancement/Lower Rock Creek Instream Habitat Enhancement/Walaluuks Creek Levee Setback/Pine Creek Fish Passage Design

- Without a representative from the Eastern and Central Klickitat Conservation District, little was known about the status of those projects. The Swale Creek, Lower Rock Creek, and Walaluuks Creek projects appear dormant, and questions were raised about the sponsors having so many projects falling through. The Pine Creek project went out to bid, but design problems and issues with WSDOT caused the bid to be pulled. The lead entity coordinator will communicate with the sponsors to check on the projects.

Klickitat River Floodplain Stewardship

- The first three years of spraying and monitoring have been completed along the haul road portion of the project. More spraying will be done this season. There is the possibility that some money will be returned to RCO. There's just a little bit more work to do to see the project to completion.

#### Riparian Enhancements in the Former Condit Reservoir

- Several reservoir sites have been planted. There was one site that had never been planted before, this site requires extensive irrigation to ensure successful planting. There were mixed planting results in some smaller sites, and there might be some replanting.

#### Habitat Restoration through Beaver Supplementation

- A suite of beaver relocation sites have been identified, a beaver holding facility has been established, and work has been done to fund beaver analogs. Project has yet to successfully trap and move a beaver.

#### Lower Snyder Creek Restoration Design

- Project was design only, involving an area with 5 landowners. Project will end this year, and an application for a final design project above the current project area will be submitted for funding. Project is tied in with the Klickitat Mill Site cleanup led by Klickitat County.

#### Rattlesnake Gulch Fish Passage & Restoration

- Restoration project was completed; two bridges were removed and replaced with fish passages. Planting and seeding was done on the disturbed locations, and the site responded well to higher flows. Project has made great progress, and is nearing completion. A follow-up will be done that includes additional planting.

#### White Salmon River Conservation Assessment

- Timeline and cost extension/increase was approved, but cabin area acquisition is taking longer than expected. Progress and negotiation is still ongoing, and sponsors continue to assist the parties involved.

#### Upper Rattlesnake Creek Conservation

- Conservation of project area in phase one was completed several months prior to this meeting. Still a year to go to close out the grant, as a property management plan is still needed. Phase 2 will be a second project without the use of SRFB funding. There is currently no monitoring plan for the project.

#### White Creek Wood Replenishment Phase 2

- Trees and getting marked and identified, the project is moving forward and on schedule.

#### Upper Rattlesnake Creek Floodplain Enhancement

- Floodplain enhancement on a lower 1.2 mile stretch of the creek. RFP has gone out for the contractor to install 35 post assisted structure interventions at 13 sites. Project will be implemented over two seasons, summer of 24' and 25'. Most of the wood involved for the project will be from on-site. Potential future monitoring projects in the area are contingent on available funding sources.

#### Howard Lake Road Upper Klickitat Floodplain

- Engineer under contract to move forward with the design phase of the project. Project is moving forward smoothly.

#### Lower White Salmon River Conservation

- No updates

