

Rocky Reach Meeting Minutes

To: Files
From: Gregg Carrington
Date: February 2, 1999
Subject: Rocky Reach Relicensing Project
Initial Meeting
Attendees: Glenn Hoffman – U.S. Forest Service
Joe Kastenholz
Alex Martinez
Ardis Bynum
Gregg Carrington – Chelan PUD
Jeff Osborn
Location: Forest Service Headquarters - Wenatchee

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Rocky Reach relicensing process and schedule. We started out by talking about the pros and cons of the Lake Chelan process.

Pros:

Overall, the Forest Service is happy with the Lake Chelan process (collaborative nature, involvement of parties, information sharing, and multiple opportunities to participate in meetings and review of plans).

Cons:

1. Need to screen issues better. Some of the items on the lists are not issues. Some of the items on the lists do not reflect what was said as the issues were identified. It would be good to define what an “issue” is at the beginning of the process. Before identifying issues or issuing the Scoping Document, it would be better to present a project overview and issue the ICD at the beginning.
2. Some of the meetings have been too busy (too much information).
3. The Forest Service understands how some of the participants may have a problem attending all of the meetings but, they also understood that the meetings have to happen.

Discussion:

1. Jeff and I told them that we planned on screening the issues better and making sure that the meaning of the issues was translated/recorded (not just one or two words). We also mentioned that the ICD was going to be issued up front (July).
2. As far as the meetings are concerned (too busy), we indicated that the full relicensing meetings were to provide summaries about each of the resource areas (so that all could be informed about what's happening). The working groups are where the details of the study plans would be discussed. We decided that we would define the role of each of the groups (full relicensing team and working groups) at the beginning of the process.
3. We indicated that we were aware of the problems caused by the intense nature of the relicensing process. Even if we didn't use the Alternative Relicensing Process, we still would be having as many meetings. To help with this, Chelan PUD has done the following:
 - a. All information is on the web site.
 - b. Anyone can call into a meeting (conference call).
 - c. Chelan PUD will go and meet with anyone and give periodic updates.
 - d. Anyone can participate in writing (written comments will be discussed by the working groups).

We decided that there was much more that we could do to help organizations that didn't have the resources.

Preliminary issues or concerns:

The Forest Service has the following issues:

1. Fish and fish habitat. They understand that the HCP is considering tributary enhancement projects. Since 85 percent of the tributaries are on Forest Service land, they would like to know more about what's being proposed. They mentioned that they haven't seen many meeting notices. They had a lot of questions about the HCP. For example, how will it be funded?, how does this fit with other programs such as the BPA's, who decides how the money will be spent? Jeff agreed to set up a meeting to discuss the HCP. A copy of the HCP was sent to the FS and a meeting was scheduled on March 4, 1999 from 9 to 12.
2. Wildlife. They would like a consolidated wildlife management program with all agencies. They would like wildlife management along the south side of the lake to be integrated with theirs.
3. Cultural resources. Forest Service lands are outside the project boundary.
4. Recreational opportunities. They would like recreational opportunities for the City of Entiat investigated.