

Rocky Reach Meeting Minutes

To: Distribution List
From: Michelle Smith
Date: September 27, 2001
Subject: Rocky Reach Social Sciences Meeting
Attendees: Refer to Sign-Up Sheet
Location: Chelan PUD Auditorium, Wenatchee, WA
Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Meeting Purpose

- 1) Review and discuss the final Recreation Inventory and Recreation Needs Forecast and Analysis reports.

Cumulative Impact Analysis

Michelle Smith, Chelan PUD (PUD), initiated the meeting by reviewing the cumulative impact discussion from the Aug. 15 working group meeting. She reiterated that the working group had concluded in that meeting that any of the discussed issues could be addressed at the Project level, and that a cumulative impact analysis was not needed. Michelle (PUD) mentioned that subsequent to that meeting she received a comment letter from Keith Vradenburg, Entiat Focus Group. His letter said that the junior taxing district in the Entiat area, as well as the Entiat School District, has been affected by agencies and non-profit organizations purchasing land in the area, taking away land from the tax rolls. That issue will be addressed at the Project-specific level. The group did not recommend any other items be included in a cumulative impact analysis.

Study Reports (see handouts)

Recreation Needs Forecast and Analysis, final

Michelle (PUD) mentioned that at the previous meeting the group discussed whether morning and evening park use may not have been represented since the park use surveys occurred at midday. It was determined that spot checks should be conducted to capture some of that use. Michelle (PUD) said the spot checks were completed, and the analysis was added to the report.

The working group reviewed the summary that Michelle (PUD) prepared from the Executive Summary in the report. Barb Jackson, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), commented on sanitation issues at the dispersed sites and questioned perhaps more need for sanitation facilities. Gregg Carrington (PUD) acknowledged her comment, but pointed out it could be a "catch 22" situation. By placing sanitation facilities at the dispersed sites, you may attract more people to the sites in addition to the people that are already using them. Jim Fisher, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), agreed and suggested treating each site individually with periodic monitoring and evaluation. He also recommended developing a strategy to deal with the monitoring results. Michelle (PUD) pointed out that a Recreation Advisory Committee is being established at Lake Chelan to monitor recreation throughout the next license period. The Rocky Reach Social Sciences Working Group could recommend there be an advisory board to meet on a scheduled basis

throughout the next license period to discuss recreation issues including dispersed sites and potential needs. Jim (BLM) agreed with the suggestion and commented that, at this time, identifying a strategy is the key.

Recreation Inventory Report, revised final

At the time of the meeting, there were no comments made on the revised final. However, Michelle (PUD) stated there is a 30-day comment period, and comments made by Oct. 21 would be made part of the permanent record.

Project Lands Management Report

Michelle (PUD) informed the group that there would be a delay in finalizing the Project Lands Management report. She explained that Erlandsen and Associates is in the process of completing a boundary survey, and some of that information is needed to complete the Lands Management Report. The next draft is expected to be issued by the end of 2001.

Other Business

Michelle (PUD) asked the working group if they felt there was a need for additional information or studies relating to social science issues. There were no recommendations from working group members present; and, therefore, no studies will be planned for social sciences resources for 2002. The next step for the working group is to begin determining measures for the new license. However, that process is dependent on considering other resources and study results. The Social Sciences Working Group agreed it was appropriate to postpone this phase until other resource groups had completed studies and the results were discussed in the full group settings. It was therefore determined that the Social Sciences Working Group would postpone monthly meetings until spring of 2002. In the meantime, Michelle will stay in touch with working group members, and an open door invitation is extended to anyone who wants to discuss issues or the process.

Dan Haas, U.S. National Park Service (NPS), asked how the protection, mitigation & enhancement (PME) process would work. Gregg (PUD) explained it was the same process used for Lake Chelan relicensing where the list of potential PMEs were divided by whether they were directly or indirectly impacted by project operations. Gregg (PUD) also mentioned that the working groups developed matrices that listed individual PMEs. The main purpose for the matrix was to provide individuals with an opportunity to explain their proposal or measure and for the group to look at how the measure might impact (or be impacted by) other resource areas. He also mentioned that the Lake Chelan Social Sciences Working Group decided to create an Endowment Fund to help create some funding for items that were not considered directly project related and would not otherwise receive funding through relicensing. The Endowment Fund would essentially provide seed money for grants and other funding.

Next Meeting

Spring 2002 (a meeting notice will be sent out in advance)

Action Items

- Comments due by Oct. 21 on the Recreation Needs Forecast and Analysis, Final.
- Comments due by Oct. 21 on Recreation Inventory, Revised Final

Reference materials are posted on the Web site, www.chelanpud.org/tr_relicense. Please contact Rosana Sokolowski, (888) 663-8121, Extension 6371, if hard copies are required.

- Sign-up Sheet
- Distribution List
- Recreation Needs Forecast and Analysis, Summary
- Recreation Needs Forecast and Analysis, Final
- Recreation Resources Inventory Summary Report, Revised Final