

## Rocky Reach Meeting Minutes

As per Rocky Reach Project Consultation Guidelines and Procedures dated July 7, 1999,  
A draft version of these meeting minutes were distributed for review per request of meeting attendees.  
Comments or changes received were incorporated into the final minutes for the record.

**To:** Distribution List  
**From:** Michelle Smith  
**Date:** October 23, 2002  
**Subject:** Rocky Reach Social Sciences Issues  
**Attendees:** Refer to Sign-Up Sheet  
**Location:** Chelan PUD Hawley Street Conference Room, Wenatchee, WA  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – Noon

### Meeting Purpose

Review and discuss the Recreation, Socioeconomic, and Land Use sections of the draft Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment (PDEA).

### Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessment Schedule

Michelle Smith, Chelan PUD (PUD), provided the working group a brief PDEA and License Application (LA) schedule.

#### The preliminary schedule:

November 18, 2002 ..... first draft PDEA/LA - internal review  
November 27, 2002 ..... first draft PDEA/LA – final internal review  
December 5, 2002..... production and printing  
January 26, 2003..... first draft PDEA/LA issued to stakeholders (60-day comment period)  
October 2003 ..... second draft PDEA/LA issued to stakeholders (60-day comment period)  
June 2004..... final PDEA/LA issued to FERC

### Review of Draft PDEA – Recreation, Socioeconomic, and Land Use Sections

Michelle (PUD) explained that the first draft of the PDEA is an attempt to take the issues that have been discussed and incorporate the proposed measures into the document. Input from the working group is needed. Michelle (PUD) briefly went through the table of contents and the layout of the PDEA. Sections 5.3.5, 5.3.6, 5.3.7, and 5.3.8, are the areas relevant to the Social Sciences Working Group.

#### Recreation Resources

Section 5.3.5, *Recreation Resources* was the first section the working group reviewed. During review of regional recreation opportunities, Karin Whitehall, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) informed the group that the Entiat River (above the USFS boundary and outside the Project boundary) is being proposed by the USFS as wild and scenic and suggested including that in the PDEA.

Michelle (PUD) referred to Table 10. She pointed out that the information used in the table is from 1990 and should be updated. Michelle (PUD) said that she would contact Washington State Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC) to see if they have updated information.

Jim Harris, Washington State Parks (WA Parks), discussed Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). He said that the column in Table 12 that addresses ADA compliance might be misleading. He said that the column indicates that all of the facilities meet ADA compliance. The column probably more accurately represents accessibility standards at the time of construction, but some facilities probably don't comply with the new ADA standards. Michelle (PUD) stated that she would add an ADA component to the PDEA. After some discussion, the group decided to leave the column in the table and work on the wording. Peggy Whitmore, Columbia Breaks Fire Interpretive Center (CBFIC), asked what is included in ADA compliance. Jim (WA Parks) explained that the IAC definition is that everyone has the right to the "experience" of the facility or site. All access points are not required to be accessible.

The working group continued reviewing the PDEA. Jim (WA Parks) commented on *Estimated use versus estimated physical capacity*. He questioned that if a visitor is displaced are they just as satisfied at a new site since there are varying experiences at the parks.

Michelle (PUD) discussed the *Environmental impacts and recommendations* section. She explained this section is where the proposed protection, mitigation, and enhancement (PME) measures are included. Michelle (PUD) stated that the proposals are meant to represent agreement by the Social Sciences Working Group and if a group or agency strongly opposes a measure or action to please let her know. She mentioned that while working through the process, some of the measures may change or additional measures could be added as the working group continues to evaluate social resource issues. Michelle (PUD) explained that the Recreation Management Plan and License Articles would be the documents that include the specifics of the PMEs.

Kris Pomianek (PUD) updated the group of work with the city of Entiat (Entiat). She said that the PUD met with the city, school district, Chamber of Commerce and Entiat Focus Group. The PUD and Entiat will be working as a partnership to develop the Entiat Waterfront Master Plan and updated Entiat Park Master Plan. There will be a community meeting held on October 30 at 7:00 p.m. in the Entiat High School cafeteria. The intent of the meeting is to get community input toward the development of the plans. Tom Atkins, J.T. Atkins Company, will facilitate the meeting. Comment cards will be provided.

Next, the working group discussed *Nature trails*. Jim (WA Parks) commented that the trails section is broad and suggested that the nature trails should be limited to mitigation lands. However, at the September 26 Natural Sciences Working Group and Full Team Meetings, Jim Fisher, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) raised the issue of the mitigation lands. His concern was that the mitigation lands were part of the previous license and should not be separated out for the new license. Michelle (PUD) said that she would discuss the issue further with Gregg Carrington (PUD) and report back. Karin (USFS) noted that the USFS purchased the Tenas George trail easement and she would provide a copy to Michelle (PUD).

The Community Recreation Fund is described briefly in the PDEA. Michelle (PUD) stated that only the concept has been approved by the PUD Commissioners. Peggy (CBFIC) asked how the funds would be dispersed. She commented that the communities that were negatively impacted the most by the construction of the Project should have priority. Michelle (PUD) explained that distribution has been discussed but not determined. One idea discussed is to allot separate percentages for different areas. Dispersing funds using that method would eliminate the issue of smaller communities having to compete with larger areas for funding.

*Our analysis* section was discussed. Jim (WA Parks) stressed again that the PUD should be pro-active regarding ADA. Michelle (PUD) responded by saying she would meet with the PUD Parks Department to discuss ADA and the PUD facilities. She will also get information on non-PUD parks.

Michelle (PUD) mentioned that *Socioeconomic environmental impacts and recommendations* section would be updated after Entiat has completed their economic analysis study. Jim (WA Parks) asked if positive Project effects would also be included; for example, the socioeconomic benefit of the recreation sites. Jim (WA Parks) also recommended adding social impacts and quality of life benefits. He said he doesn't have any documentation, but if at all possible the positive effects should be added. Kris (PUD) volunteered to find information.

### **Land Use**

There are no land use proposals. Information from the land use study will be documented in the PDEA.

### **Aesthetics**

The Social Sciences Working Group determined an aesthetics study was not needed for the Project. Therefore, the section describes the aesthetics of the Project and Columbia River. Barb Jackson (USFS) recommended adding a description of the Cascade Loop since it is part of the River Corridor.

### **Next Meeting**

November 20, 10 a.m. – Noon. Chelan PUD Hawley Street Conference Room, Wenatchee.

### **Action Items**

- ✓ Michelle will contact Jim (IAC) for updated information related to Table 10.
- ✓ Michelle will discuss the mitigation land issue with Gregg Carrington
- ✓ Karin (USFS) will provide Michelle with a copy of the Tenas George easement.
- ✓ Michelle will meet with the Parks Department and discuss ADA and get information on non-PUD parks.
- ✓ Kris will gather information on positive social impacts resulting from the Project.

Reference materials are posted on the Web site, [www.chelanpud.org/rr\\_relicense](http://www.chelanpud.org/rr_relicense). Please contact Rosana Sokolowski, (888) 663-8121, Extension 6371, if hard copies are required.

- ✓ Sign-up Sheet
- ✓ Distribution List
- ✓ Proposed PME Measures