

BROWNSVILLE DAM PROJECT UPDATE

Prepared by: Denise Hoffert-Hay, Project Manager

Prepared for: Calapooia Watershed Council January 2006 monthly meeting

Questions? Please call or email Denise at: (541) 619-5896 or hofferthay@peak.org

Technical Team Meeting – Review of Draft PROJECT SCOPE

The Council's Technical Team was with Cascade Earth Sciences (CES) on Thursday, December 14th at 1:00 pm at CES headquarters in Albany on Pacific Blvd. Technical Team members provided comments and discussion about the project scope of work submitted to the Technical Team by CES. The scope lays out the tasks, timeline, and budget for the project. All were subject to thorough review and approval by the Council's Technical Team.

Team members in attendance were:

Bud Baumgartner (Council Chair)	Bob Danehy (Council Steering Committee)
Tara Putney (Council Coordinator),	Denise Hoffert-Hay (Project Manager)
Bill Sattler (City of Brownsville)	Jared Rubin (OR Dept Env Quality)
Melissa Jundt (NOAA/NMFS)	Susan Novak (NOAA/NMFS)
Joel Watts (OR Dept Fish and Wildlife)	Karen Hans (OR Dept Fish and Wildlife)
Desiree Tullos (OSU)	Douglass Fitting (OWEB)

Not in attendance but reviewed and provided comments: Chuck Knoll (Linn County Engineer), Mike Lambert (OR Dept Fish and Wildlife).

Key points of the discussion included:

1. Level of detail should the scope have at this point. It was decided the scope has some flexibility to adjust once the data gaps are identified. Following the January 17th 25% design meeting with the permitting agencies, the scope will be updated to be more specific about data collection and methods and re-circulated to the Tech Team.
2. Remove language about removing gravel from behind the dam.
3. Add SHPO permit (State Historic Preservation Office) to the permits list.
4. Add an engineering drawing for Linn County Parks/Engineer to use at planning level for park design.
5. Add language that explains the Mill race/canal itself is not a part of this project scope or design.

CES made changes to the scope and re-submitting it to the Council December 22, 2006. Bud and I are reviewing the scope to ensure the edits capture the Technical Team's discussion. There were no major revisions discussed at the meeting. Cascade Pacific RC & D (the Council's fiscal agent) is working with CES and the Council on a final contract and work plan. The final contract should be in place by January 24, 2007. If anyone wants a copy of the work plan or contract to review, please contact me.

Meeting Schedule

The next project meeting will take place in Brownsville on January 17, 2007 at 10 am. We will

meet at the Kirk Room, Brownsville Library. The purpose of the meeting will be to review the 25% project design (developed by CES) that examines existing data and identifies gaps and what collection methods will be used to fill them. This meeting will be the opportunity for permitting agencies to explain what will need to be demonstrated for permit purposes and ensure that the project engineers have all the necessary items identified.

The other main discussion topic is how to address the Sediment Evaluation Framework (SEF) we need to comply with in order to receive permits from US Army Corps of Engineers and OR Dept of Environmental Quality. This guidance document is new and everyone is on a learning curve for how this will be implemented and what we need to demonstrate. We have new permitting people at both USACE and OR Division of State Lands (DSL). Janice Stuart at USACE is taking over for Jack Ferrise who retired last fall. Erinn Birminham will replace Carrie Landrum at DSL as our Resource Coordinator. Carrie has been reassigned within DSL.

Understanding the SEF requirements and demonstrating that we have adequate information to qualify for a Level I assessment is our big challenge at this point. It is a very expensive and time intensive process if we are asked to comply with the Level II process. CES is working with me to put together our rationale for staying within the Level I guidance. If we are asked to comply with Level II, our project will be on hold until 2008. As we move forward with this process, I will keep you informed. We will have more details and information after our meeting on the 17th once all of the permitting people are sitting down together to hash out what exactly we need to comply with.

Everyone is welcome to attend the January 17th meeting. Please RSVP by calling me at (541) 619-5896.

Funding Update

The success of this project depends a great deal upon everything we need from our partner agencies coming together in time. We are currently working to secure our awarded grants including Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service (USFS) each for \$45,000. We have to submit our paperwork to an on-line grant system called "Grants.gov". This step of the process is taking longer than we anticipated and we may not have funding from the USFS available until March 2007. (Although we received the award in September 2006). Our BLM award should be available by late January 2007 (final paperwork was submitted in early January).

Our fiscal agent, Cascade Pacific RC & D is doing everything they can to expedite our paperwork and to ensure all necessary forms, budgets and narratives are complete and meet the guidelines. We are hopeful that these funding hurdles can be met and that the project will not have to pause while we wait for funds to become available. In the table below, the grant in **bold** is the only funding source that we have actually received funds from at this time.

Although the Council received a large grant award from OWEB, the funds in that grant are not available for us to expend until we have our approved permit applications. We hope to have our permits in-hand by June 15, 2007, but there is no guarantee that will occur. Therefore, we have to be very careful with how we are expending project funds since we have limited cash flow.

We can bill expenses to the OWEB grant based on the date we sign our OWEB grant agreement (sometime early February 2007), but any expense cannot be paid until we have permits. So, we have to use our existing grants to cover expenses until the OWEB funds are available.

I am sharing these details of our funding picture to help people understand what is happening in case we are unable to move the project forward winter and spring 2007 based on our funding availability. I am working very hard to stick to a timeline that will enable us to remove the dam in 2007, but there are a lot of things out of my control. If the project must move into the 2008 in-water work window, all of our funding is still available and there are no problems with doing so. It is just another year of planning and waiting time (and another year of the fish struggling past the dam).

Table 1. Funding Sources and availability

Grant Source	Funding Purpose	Award Amount	Date Awarded	Date Available for Expenditures
<i>Bella Vista Foundation</i>	Outreach coordinator, project management, travel, supplies	\$30,000	July 2006	September 2006
<i>Bureau of Land Management</i>	Design, permits, engineering services	\$45,000	September 2006	February 2007 (tentative)
<i>Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board</i>	Pre-implementation monitoring, project management	\$14,300	September 2006	February 2007 (tentative)
<i>US Forest Service</i>	Design, permits, engineering services	\$45,000	September 2006	March 2007
<i>Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board</i>	Project implementation including: removing dam, restoring river, pump for canal, etc.	\$661,410	September 2006	June 2007 (tentative)

If anyone would like more information about project budgets, timelines, scope of work or any other detailed information about the project, please contact me at:

Denise Hoffert-Hay phone: (541) 619-5896 or email: hofferthay@peak.org

Happy New Year!