

February 14th, 2023 Minutes

Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative held a hybrid meeting at New Meadows Community Center and virtually through Zoom. Captured minutes are from group discussion and presentations. To view a recording of the meeting, please visit <u>littlesalmonriverwatershedcollaborative.com</u>.

Participants

Online Adrianna Cardoso Brian Davis Cameron Carsley Clayton Nalder Craig Johnson Craig Utter Dani Terhaar David McIntyre Emily Washburne Holly Becker Jen Ford Johnna Sandow Kiana Ziola Rachel Lindsey

Stacy LaFay Thea Wickersham In person Al Becker Amelia Patten Andre Snyder Dale Brown Dean Dryden Gary S Thompson Johanna Stangland Kyla Gardner Linnea Hall **Randy Fox** Viki Purdy Wendy Green Wes Keller

Final Collaborative Products, Presentation by Wes Keller, Project Leader, Nez Perce Tribe

- Interactive map tutorial; how to use ArcGIS online map features.
- Overview of website content and sections including grant details, restoration links, best management practices, contact information, photo gallery, and meeting archives.
- Story map summary and explanation of how to navigate around the webpage.

Discussion and Feedback on Website, Story Map, and Interactive Map

Wendy

- Website is aesthetically pleasing.
- How do people locate this website?
- Add links to other websites (City of New Meadows, Adams Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Conservation League, Payette Land Trust)

Dean

• History articles are missing including an article provided on the Little Salmon falls from the 1800s in the Statesman written by the second governor. The steering committee pledged to get them on the website.

Linnea

• Steering committee shall ensure historic articles are added to website.

Randy

• Explanation of search engine issues (external)

Johnna

- Could create one-page flyers with information on Chinook and Steelhead recovery plans.
- Also link to full recovery plan documents.
 Steering committee said they would get these documents on the website under a Fish section.

Linnea

• Concern about language and recovery plan wording

Dean

• Point about lack of rancher involvement. Environmental and governmental agencies fill the room instead. Issues include lack of trust and a poor job of informing ranchers about the meetings.

Wendy

• Brainstorm ways for rancher voices to be heard such as a meeting with the soil and water conservation district where landowners come and talk amongst themselves.

Hazard Creek Sediment Reduction Project, Presentation by Wes Keller, Project Leader, Nez Perce Tribe

- Erosion and drainage issues on Hazard Creek Road, limited maintenance since 1990s is causing sediment delivery to Hazard creek.
- In an effort to reduce sediment delivery consider graveling the road, add additional cross drains, crowning the road prism, and ditch maintenance to benefit the public and fisheries.
- Three fish species in Hazard Creek listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act
- The Nez Perce Tribe Watershed Division conducted GRAIP surveys to model sediment delivery.
- Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative steering committee submitted letter to Bureau of Land Management recommending road improvements.

Craig Johnson, Bureau of Land Management

• Field Manager has identified the road for future maintenance, will schedule a field trip with Nez Perce Tribe this summer

Upcoming Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Watershed Advisory Group,

Presentation from Kiana Ziola, Water Quality Analyst, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

- Working to understand what water quality work has occurred in the Little Salmon River watershed and continue public engagement.
- DEQ Story Map overview
 - DEQ must develop Water Quality Improvement Plan (and Total Maximum Daily Loads) for waterbodies not meeting water quality standards (completed in 2006).
 - Five-year review to assess how watershed is doing, evaluate implementation plan, and understand what work has been completed.
 - Re-forming Little Salmon Subbasin Watershed Advisory Group for required and necessary public participation process.
 - Provide local input and guidance.
 - Represent multiple interests.
 - Opportunities for formal and informal participation.
 - Please help spread the word and contact <u>Kiana.Ziola@deq.idaho.gov</u> if interested in participating.
 - Initial Watershed Advisory Group meeting slated for April, official solicitation will be posted in the newspaper.
 - DEQ plans to monitor for one to two seasons with anticipated 2023 start.

Thank you to all who participated in the Little Salmon River Watershed Collaborative! If you would like to provide feedback, please fill out this <u>online survey</u>.