

WTWG Meeting Minutes for October 19, 2009 at 1:00 PM at the Yakima Field Office Conference Room

Attendees: Dave Brown, Stuart Crane, Melissa Downes, Bill Ferry, Teresa Hauser, Carron Helberg, Stan Isley, Anna Lael, Paul LaRiviere, Walt Larrick, Chris Lynch, Larry Martin, Jim Milton, Scott Revell, Tom Ring, Mark Schuppe, Jeff Slothower, and Ron Van Gundy.

Walt called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Mark Schuppe asked to have the Gregrich proposal moved up to the first new proposal.

Walt started with the request for approval of the minutes from July 27, 2009, September 14, 2009 and September 29, 2009 added to the end. Walt mentioned that the minutes from July became disabled on the website prior to last months meeting, and not enough group members could review prior to that meeting. The group was able to review the minutes, as no corrections were needed, including from Stan, the group approved all three meeting minutes.

2009-10: Walt started with the previous proposal 2009-10 for Payne, with Bill explaining this proposal. Reclamation had taken this to court previously for an administrative correction. This proposal involves a pending fish screen project, moving to a ring well, and an erroneously described place of use. Tom and Ron previously disagreed with how the place of use correction should be made, as Reclamation was looking for the best path to go and going back to the court was problematic. Bill said that pre-trial order 12 does not permit this to go into court. Bill talked to Ron and Tom previous to this meeting and everyone now feels the best way to correct this is for Ecology to make this change administratively rather than doing it through the courts and is well within the legal path. Stan was in agreement also. The group talked about the 40 acres being a bit skewed and it has been irrigated the entire length of the contract and at the same location the entire time. Tom, Stan and Larry talked about the issuance of the certificate. The correction will be made when the fish project is done. Anna said the ring well has already been constructed. Bill said the public notice has already been put in the paper. The group said it appears it is inside the box and it is water budget neutral, besides the benefits it provides. The group gave a thumbs-up recommendation.

2010-03: Walt started with the new proposals with 2010-03 for Gregrich, with Mark explaining this proposal. Mark talked about putting it in instream flow into the Manastash Creek to the confluence of the Yakima River and the instantaneous quantity through the season. The group discussed instream flows, that it is water budget neutral, and where it is located. Several projects of this sort are in the hopper, but Paul commented that he had not seen this one before. Anna mentioned the construction will start this fall on the Manastash pipeline. The group gave a thumbs-up recommendation.

2010-01: Walt continued with the next new proposal 2010-01 for Burris Farm, LLC, with Melissa explaining that this is an irrigation efficiencies project and that the Bull Canal is the underlying water right. It will be in trust until 2028, and they have proposed

a management scheme involving up to five YR tributaries, to where the flows are overseen by a team of folks (Fish and Wildlife, etc) that meet annually and stated the process to be taken. Tom and Paul talked about making sure someone from the tribe is on the team when they meet in February for their annual meeting. Stan said this benefits the primary reach only, no cu savings, but good for the creek. The group said the map is confusing, the unnamed stream, is a tributary to Lyle Creek, and it would be managed as part of Lyle Creek, and discussed the acre feet. Teresa asked where is Wilson creek and the group determined the map is not quite accurate. The group gave a thumbs-up recommendation and Paul will provide the date and time to the tribe of the next meeting.

2010-02: Walt moved to the final new proposal 2010-02 for Burriss Farm LLC, with Melissa explaining this irrigation efficiency project. She talked about the 84 acres irrigated with Bull Canal and Ellensburg Water Company water and converting from being irrigated by rill to pivot irrigation. It is on Coleman Creek and unlike the previous proposal; this is a permanent transfer to the trust. The end date on the proposal is incorrect; it should say it is permanent. The group briefly discussed this proposal. Stan said it looked good to him, and asked if it could be in place by next irrigation season. Anna said the pivot is already in and has been used this season. The group gave it a thumbs-up recommendation.

The group decided the next meeting will be November 16, 2009 at 1:00 PM.

Walt adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM.