

Date/Time: Friday, November 4, 2011, 3:00 PM

Location: Kittitas County Commissioners' Auditorium

Attendees: Kittitas County IWRMP Land Use and Economic Analysis Citizens Advisory Committee: *Anthony Aronica, David Gerth, Jim Halstrom, Anna Lael, Brian Lenz, Pamela McMullin-Messier, Jason Ridlon, Jan Sharar, Art Solbakken, David Whitwill, Cynthia Wilkerson*
Kittitas County: *Paul Jewell*
URS: *John Knutson, Will Guyton*
PRR: *Amy Danberg*

Subject: **IWRMP Ecosystem and Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Land Use and Economic Analysis Project—Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting No. 2**

Meeting Purpose: Review TWPEC Proposal and Identify Land Use and Economic Concerns and Benefits

Welcome & Introductions

- Will Guyton welcomed the committee members and the committee members provided a roundtable self-introduction.

Meeting Purpose and Agenda

- Will Guyton reviewed the meeting agenda with the CAC Members.
- John Knutson stressed that the purpose of the meeting was for the Committee to articulate their thoughts regarding economic and land use benefits and concerns associated with the land actions contained in the TWPEC proposal, with an understanding that the Committee is still working with very limited information. These benefits and concerns would then be fed into the Land Use and Economic Analyses for further consideration by the Committee.

Overview of TWPEC Proposal

- John gave an overview of the TWPEC Proposal. In sum, the TWPEC Proposal identifies land conservation actions (land acquisitions and designations), principles to guide the land conservation actions, and recommendations for ownership and management of the lands.
- Paul Jewel provided some background and described the specific land conservation actions and the recommended ownerships contained within the TWPEC Proposal:
 - Land Acquisitions (Teaway basin, Little Naches headwaters and Manastash and Taneum basins)
 - Public Land Designations (existing USFS land in the Teaway basin and in Manastash-Taneum watershed)
 - Wild and Scenic River Designations (upper Cle Elum, Waptus, and Cooper Rivers and North, Middle, and West Forks of the Teaway River)
 - Shrub Steppe Protection (Eaton Ranch property acquisition, as long as the proposed Wymer Reservoir project continues to be viable)

- Paul stressed that the re-designation of the targeted public lands will not apply to the targeted lands for acquisition in the Teanaway. Those lands are recommended to be managed separately and differently.
- Paul reiterated that none of the actions within the TWPEC component are mitigation actions for the other elements within the IWRMP. However, the Eaton Ranch acquisition is tied to the proposed Wymer Reservoir. If the Reservoir does not move forward, a different shrub steppe property will be targeted for acquisition to replace Eaton Ranch, which could be outside of Kittitas County.

Identify and Discuss Potential Land Use and Economic Considerations

- Amy Danberg led a roundtable discussion to gather the Committee's thoughts and concerns regarding land use changes and economic benefits and potential impacts of the TWPEC proposal (see Table 1). The discussion went through the four specific land conservation actions utilizing the guidance principles in the TWPEC Proposal.

Next Meeting Dates & Topics

- John presented the current outline for upcoming CAC meetings. The next CAC meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2011 at the Swauk Teanaway Grange in Cle Elum. At this meeting, the Committee will continue articulating economic and land use benefits and concerns, and then refine them into key issues that will be analyzed during the Land Use and Economic Analyses by the consultants.

Action Items

- URS will compile the CAC's thoughts and concerns regarding land use changes and economic benefits and potential impacts of the TWPEC proposal and send the information by early next week.
- The consultants will notify the CAC about what example information is being used when analyzing recreational impacts and benefits.
- The consultant will provide example information of other Wild and Scenic River designations.

Table I
Potential Land Use and Economic Considerations of the TWPEC Proposal on Kittitas County
(Teaway basin, Little Naches headwaters and Manastash and Taneum basins)

Land Acquisitions	
Land Use Considerations	Economic Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private vs. public access (improved or decreased) • Private vs. Public land ownership benefits and impacts • Benefit of the consolidation of ownership in checkerboard area for forest management • Management of land • Concern over USFS management of lands (beneficial?) • Loss of valuable, developable land • Diseased land • Access to existing utilities • Camping in the Teaway area (eliminated, improved) • Grazing (access, fencing, road safety) • Effects to timber • Mineral resources • Protection in perpetuity of Kittitas landscape • Impacts to water quality/quantity • Salmon recovery benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private vs. public access (improved or decreased) • Funding for restoration activities and management. • Forest management (fire, disease) – potential impact (new costs) and benefit (contiguous land vs. checkerboard pattern) • Loss of potential developmental opportunities • Potential property tax loss and redistribution of taxes • Impacts to residential and land values • Road maintenance (management, upkeep) • Existing utility maintenance • Increase in revenue from recreational area growth considering the current amount of existing area available for recreation • Camping in the Teaway area (fees, management, funding) • Grazing • Emergency services • Available water rights, impacts, and availability • Attraction to businesses (quality of life) • Effects on logging revenues, jobs, taxes, etc. • Newly available timber for harvesting • Impact of biomass fuel • Mineral resources • Air quality benefits • Benefits of restoration activities to the economy • Salmon recovery

Shrub Steppe Protection (Eaton Ranch property acquisition)	
Land Use Considerations	Economic Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased access • Private vs. Public land ownership benefits and impacts • Management of land (benefit) • Loss of valuable, developable land • Access to existing utilities • Camping/tourism • Hunting • Wind resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private vs. public access (improved or decreased) • Funding for restoration activities and management. • Loss of potential developmental opportunities • Potential property tax loss and redistribution of taxes • Impacts to residential and land values • Increased access • Impacts to PSE service (utility relocation and maintenance) • Tourism (impacts to scenic byway designation) • Limitations of reservoir use for recreation • Hunting/boating/fishing/hiking • New campgrounds • Available water rights, impacts, and availability • Wind resources • Benefits of restoration activities to the economy

Public Land Designations (existing USFS land in the Teanaway basin and in Manastash-Taneum watershed)	
Land Use Considerations	Economic Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for decreased access (Wilderness areas) • Benefit of the consolidation of ownership in checkerboard area for forest management • Access to existing utilities (cellular, power, communication) – easement restrictions • Effects to motorized access (ORV, snowmobile) • Hunting/camping/recreation/tourism • Effects to timber • Effects on clean air requirements from Wilderness designations (industrial and residential) • Salmon recovery • Water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to residential and land values • Regulatory schemes from designations • Road development/maintenance restrictions • Existing utility maintenance • Will NRA designation bring more tourism/recreation (snowmobile, boating, equestrian, fishing, biking, hiking, cross country, etc.)? • Would gain of new forms of recreation in Wilderness areas make up for the loss of another type (back country skiers and hikers for snowmobilers and ORV's)? • Recreational/commercial harvesting of mushrooms and berries • Hunting • Benefits of restoration activities to the economy • Attraction to businesses (quality of life)

Wild and Scenic River Designations (upper Cle Elum, Wapatus, and Cooper Rivers and North, Middle, and West Forks of the Teanaway River)	
Land Use Considerations	Economic Considerations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access (improved or decreased) • Developmental restrictions • Impacts to infrastructure (dams, irrigation, drainage, utilities) and maintenance • Current designations compared to Shoreline Management Plan (comparing regulatory schemes) • Fencing • Road maintenance and addition • Grazing opportunities/restrictions • Impacts to water quality/quantity • Recreational impacts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development restrictions/loss potential (existing and future) • Impacts to residential and land values • Road & infrastructure maintenance and addition • Grazing • Recreational benefits and impacts • Attraction to businesses (quality of life) • Air quality benefits