

## **WRC UCF Minutes**

January 3, 2023

Public Meeting

### **Those Present:**

John Hollenback – WRC/DLVCD, Susie Johnson – WRC, Dan McQueary – WRC/landowner, Cam Balentine – WRC/MHCD/Brown's Gulch, Karen Knudsen – WRC/CFC, Glen Green – WRC, Cathy Johnson – DLVCD, Ray Vinkey - NRDP and Ted Dodge – WRC.

### **Agenda:**

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Hollenback.
- **Treasurer Report:**  
Invoices were reviewed and approved at the previous Board meeting.
- **Minutes:**  
It was moved by Dan McQueary seconded by Cam Balentine and motion carried to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.

### **Project Updates:**

**CREP:** Heidi provided a CREP report. Provided a draft of the CREP annual report to Ray Vinkey. The draft was to assist Ray in filling out the online version of the annual report requirement by FSA. The report included the goals of the Upper Clark Fork River Basin CREP and the progress of meeting those goals as they are outlined in the CREP signed agreement. The report also requested the financial contribution NRDP has provided both to CREP participants and in-kind services; any outreach activities and success stories. Ray submitted the CREP annual report online on 12/20 to meet the 12/31 deadline. Another CREP proposal for Marshal Creek Ranch was submitted to Ray for his review in December. Ray provided edits and requested more readable maps be included in the proposal. Another CREP proposal for Marshal Creek, including Ray's edits and updated maps was presented to Ray for his review. The delay in providing Marshal Creek Ranch the proposal is the edits that NRDP keeps providing. Marshal Creek Ranch will be provided the proposal after Ray reviews the updated version. At the time Marshal Creek Ranch receives the proposal it will be up to them to decide if they would like to proceed forward with the proposal and submit a CREP application to FSA.

**Upper Clark Fork Stream Flow Working Group:** Next meeting will be January 18, 2023 at the Pen Convention Center in Deer Lodge.

## **Terrestrial Priority Areas:**

### **Garnet Terrestrial – Task Order No. 15.25** 2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP

#### **Gough Creek:**

Dutton Hereford Ranch:

No change in status since last report. No activity since sending the NRDP landowner agreement up to NRDP in March 2022. Dutton project list will include conifer encroachment removal from grasslands (keying in on areas of Antelope bitterbrush), conifer encroachment removal from the Gough Creek riparian zone, and biological weed control for Spotted knapweed.

#### **DNRC:**

No change in status since last report. No activity on a landowner agreement since March 2022. Landowner agreement still draft and has not been submitted to NRDP for review. Proposed projects include two spring developments (with short pipelines and stock tanks) and conifer removal from an Aspen clone.

#### **Brock Creek:**

#### **Brock Creek Ranch LLC (Cynthia Montagne):**

No change in status since last report. Meeting scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup> with Cynthia Montagne to review draft management plan.

### **Deer Lodge North-South – Task Order No. 16** 2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP.

#### **Aspen Grove Ranch (Sherm Anderson):**

No change in status since last report. No activity. NRDP has not yet approved the landowner agreement. Want to get Amy Chadwick to review the beaver mimicry proposed in Reese Anderson Creek. The proposed projects include a cross fence, riparian fence, beaver mimicry, stream crossings, off stream stock water system (pumping station, pipelines, & summer and winter stock tanks).

#### **DNRC Landscape Scale Restoration Grant**

No change in status. DNRC submitted final proposal as part of a package to the U.S.F.S. in November.

#### **PBurg West:**

2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP.

Meeting being scheduled with NRDP & DNRC on riparian fence issue. Shrub & tree planting project is on hold until the fencing issue is worked out.

## Aquatic:

### Blacktail Creek Riparian Restoration Planning Project:

No change in status since last report. Harrington CREP proposal delivered. Other Blacktail CREP proposals on hold. Meeting to be set w/NRDP to discuss development of 2023 task order.

### Cottonwood Creek – Aspen Grove:

No activity. Meeting held with NRDP, FWP, and CFC on December 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss potential future activities. 2023 task order on hold until decision on Kohrs Manning.

- **RCC-Vineyards Diversion:** No change in status since last report. Confluence has developed a concept plan. Currently waiting for Rock Creek Project Manager to make contact with Joe Dippold.
- **O’Neill Creek** –No activity. 2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP.
- **Gold Creek** – In late November NRDP sent out a RFQ for engineering firms to develop concept plan for the proposed diversion/fish screen projects. 2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP.
- **Racetrack Aquatics Project Development TO: 5.14:** No activity. Meeting held on December 6<sup>th</sup> with NRDP, FWP, and CFC to discuss potential future activities. 2023 task order modification submitted to NRDP.

## Flow Projects:

### Racetrack and Dempsey Creek Flow Project Development – Task Order No.6

- No Activity. Meeting held on December 6<sup>th</sup> with NRDP, FWP, and CFC to discuss potential future activities. No activity proposed at this time.

**Deer Lodge Landfill Compost Project:** No change in status since last report. County still waiting for the DEQ to approve the expansion of the landfill project. County contacted in November about status report on DEQ permit.

Partners/Board Members reports were given.

Next meeting: February 7, 2023

Submitted by Susie Johnson, January 6, 2023