Meeting Brief: Ad Hoc Committee

Meeting held February 19, 2020
Prepared by the Consensus Building Institute

Overview

The State Coastal Conservancy and its consultant presented Eel River sediment preliminary evaluation results. The Conservancy will analyze aluminum as a constituent of concern and include information on the presence of mercury in fish tissue despite low concentration levels in sediment.

The Planning Agreement Parties (Parties) and their consultant utilized the work of the Fish Passage Working Group, the Water Supply Working group, and additional available information to develop feasibility study scenarios, alternatives, and options. Next, the Parties will complete the feasibility study evaluating project options by mid-April, which will include capital modification needs, fisheries restoration plan, study plan for additional research, and an economics analysis. The Parties must file the final feasibility study report and the proposed project plan to FERC by May 14, 2020.

The Fish Passage Working Group presented the final fish passage profile evaluation report and information from fish passage field tours.

The Fish Passage Working Group will evolve into a Fisheries Working Group to discuss two-basin tradeoffs for fisheries restoration.

The Parties and their consultant will work with Congressman Huffman's office to identify how to engage the Ad Hoc Committee related to the feasibility study report and proposed project (e.g., potential Ad Hoc meeting in late April).

Scheduling future 2020 Ad Hoc Committee meetings will occur after May 14 once the Parties have greater clarity on the proposed project and studies timeline.

Information about Potter Valley Project FERC Planning:
www.pottervalleyproject.org/ferc_planning/
Also refer to the Parties new website: www.TwoBasinSolution.org

Expected Feasibility Study Timeline

(subject to change)

Early March 2020	Draft feasibility study presented to Parties for review.
End of March 2020	Parties provide comments to consultant on draft study.
April 14, 2020	Final feasibility study delivered to the Parties.
Mid-Late April	Feasibility study available to Ad Hoc.
Late April 2020	Parties present feasibility study report and proposed project to Parties' respective Boards. *Potential Ad Hoc Committee meeting.*
May 14, 2020	**Parties submit feasibility study report and proposed project description to FERC (initiates 45-day comment period).**
June 29, 2020	End of 45-day comment period: Comments due on proposed project and additional studies.
Fall 2020-early 2021	Initial Study Results summary and finalize study plan. Includes two 30-day comment periods (Oct 2020 and Dec 2020).
Jan-Dec 2021	Conduct studies.
April 14, 2022	New Regional Entity files final FERC license application.

(Refer to Appendix C in the Parties NOI for a more detailed timeline)

Meeting Action Items

Assignee	Task
State Coastal Conservancy/ Geosyntec	Analyze sediment samples specifically for aluminum. Provide written information on methylmercury issues in fish tissue.
Fisheries WG & CBI	Coordinate a Fish Passage WG conference call.
Planning Agreement Parties & Huffman Office	Inform Ad Hoc as soon as possible on how the Ad Hoc can support the Parties work on the feasibility study report and proposed project.

Meeting Documents and Resources

For accessibility, URLs to documents and resources associated with this meeting are provided below and are also available on the website: pottervalleyproject.org

Eel River Sediment Preliminary Evaluation

- Presentation Slides: bit.ly/sediment_prelimeval

Fish Passage

- Profiles Evaluation Report: bit.ly/Fishpassage_ProfileEval_FullReport
- Report Presentation Slides: bit.ly/fishpassage_profileeval_slides
- Cowlitz River and Clackamas River Fish Passage Tours: bit.ly/FishPassageTourSlides

Water Supply

- Presentation Slides for Proposed Water Supply Scenarios, Infrastructure Options, and Alternatives: bit.ly/SupplyScenarios_AdHocFeb20Presentation
- Updated Water Supply Modeling Scenarios Report (added Scenario 4B): bit.ly/WaterSupplyModelingScenariosReport

FERC Planning

- Timeline in Appendix C in Parties NOI: bit.ly/NOI_AppxC_Timeline