

MEETING SUMMARY
COOPER LAKE PROJECT RELICENSING
SETTLEMENT WORKING GROUP – TECHNICAL WORKING SESSION
MARCH 4, 2005 (CHUGACH TRAINING ROOM)

Attendance:

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| Ole Andersson | Kenai Watershed Forum |
| Margaret Beilharz (phone) | USFS |
| Dave Blanchet | USDA Forest Service (USFS) |
| Phil Brna | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) |
| Karen Demsey | Long View Associates (LVA) |
| Suzanne Fisler | Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Parks division (ADNR-Parks) |
| Ricky Gease (phone) | Kenai River Sport Fishing Association |
| Bill Hauser | Alaska Flyfishers |
| Jan Konigsberg | Natural Heritage Institute |
| John Morsell (phone) | Northern Ecological Services (NES) |
| Gary Prokosch | ADNR, Water Resources division (ADNR-Water) |
| Bill Stockwell | Fish for Cooper Creek Coalition |
| Cassie Thomas | National Park Service Rivers and Trails Program (NPS) |
| Brenda Trefon | Kenaitze Indian Tribe |
| Burke Wick | Chugach |

Planned Agenda:

- Review HDR's new temperature/habitat modeling results
- Review Inter-Fluve's geomorphic analysis of proposed flushing flows
- Discuss MWH's engineering cost estimate for larger Stetson Creek diversion pipe
- Discuss agencies' proposal for fish monitoring in Cooper Creek (including funding)
- Review assignments
- Confirm plans for March 10–11 meetings

Handouts Provided:

The following documents were distributed prior to or at the meeting for the SWG's consideration:

- *Cooper Lake Project Proposals for Fisheries Restoration and Monitoring on Cooper Creek*. Dated February 28 2005; prepared by USFS (representing agency/NGO contingent of SWG).

- Memorandum to Jason Kent (HDR) from Dan Miller (Inter-Fluve) re: Cooper Creek – Flow Proposal. Dated March 3, 2005.

Meeting Summary:

Burke Wick (Chugach) summarized the February 28 agency/NGO proposal for Cooper Creek flows, and presented graphs showing the results of HDR’s modeling of this proposal and Chugach’s most recent proposal. He also distributed and briefly summarized Inter-Fluve’s March 3 memorandum assessing the effects of potential flushing flows included in the agency/NGO proposal. The group discussed these results.

Burke also summarized recent MWH’s recent cost analysis of modified components of potential engineering options. It was noted that this cost analysis would need to be documented and included in the record as supporting rationale for an Agreement in Principle (AIP).

The group discussed Chugach’s counter-proposals regarding fish monitoring in Cooper Creek and other aspects of the agency/NGO February 28 proposal. Potential sources of outside funding for the monitoring were identified.

After a caucus, the non-Chugach SWG members presented proposed changes to the most recent draft of the AIP and responses to specific counter-proposals from Chugach as discussed earlier in the meeting. The group discussed these proposed changes. After a brief discussion of administrative items, the meeting adjourned.

Action Items:

- Chugach to send out HDR flow spreadsheets.
- Chugach to send out revised AIP next Tuesday, March 8.

Next SWG/TWG Meeting:

Date: March 10–11, 2005

Location: Chugach Training Room

Proposed agenda (preliminary):

- Final discussion and decision on draft AIP

Calendar Overview:

[*Note:* No further meetings have been scheduled to date. Negotiations meetings will resume as needed in May after Chugach has completed and filed the Final License Application]