

**Terrestrial Resources Technical Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 24, 2018**  
**Noxon Emergency Services Building**  
**10:00 a.m. (MST)**

**Attendees**

Designated TRTAC Representatives

Avista Corp. – Nate Hall  
Bull River Watershed Council – Kathy Ferguson  
Elk Creek Watershed Council – Judy Hutchins  
Green Mountain Conservation District – Terry Hightower  
MT Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Bruce Sterling  
Noxon-Cabinet Shoreline Coalition – Richard Reich  
Sanders County Commissioner – Tony Cox  
U.S. Forest Service – Les Raynor

Other Attendees

Avista Corp. – Jason Pignanelli, Eric Oldenburg;; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks – Dave Bennetts, Avista Grant Writer – Susan Drumheller

**Introduction**

Nate Hall welcomed those in attendance and invited participants to introduce themselves. The purpose of today's meeting is to review the draft 2018 Annual Implementation Plans (AIPs), make any necessary corrections, and approve moving them forward for the Management Committee's (MC) review and approval.

**Agenda**

There were no additions or revisions to the proposed agenda. Hall explained the draft 2018 AIP budget sheets carryover and 2018 expenditures may change between now and the MC meeting, as Avista is still in the process of closing out the 2017 books.

Maps with all permit and recreation site locations are available for review on the back table.

**TRTAC 2018 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLANS**

**Appendix G: Implementation of the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)**

1. Administration of the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
  - a. Hall is working with MFWP as the resource management agency with regard to CFSA involvement with the Sanders County Aquatic Invasive Plant Task Force
2. Monitoring Associated with the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
  - a. Pignanelli will be sending permits out by email this year
3. Five-year update of the Land Use Management Plan (LUMP)
  - a. Might be a good time to review fees and conservation fee reductions
  - b. Adjacent landowners are now allowed to hand rake aquatic vegetation

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix G as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

## **Appendix H: Implementation of Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP)**

1. RRMP Administration and Resource Integration
2. RRMP Recreation Facility Development
  - a. Pignanelli provided an overview of the budget and 2018 facility development plan
  - b. Drumheller mentioned Dan Gilfillan (USFS Sandpoint RD) installed a boat slide on Priest River and may be a good contact for identifying a contractor for the CF access site.
  - c. If North Shore land acquisition is made, Cox recommends widening entrance to facilitate snow removal operations.
  - d. Sterling asked if parking could be increased at the County/Kirby boat launch. Hall mentioned the action for 2018 would be to do the due diligence.
  - e. Cox presented the idea of the county partnering to chip seal the Flat Iron road rather than just grade and re-shape. Avista will follow up with Cox.
3. RRMP Monitoring
4. Operation and Maintenance of Recreation Facilities
5. Interpretation and Education Program

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix H as presented to the MC for review and approval with the following modification: (1) Thompson Falls State Park improvements budget will be modified from \$40,000 to \$55,000 and total adjusted accordingly prior to the MC mail out; (2) addition of investigation of Kirby Gulch parking expansion, and (3) investigating the potential to cooperatively chip seal Flat Iron with Sanders County.*

## **Appendix I: Aesthetics Management Plan**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E.
- Pignanelli explained the Aesthetics Management Plan and 2018 plans. Primary focus will include the 5-year review of the Aesthetics Management Plan.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix I as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

## **Appendix J: Wildlife, Botanical and Wetland Management Plan**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that the primary activity under the PM&E is updating the spreadsheet and ensure the MC is reviewing ownership on a regular basis.
- Bald Eagle, peregrine falcon, and loon observations can be tracked through this PM&E.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix J as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

## **Appendix K: Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Enhancement, and Management Program**

1. Operation and Maintenance of Acquired Property and Contingency Fund
2. Habitat Acquisition and Conservation and Contingency Fund

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix K as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

**Appendix L: Black Cottonwood Habitat Protection and Enhancement**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that primary protection is provided through implementation of the LUMP.
- Additional exclosures will be constructed at the Herford site this spring.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix L as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

**Appendix M: Wetlands Protection and Enhancement Program**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that we will be looking at wetland enhancement opportunities at the Twin Creek property.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix M as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

**Appendix P: Forest Habitat Protection and Enhancement**

- There is one project plan associated with this PM&E that was not included in the TRTAC mail out. Pignanelli outlined this project (Phase II 2-Rivers RV Park Timber Management).
- Pignanelli noted the \$166,600 in timber receipts listed in the budget is actually closer to \$206,000

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix P as presented (including the Phase II 2-Rivers RV Park Timber Management proposal) to the MC for review and approval.*

**Appendix Q: Reservoir Island Protection**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- Hall explained that this PM&E was developed in recognition of the importance in protecting the Avista owned island habitat along the project area.
- There is no budget associated with this PM&E for 2018, as the activities are covered under the implementation of the LUMP.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix Q as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

**Appendix S: Erosion Fund and Shoreline Stabilization Guidelines**

- There are no project plans associated with this PM&E
- In 2018, work efforts will focus on addressing erosion concerns identified by the CRMG; and utilize engineering assistance to help evaluate erosion control proposals received by Avista from adjacent landowners.
- Complete measures to address erosion at the Laundry Site.

- Hutchins has a large Ponderosa Pine that uprooted that she is willing to donate to this project.
- Provide technical assistance for an erosion project proposed by an adjacent landowner in the Vermilion Point area.

*With no further discussion, the TRTAC approved forwarding Appendix S as presented to the MC for review and approval.*

**Next Meeting**

The next TRTAC meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. in Noxon. Hall thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The TRTAC meeting ended at 12:25 p.m. (MST).