



## Marshall Creek Advisory Work Group

1/11/2024

**Location/Time of Meeting:** Spokane Conservation District (SCD)

4422 E 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. Spokane Valley, WA

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM, 1/11/2024

**Attendees:** Walt Edelen (SCD), Randy Baker (SCD), Eric Allen (SCD), Kile Westerman (WDFW), Lunell Haight, Gale Fowler, Bruce Kinkead (CDA Tribe), Rob Lindsay (Spokane County), Beau Tinkham, Jacob Taylor (SCD), Matt Fisher (ECY), Jaime Short (ECY), Rick Petersen, Robin Holt

**Absent:** Heather Nelson, Tom Stralser

**5:02PM:** The meeting was brought to order. Introductions were made. 12/18 meeting minutes motioned for approval by Gale Fowler, seconded by Robin Holt.

**5:04PM:** Finalized workgroup ground rules were distributed. Time was taken to review. A quorum minimum was requested and will be established for the next meeting. Approval of ground rules was motioned by Gale Fowler and seconded by Rick Petersen.

**5:08PM:** Beau Tinkham was introduced. Including Beau in the workgroup was passed unanimously.

**5:11PM:** Discussion of the feasibility study took place with an overview of an updated outline. SCD will be applying for engineering funds to carry out an initial portion of feasibility study. The deadline for the application submission is February 29<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. Morrison & Maierle (consulting firm) has been hired to conduct the first part of the feasibility study outline. They will be completing the following tasks with associated timelines.

- **Critical Path Assessment** (Jan 19<sup>th</sup>): Identify deliverables, prioritize milestones, establish timeline and level of effort summaries.
- **Data Review** (February 2<sup>nd</sup>): Review existing data and identify data gaps.
- **Summary of Findings** (February 16<sup>th</sup>): Outline of data gaps and identifying if gaps are necessary to fill. Next step recommendations. Refine project timeline.

**5:19PM:** Discussion was opened regarding diversions, dam, and fish barriers. Each item will need to be looked at individually and holistically. Landowners of legal diversions/ponds may be required by Ecology to conduct monitoring of the inflow and outflow (proof of non-consumptive use).

**5:28PM:** Discussion of the Streamflow Restoration Grant application was opened. Jaime Short recommended that we consider matching funding or adding other elements to make the application more appealing to ECY.

**5:35PM:** Short-term action items regarding vegetation removal. Walt presented a slideshow with information about watercress, common jewelweed, and golden willow.

**6:15PM:** The topic of a vegetation survey crew was introduced. We need to better understand the extent of the invasive species and the level of infestation. To conduct this type of work, we would need access permission from property owners (including the railroad) along Marshall and Minnie Creek systems. The group also discussed the possibility of monitoring the effectiveness of removing vegetation at different seasons.

**6:30PM:** Next meeting will need to have a date established. Ideally sometime around January 25<sup>th</sup>.

**6:32PM:** Update regarding ECY's attempts to clean up existing water rights in the watershed from Jaime Short. Making requests for voluntary relinquishment of potentially unused water rights.

**6:35PM:** Meeting adjourned.

**Homework:** Create a list of property owners and contact information for creek access to carry out survey crew work. Establish quorum number and date for next meeting. Continue researching removal methods for problem vegetation.

Minutes submitted by Randy Baker (SCD)

***All SCD Programs and Services are offered without discrimination.***