

**Marys River Watershed Council
Fish Passage Committee
Minutes of Sept. 17, 2007 Meeting**

Present:

Donna Schmitz, Benton SWCD
Taber Burton, Benton Fish Passage Improvement Program
Bill Percy, Marys River Watershed Council
Jennifer Beathe, Starker Forests, Marys River Watershed Council Steering Committee
Jim Stouder, Benton County Public Works
Ray Wilson, Benton County Public Works
Gordon Kurtz, Benton County Public Works
Karen Fleck Harding, Marys River Watershed Council

Agenda Items:

1. Elect a new Chair

The Committee recommended that Jim Fairchild serve as Chair; Bill Percy volunteered to assist Jim.

2. Recommend to MRWC a name change of the committee to broaden the focus to fish habitat improvements beyond fish passage and consideration of other types of fish.

The Committee reviewed the scope of its activities as defined by the MRWC Action Plan Chapter 3: Fish Habitat and Fish Passage. Committee recommends expanding its scope to include fish habitat assessment and improvements. Additionally, there should be more interaction with the Water Quality Committee. A broader habitat approach may also help to improve our ranking with OWEB for restoration projects.

3. Status report on current and upcoming OWEB grant projects on Blair, Mercer/Powell, Upper Blair, and Beaver Creeks

Karen FH provided a summary matrix of Watershed Council Fish Passage projects completed, in progress, and planned. (See attached.) Donna suggested that we include on the project list all fish passage projects done in the Marys River Watershed. Most all of the projects have been as a result of the partnership with the Marys River Fish Passage Committee, the BSWCD, the Benton Fish Passage Improvement Program, ODFW and the County.

It was agreed that we should delay on submitting a proposal until April 08 for further Blair Creek culvert replacements until a broader assessment of the upstream habitat conditions can be assessed. Also, suggest that Gray Creek be included in that effort. The MRWC has decided to use its \$2000 SWCD contribution to do in-stream assessments in targeted streams. This can be used to take a look at Blair Creek and Beaver Creek prior to submitting proposals with the objective of identifying limiting factors and recommending habitat improvements, such as large wood, planting, etc.

4. Committee assistance in review of grant applications for Rock Creek fish passage and habitat restoration.

Steve Trask is largely writing these MRWC applications for Siuslaw Forest Stewardship funds being made available to the Marys Peak Stewardship Group and for OWEB restoration funds. The proposals will address fish ladders on the water intakes, culvert replacements and large wood placement in Rock Creek. The FP Committee has been asked to provide a review of the proposals prior to submittal – both proposals are due October 20-22. The Committee agreed to provide a review. Bill suggested expanding participation in the review to include more expertise, such as Stan

Gregory and Hiram Lee. The Committee requested that the draft proposals be available by October 12th to have time to review before an October 17th meeting. They request that Scott Wright and Steve Trask be available for that meeting.

5. Other: Jim and Ray shared that the County has developed its plan to plan to address water quality issues, TMDL's, including riparian restoration to reduce water temperatures. SWCD has received a 319 Grant to address TMDL's in the County.

Next Meeting *Tentative*: Wednesday, Oct. 17 – 3pm

MRWC Fish Passage Project Progress

Subbasin	Project	Survey	Proposal	Funding	Description/ Implementation	Habitat Impact	Monitoring/Notes
Upper Marys	Blakesley Crk Fish passage barriers	BFPIP	OWEB	OWEB 204-383 \$132,334	Summer 2004 2 culverts 1 bridge		Juvenile barrier in lower culvert – Cut culvert flange Landowner comment: Replanting at lower culvert not performed as promised. 7/17/07 Stream temp at mouth 60.5 deg – (65.5 at mainstem Marys) Recommend addition of large wood to develop pool/riffle habitat
Middle Marys	Woods Creek Velocity barrier?		OWEB	See above	Summer 2004 Rock weirs installed below culvert.		2007-Fish trapping – fluvial Cutthroat presence upstream of culvert
Middle Marys	Woods Creek Fish passage barriers	BFPIP	OWEB	OWEB 206-309 \$109,390 Benton Co \$30,625 Starker \$13,300 ODFW \$1000 Thompson \$544	Summer 2006 Replaced 5 culverts MP 2.17, 2@2.48, 3.04, 4.0 Enos Crk.	4 miles upstream	8/07 - MP 3 culvert developing perch at outlet 9/07 Japanese Knotweed control
Middle Marys	Newton Creek Fish passage/riparian restoration	BFPIP	NFWF OWEB	NFWF OWEB Sm Grt PHS Landowner ODFW USFWS Partners	Summer 2006 Removed dam Riparian reshaping/planting		2006 Fish Trapping – Cutthroat presence downstream of dam – absence upstream of dam 2007-Fish Trapping – upstream Cutthroat presence above dam site
Beaver Creek	Mercer/Powell Creeks Fish passage	BFPIP	OWEB	OWEB 207-309 \$101,505 Benton Co \$40,338	Summer 2007 Replaced 2 culverts Decker/Peterson #4922 Decker/Neuman #1608	10.86 miles upstream	2007-Fish trapping – Cutthroat presence downstream of culvert #4922
	Full Subbasin	BFPIP- partially complete	Submit 2008				ODFW installing fish ladder on Henderson – downstream culvert potential barrier. Upper Powell potential wetland restoration
Muddy Creek	Reese Creek			ODFW / USFWS Partners	Summer 2007- pending permits Reconnect meander		

Greasy Creek	Blair/Gellatly mouth	BFPIP	OWEB	Pending	Replace Blair Crk @ Hwy 34 #4940 Replace Gellatly Rd #6252 Retrofit Gellatly @Hwy 34 # 6253		2007-Fish trapping – Cutthroat presence downstream of culvert #6253; Cutthroat presence in Blair Creek
	Blair Creek upstream	BFPIP- in progress	<i>Submit Oct 07</i>		Fish passage & riparian improvements upstream of Hwy 34		2007 Fish trapping: Cutthroat presence in Blair Creek
Greasy Creek	Rock Creek	City of Corvallis	ODFW Fish Scr/Pass	ODFW \$11,600 City of Corvallis \$4000	Design fish ladders/screening for 2 diversion dams		
			OWEB TA \$29,306 requested		Design fish ladders, culvert replacements, & log placement	7.2 miles upstream	
			<i>Submit Oct 07</i> OWEB MPSG		Implement fish ladders, culvert replacements, & log placement	7.2 miles upstream	

