

Bull Trout Recovery Team Meeting Notes  
Elko, Nevada 03/31/2008-04/01/2008

Those Present:

John Elliott	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Gary Johnson	Nevada Department of Wildlife
Allen Taylor	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Kate Forster	Bureau of Land Management
Dan Armichardy	Bureau of Land Management
Jim Harvey	US Forest Service
Maija Meneks	US Forest Service

**Item #1**

Jarbidge River Corridor Restoration Work

Two river restoration options proposed by Entrix were discussed. Waste rock is present along the eastern bank of the river. The main channel has no defined low flow channel, is wide and shallow, and during low flow conditions may be a hindrance to fish passage. In addition, the western bank is experiencing some erosion problems. This project is intended to demonstrate to the town what natural channels should look like and should avoid the need for them to complete their own restoration activities.

Option 1 - This option primarily involves moving the channel to the east along the toe of the waste rock. This would be accomplished by removal of fill in the area where the thalweg will be located and some fill along the western bank. Vegetation could be placed along both banks. A “stinger” may be necessary to pole plant cottonwoods into the waste rock bank. “V” weirs would be used to keep the channel aligned properly. The cost estimate is approximately 176,000 dollars with additional contingency costs up to 220,000.

Option 2 – This option uses hard armoring along the private western banks to reduce potential bank erosion. The banks would be riprapped. With some vegetation component above the armoring. No channel movement would be necessary. The cost estimate is approximately 266,000 dollars with additional contingency costs up to 332,000. The added cost for this option is primarily for bringing material in bank stabilization activities from an offsite source.

The team would still like to see if there are other more passive options available to use to stabilize and improve the condition of the river thru that section of town. The NDOW may have a hydrogeomorphologist that may be able to provide other recommendations and/or to see if Entrix proposals are technically sound. The forest may also be able to bring a regional hydrologist to look at the site.

The team decided it would be a good idea to talk to the residents regarding these potential design alternatives.

## **Item #2**

### Jarbidge Public Forum

The desire to have a public meeting during the summer was discussed. Items to be included are USGS antenna/pit-tagging projects, Jarbidge River corridor restoration work, Road work and mine cleanup. It was thought that sometime in July would be best, avoiding the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

## **Item #3**

### USGS Antennae Update and Maintenance

Antennas were installed the week of March 24. The antennas were well secured. The Pine Creek antenna was not installed because of A. Taylor & Co. found the road conditions to be treacherous (an inch of snow...maybe). We are currently using 18 solar panels; it could be that we will be down to 10 panels if another USGS project starts up.

Batteries will need to be changed approximately every week until the beginning of May. From May to September they would need to be changed once a week. The tentative weekly schedule is as follows:

April 7 <sup>th</sup>	FWS	Gary will go with James.
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	FWS	
April 21 <sup>st</sup>	FWS	
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	BLM	
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	FWS/FS	Same week as road review with Katie Fite
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	BLM	
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	NDOW	
June 16 <sup>th</sup>	USGS	USGS (down loading data)
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	BLM	
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	FWS	Jarbidge public meeting
July 28 <sup>th</sup>	NDOW or FS	Gary and Maija to coordinate

## **Item #4**

For the 5-year status review effort, Bob Williams and Allen attended the most recent meeting where the discussion of the number of Distinct Population Segments for bull trout occurred. A number of options are under consideration including the current status, 1, 4, or 9 DPSs. If 9 DPSs were identified the Jarbidge population would be its own DPS. If 4 were identified Jarbidge would be part of the large Snake River DPS.

## **Item #5**

### Bull Trout Core Area Status Assessment Template

The team began the process of completing the new template. Kate was concerned on how the information may be interpreted by others that don't possess the local knowledge of the Jarbidge population.

Allen agreed to complete the remaining portion of the assessment and send it out for review and edits. He then would send the completed version back out and we would schedule a follow-up conference call.