

ECWC meeting minutes 9-17-2018

Present were: Carolyn Propst, Jon Wickersham (NCLC), Mark Barnes (CB City) , Jan Siebert-Wahrmund, Ed Johnson, Barb Knop, Mike Manzulli (chair), Scott Rekate, Bob Lundy (secretary), Trevor Mount (CB Public Works), Karen LaBonte (CB Public Works), Brooke Stanley (NCWA, Executive Director), Rich Bertellotti, Bruce St. Denis (City of Cannon Beach), Chris Farrar (NCWA vice chair), Mark Garrigues (NCWA and Lewis & Clark Timberlands), and Katie Voelke (NCLC and NCWA) .

The agenda was approved.

Approval of the minutes was deferred until the next meeting.

Matters relating to the Ecola Creek Forest Reserve (ECFR) that were mentioned and in some cases discussed were:

- Conifer thinning, with the trees to be either trucked out for sale, moved within the Reserve to where they can serve as large wood debris (LWD), or left in place (drop & leave)
- Culvert removal
- Provision of beaver forage
- Cutting of alder in flood plain areas, to be replaced with cedar up to 16" in diameter
- Ed recommended emphasis on Oregon Coast Coho salmon, as more grantable
- Beaver relocation, for which we need authoritative guidance.

Mark pointed out that the Parks & Community Services Committee is conducting the scheduled 5-year update of the ECFR plan.

- They will meet and conduct a site visit this Thursday.
- Barry Sims of Trout Mountain will present his report and recommendations on roads in the ECFR in about two weeks.
- Fish passage in Waterhouse Creek has become less of an issue—fish can get through more easily than before.
- The update will probably be in the form of an addendum.
- The committee needs better understanding of beaver habitat; ECWC might help with getting funding for a study.
- Mike says timber prices are significantly higher than five years ago.
- Mark says Trout Mountain suggests identifying some areas for commercial logging (presumably to pay for stewardship activities), but that we need clearer guidelines for deciding about tree removal. Jan suggested that we consult NCLC, State Parks, and others for advice on this.
- Potential City liability for hazard trees within the ECFR was discussed.
- Culvert removal costs about four to five figures; OWEB support is quite possible.
- Access to Waterhouse Creek for the culvert removal is harder now, but might be arranged with the landowner.

- Brooke can provide photos showing follow-up of previous projects.

We should think about projects we want to support.

Brooke conducted a discussion of the relationship between the ECWC and NCWA.

According to the discussion:

What's working:

- We're here, still meeting
- Carolyn as a new ECWC rep to the NCWA board
- LWD & other past projects with the city
- Relationship with the city
- City presence at meeting
- Greenwood resources relationship

What's not working:

- Lack of funding
- Lack of staff
- Staff support for minutes
- Communication of specific items to the City
- Unclear relationship to and expectations of the City
- Not enough staff to follow through
- A lot of talk at meetings without follow through
- Feeling disconnected from NCWA
- Momentum gets lost between meetings

What do we want to start doing:

- Collaborating with the city on water quality
- Record minutes
- Have clear priorities
- Share minutes with Parks & Community Service Committee and get parks updates at watershed council meetings
- Clarify expectations with the City
- Refine the focus of the council
- Engage Arch Cape and larger landscape
- Broaden geographic focus
- Meet monthly or work on committees or projects on off-months
- See accomplishments & projects coming from our efforts

What we want to stop doing:

- (this page was blank at the end of our discussion)

The next meeting will on November 19.