

ESPA CAMP Environmental Task Force Meeting Notes
Wednesday, May 12, 2010 2:30pm
Idaho Water Center 6th Floor Conf. Room D

Present: (7) Walt Poole (IDFG), Will Whelan (TNC), Rich Rigby (USBR), David Blew (IPCO), Brian Patton (IDWR), Peter Anderson (TU), Morgan Case (IDWR).

On the Phone: (1) Jon Bowling (IPCO)

I. Review of proposed ESPA CAMP projects

The Environmental Task Force (ETF) reviewed the slate of projects that will be presented to the ESPA Implementation Committee on Monday May 17th. Peter Anderson will make the suggested edits to several proposal overview documents and send them to Joan by the evening of Thursday May 13th.

II. Recharge

The ETF discussed the 2010 spring recharge operations. The discussion included the following questions:

- Are there opportunities to use recharge to meet fish and wildlife needs as well as hydrologic needs (e.g. improved base flows at critical periods)?
- What type of monitoring is occurring related to recharge?
- How should the increase in fish entrainment due to extended diversion seasons be addressed/evaluated?
- How should environmental impacts be evaluated on recharge projects moving forward?

III. Environmental Task Force Process

The ETF agreed that it would be beneficial to have a more formalized process in place for 2011. The process should have a framework that allows adequate time for the ETF to meet and review projects on at least 2 occasions before the projects are reviewed by the Implementation Committee. IDWR staff should schedule and coordinate communication and input to Work Groups before the first round of recommendations. IDFG suggested a multi-disciplinary team that could assess the technical issues related to environmental impacts of proposed projects.