

Coosa & Warrior Hydropower Relicense
Section 7 Meeting – September 2, 2004 – via conference call

Revision 09-08-04

Attendees

Jeff Powell	USFWS	Patric Harper	USFWS
Stephen Gidiere	B&B	Shane Boring	Kleinschmidt
Malcolm Pierson	APC	Bill Sim	APC
Jason Moak	Kleinschmidt	Henry Mealing	Kleinschmidt

Action Items

Due Date

- Draft mammal, bird and terrestrial plant sections of the BA.
Shane Boring September 16, 2004 – provide update
- Draft meeting notes from 9-2-04 and distribute to attendees for comment
Shane Boring September 9, 2004
- Continue filling in Species Tracking Table and work on BA
Shane Boring and Jeff Powell September 16, 2004 – provide update
- Provide comments and finalize 8-05-04 Section 7 meeting notes
All Attendees September 9, 2004
- Continue developing the list of potential impact to T&E Species
All Attendees September 16, 2004 – provide update
- Provide update to Warrior Species Tracking Table
Patric Harper and Jeff Powell September 16, 2004 – provide update
- Continue to investigate USFWS coordination with USFS and NOAA Fisheries
Jeff Powell, Patric Harper, or Larry Goldman ASAP

Meeting Notes

These notes summarize the major items discussed during the meeting and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Shane and Henry began the meeting by clarifying the status of meeting notes to date. The July 22, 2004 notes are final. The August 5, 2004 need final comments. Henry wants to make sure that we leave a good record for our decision-making.

Review of Action Items from last meeting:

- Draft mammal, bird and terrestrial plant sections of the BA.
Shane Boring is still working on the first draft of these. He will get the draft out to the group when he is complete.

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- Draft meeting notes from 8-5-04 and distribute to attendees for comment
The group will provide comments ASAP.

- Incorporate Coosa Species List update from Jeff Powell into Section 7 Species Tracking Tables
Shane completed this task.

- Distribute Coosa Species List update from Jeff Powell to other Work Group members
Shane completed this task.

- Continue filling in Species Tracking Table and work on BA
Shane Boring and Jeff Powell are continuing to work on this.

- Arrange meeting with Barry Lovett to discuss SMP land classifications and links to T&E species
Update provide in these notes

- Draft list of all potential impact to T&E Species
Update provided in these notes

- Continue to investigate USFWS coordination with USFS and NOAA Fisheries
Jeff Powell, Patric Harper, or Larry Goldman are working on this coordination.

Shoreline Management and T&E Species

Henry gave a synopsis of a discussion with Barry Lovett and Dave Anderson regarding how the proposed Shoreline Management Plan will address impacts of activities around the lake on T&E species. The “sensitive” classification for shoreline areas is based on the known or probable presence of cultural resources, unique “wetlands”, and T&E species occurrence. APC first tries to discourage activities in sensitive areas by discussing the activity with the permittee. If the permittee wishes to continue with the request, APC will trigger an environmental review of the specific resource (cultural, wetland, T&E) expected to be impacted. APC will then either decline the permit request, if impacts are unacceptable, or will make recommendations to limit impacts as part of the approved permit. This process should enhance protection for T&E species within the project boundaries.

Species Tracking Tables

Shane opened the meeting with a brief discussion of the updates that were made to the Warrior and Coosa Species Tracking Tables. Specific, additions/edits to the tables included the following:

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- Incorporation of Jeff Powell's 8/5/04 Coosa Basin update (See 8/5/04 meeting notes)
- Addition of a "Potential Impacts" category to the tracking tables, as agreed upon at the 8/5/04 meeting

It was noted that one additional snail species (the lacy elimia) had been added to the species tracking table as a result of Jeff Powell's 8/5/04 Coosa Basin update (See 8/5/04 meeting notes). Malcolm Pierson noted that the lacy elimia is only known to occur in Cheaha Creek, which is outside the project boundaries. Jeff Powell subsequently concurred and suggested that it be eliminated from the species tracking table, as well as from further consideration in the BA.

The group approved the changes to the Tracking Tables. Jeff and Shane agreed to continue filling in the tables to facilitate development of the Biological Assessment (BA). Jeff suggested that we re-adjust the tables by development. That is, create a separate table for each development to make it easier to track which species is of concern at each development. The group agreed to this change. Shane will make adjustments. Jeff Powell and Patric Harper also agreed to develop a similar update for the Warrior Basin Species Tracking Table.

Reintroduced Species

Several group members enquired as to whether or not reintroduced populations of interrupted rock snail in the Coosa Basin would be designated as "experimental populations" for purposes of the Section 7 process. Jeff Powell noted that, because interrupted rocksnail is a candidate species, it doesn't really require an "experimental population" status at this time.

Development of the Biological Assessment (BA)

Part of developing the BA will include developing a list of potential impacts. Jeff suggested that we evaluate any action that will affect the six essential constituent elements of critical habitat areas. Shane, Jason, and Jeff will continue to work on this list.

Future Meeting Schedule

The next meeting will be on September 16, 2004 @ 10:00 AM Central via conference call. We will use Jim Crew's conference line – 1-888-654-2663 Passcode #2225276