2017 WAAC Meeting

May 25, 2017
Last Resort KOA
Meeting Ground Rules

• Everyone in the group is valuable and is treated with respect

• One person’s concern is the group’s concern

• Confine discussion to the meeting topic

• Listen to understand

• Do not interrupt

• No personal attacks
Management Plan Updates

• Highlights:
  – Floodplain Management Plan
  – Grant funded projects
  – Large Wood Projects continuing
Floodplain Management Plan

• Submitted for Capitol Projects for 2017-19

• Asked for $4M, Currently in the budget for $1M
  – Focus is Rainbow Lake
    • Dredge new lake footprint summer 2017
      – All permits, except Corps obtained
      – Contract awarded May 19
      – Rainbow Lake will be closed June 1 and begin draining
      – Construct settling basin and install pipeline in inlet canal
    • Construct new dam summer 2018
      – Remove old dam and create new wetlands
Floodplain Management Plan
Update on Grant Work

• Weed Spraying
  – 2016
    • 300 acres were aerially sprayed using RMEF funds
Update on Grant Work

• Weed Spraying
  – 2017
    • 250 acres were aerially sprayed using RMEF funds on May 2
Weed Spraying Continued
Large Wood Projects

• 2 projects occurring in summer 2017
  – Tucannon Campground to Big 4 Lake
    • Chinook Helicopter – ~July 15-27
  – Hartsock Unit
    • Some helicopter, some engineered

• All BPA funded for habitat restoration for spring Chinook and steelhead
Future LW Projects

• 2018
  – Rainbow Inlet to Hatchery Bridge
    • Predominately engineered log jams

• Future
  – Camp Wooten to Tucannon CG Bridge
    • Designs have not been started yet
  – USFS lands near Guard Station
    • Designs have not been started yet
Campground 3 Upgrade

- Submitted an RCO Grant to upgrade Campground 3
- Did not receive RCO funding
  - Looking at other options
  - Able to use $10K from Rainbow Lake money
Outhouse Replacement

- Still looking at funding options to replace the old fiberglass outhouses with new concrete outhouses
  - Currently have 6 old-style fiberglass outhouses
  - Not ADA approved
  - Possible statewide project
Bighorn Sheep Update

• Currently have 22 sheep in the herd
  – Only 2 lambs survived from last year (out of 10 born)

• First lamb seen May 5
  – 6 lambs so far; 1 mortality
Wolf Update

• Tucannon Pack
  – Captured and collared breeding female spring 2016
    • She died 2 weeks later; pups were too young to survive
  – Possible den in upper Cummings Creek area
  – Hoping to trap in next few weeks

• Touchet Pack
  – Denning in Robinette area
  – Collared female from Oregon with unmarked male

• Still have wolves from Oregon coming up, wandering around, and going back to Oregon
Walla Walla Property Update

• Stovall Road Unit
  – Seeded with grass seed in spring 2016
  – Poison hemlock is gone; replaced by Russian thistle and kochia
  – Plan to continue to treat as weather permits

• McDonald Bridge Unit
  – Severe weed issues along dike removal project
  – Plan to continue to treat as weather permits
Donahue Property

- RMEF purchased 60 acre Donahue parcel
  - WDFW will purchase from RMEF (hasn’t closed yet)
Goat Mountain Road Property

• 43 acres
• Columbia County
• Recreation Values
  – Hunting
  – Fishing
  – Wildlife viewing
• Currently in Lands 20/20 Process
WAAC Communication

• More communication with WAAC during Management Plan Rewriting process
  – Scoping
  – Review of draft plan and chance to comment
  – Review of Final Plan
Questions??