
To: WEI Technical Working Group members
From: Jayson Kurtz and Jennifer Carter
Date: September 22, 2021
Re: Summary of TWG meeting held Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Attendees:

- Andy Lecuyer (RT)
- Rahul Ray (EDI)
- Jayson Kurtz (Ecofish Research Ltd.)
- Jennifer Carter (Ecofish Research Ltd.)
- Phillip Krauskopf (FLNRORD)
- Duncan McColl (FLNRORD)
- Stephen Dery (UNBC)

Meeting Objective: review status of scoping all issues prior to next MT meeting.

Agenda:

- Climate change update.
- Review status of issues scoping. Jayson to provide in a power point presentation.

Meeting summary:

Climate change update

- Stephen's team and ETS have been completing ongoing climate research specific to the Nechako watershed
 - ETS will be updating RT flow routing model with climate change scenarios (Spring 2022 completion)
 - Meetings with ETS and Stephen to develop an interim approach hybridizing Stephen and ETS research
 - Considering at least 3-5 climate change scenarios, very complicated to model and incorporate into SDM
 - MTN water future research has looked at 21 climate scenarios over the Nechako watershed to compute discharges from 1950-2199

- Routed grid scale runoff to get inflow data for Nechako Reservoir across these years
- NSERC research is ongoing and will be running the most updated climate data soon
- Climate data and modeling is getting more precise but not changing enough to change flow scenario outputs in short term (10 to 30 years)
 - Could look at delta between climate data used now and most recent update (version 6 versus version 5) to better understand what those differences look like
- Pacific Climate Impact Consortium (PCIC), director is Francis Zwiers, is also completing climate research specific to the watershed, and should be engaged with the WEI process
- Andy to provide update when next RT climate research meetings take place

Action Item – Discuss looking at delta climate change data at next climate meeting

Issues scoping update

- Jayson presented status of issues scoping for review prior to presenting at next MT meeting
 - Goal is to take interest under each theme and determine pathway
 - Add column for what is being undertaken right now:
 - Fish access
 - River tribs – discussions with Wayne to understand where the tribs of concern are. Need to lidar mapping or field observations to better understand if this is an issue
 - Side channels – bathymetry and lidar data being collected that can inform this issue
 - Reservoir tribs – understanding locations and looking at imagery to determine if issue
 - Note in table that Lidar data will be collected over next two weeks
 - Reservoir fish – Umami eDNA study being completed in the reservoir to be completed in late October
 - In conjunction with this work they may be able to address concerns over Kokanee in reservoir
 - River recreation – observer (boater) has noted they were happy with flow this year
 - Kevin M. noted no flooding of hiking trails during STMP