

Design Workgroup Meeting 3/29/21

Participants: Justin Alvarez (HVT), Fred Meyer (HVT), Conor Shea (USFWS), Trevor Morgan (CDWR), Seth Lawrence (CDWR) Damon Goodman (USFWS), Eric Peterson (BOR), Brandt Gutermouth (BOR), Oliver Rodgers (BOR), Chad Abel (BOR), Roman Pittman (NOAA), Seth Naman (NOAA), Ken Lindke (CDFW), John Bair (HVT), Mark Smelser (CDFW), Kyle Sipes (HVT), Shaun Green (HVT), DJ Bandrowski (YTF), Aaron Martin(YTF), Dave Gaeuman (YTF), Todd Buxton (BOR)

Upper Connor Creek

The Hoopa Design Team presented the preferred alternative and addressed the comments one at a time.

Aaron: This seems premature to present a preferred alternative, is this a different process than before?

Fred: We got so few comments on the earlier products that this seemed a good place to draw out a response from our partners by putting out a specific design to tear into. This is still a cartoon drawing phase and with the responses garnered we will be able to use that feedback to inform what we model.

Between 77.4 and 77.5- None of the alternatives have any modifications here, there may be benefits with minimal excavation, also the river is moving toward the highway, this movement should be incorporated into the design document as predictions.

This section is actually evolving and the design team liked how it changed through time, but we can consider some features being constructed here.

Aaron emphasized the theme of lowering floodplains even lower so they are inundated more often. Fred recommended that the fish workgroup or others develop new target floodplain inundation levels so that there is something documented to reference.

Lowering the right bank for that alcove may stop the lateral migration if we mess with it in the wrong way.

Landowner Issues:

There is a landowner at the lower end left bank of Upper Connor that has stated they do not want to work with us. We will have to work around this.

We may want to re-engage on creating a river corridor plan to facilitate conversations with landowners.

Evans Bar, The whole right bank is a bunch of private parcels. The left bank is forest service that the land owners use to park and boat to their parcels. This will be a challenge to design something with those constraints. Perhaps starting with some high level design concepts to present and discuss to identify any potential show stoppers.

Brant pointed out that there is a trespass cabin at the upstream end of the project which needs to be accessed.

Chad asked if there is any outreach that needs to happen on Evans Bar at this point.

Aaron- we will start that process once we have some conceptual design.

Sawmill Existing Conditions

The joint State/Yurok team went through a presentation showing the existing site overview and topography, geomorphology, history, geology, biology riparian, fish, and herpetofauna.

Comments for this are due April 9th.

There were a handful of alternatives presented that will be reviewed. There was a concern voiced about what was asked as far as area to work in and the extent of restoration.

Design WG feedback on Construction Planning

Chad requested potential methods on how to provide input at some level of design on how to implement a project,

John proposed 90% as the right place to be done as that is when the details are there and cost estimates are being generated.

Chad may provide a straw proposal to have us in advance of the next meeting to provide something to start from. This conversation will continue at our April meeting.