

SMART Planning

A District's Perspective on CWRB *Tips for Success & Lessons Learned*

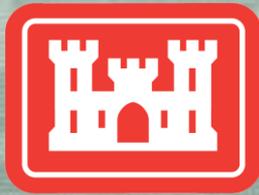
Gail Saldana – NWP

Project Manager – Lower Willamette River Environmental Dredging and Ecosystem Restoration, Oregon

Rachel Mesko – NWS

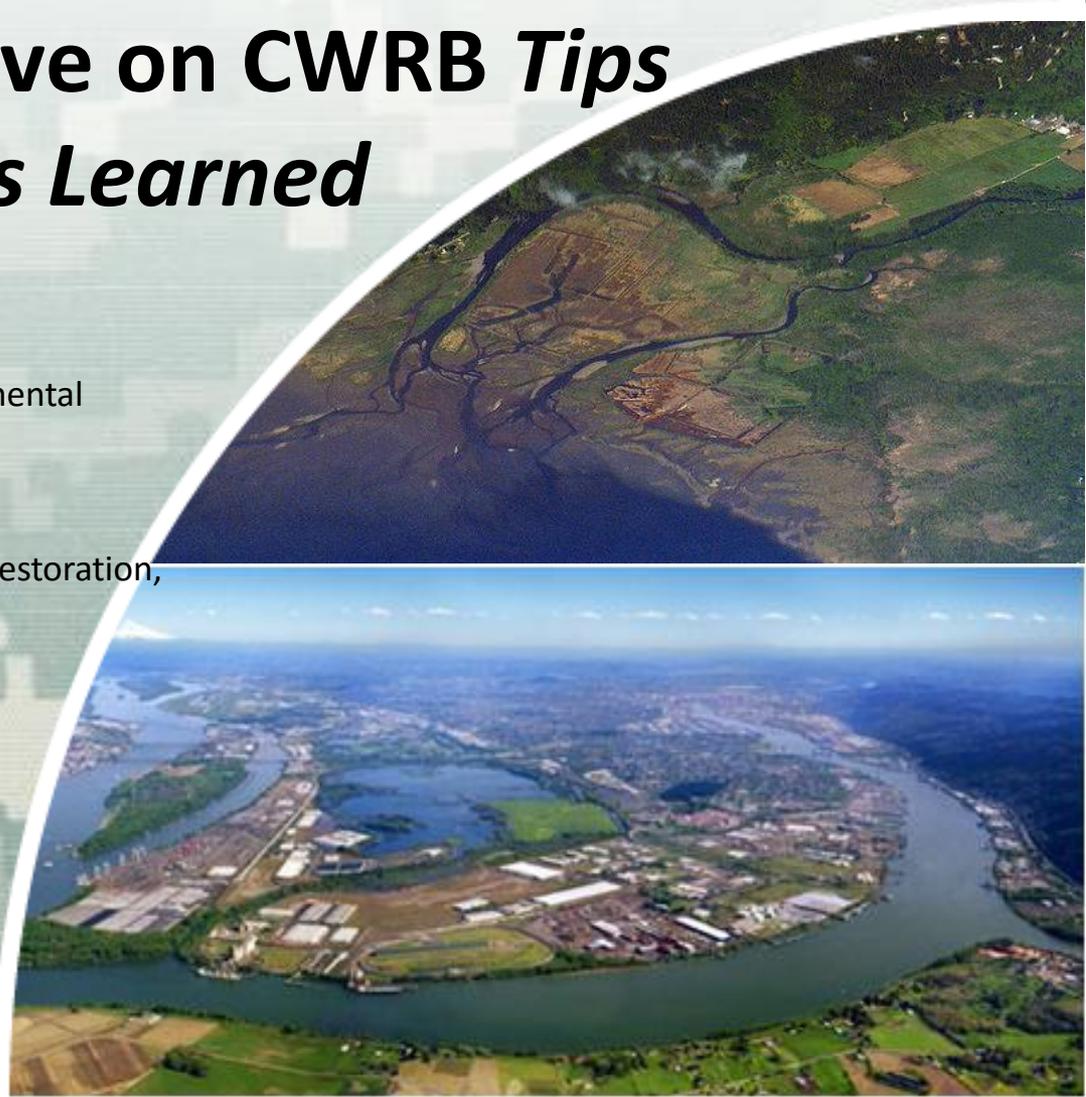
Senior Planner – Skokomish River Basin Ecosystem Restoration, Washington

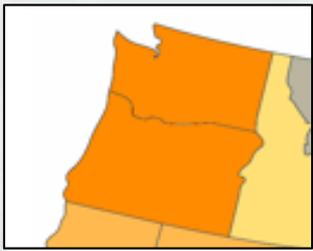
January 21, 2016



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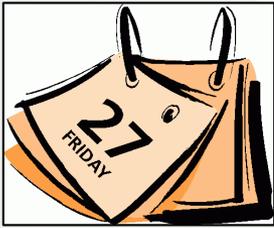




Purpose of Webinar

- A joint presentation from NWS and NWP on how to be prepared for a successful CWRB
- Part 1: General lessons learned for all CWRB presentations
 - Timeline
 - Prep
 - Presentations & meeting materials
- Part 2: Specific lessons learned for ecosystem restoration projects
 - CWRB Tips for ER Projects
 - Potential Questions
- Please share your lessons learned and tips for success in the webinar chat box!





Timeline

- CWRB will occur approximately following log-in of the complete Submittal Package
 - Ensure P2 schedule is updated
 - Allow for time of mailing package to HQ and time to log-in
 - Provide tracking numbers to RIT
- Expect questions from HQ prior to CWRB date
 - If possible, resolve outstanding policy issues prior to submitting the final MSC Report Submittal Package
 - If not resolved, CWRB may be canceled or postponed
 - PDT members need to be available to answer HQ questions
- Prepare for CWRB concurrently with MSC Report Submittal Package

Proposed Civil Works Review Board Project Briefings -- FY 2016
POC: Marilyn Benner, CECW-PC 202-7

Schedule as of 11 November 2015
(P2 information not verified)

CWRB (CW245) to be within 60days after Division Commander Transmittal Memo (CW260)

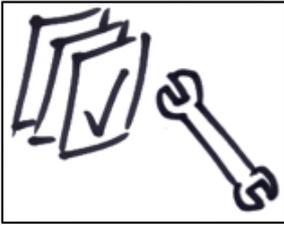
NOTE: For each date, there will be a maximum of a morning (9am-12pm) and an afternoon (1pm-5pm) session. We may need more CWRB days in some months to accommodate multiple project requests.

CWRB (CW245)	POTENTIAL PROJECT	PROJ TYPE	DIST.	Division Memo (CW260)	Board Assl
1st Qtr (FY 2016)					
17 NOV 2015 (pm)	Craig Harbor Improvement, AK	NAV	POA	18 SEP ¹ <i>(mlb estimate)</i>	SW
8 DEC 2015 (am)	American River – Common Features, CA	FRM	SPK	05 OCT ¹	NAI
8 DEC 2015 (pm)	West Sacramento, CA	FRM	SPK	28 AUG ¹	NAI
9 DEC 2015 (am)	Princetonville, NC	FRM	SAW	07 OCT ¹	NAI
2nd Qtr (FY 2016)					
21 JAN 2016					
FEB 2016					
MAR 2016	Western Lake Erie Basin, Blanchard Watershed	FRM	LRB	8 JAN	SAI
3rd Qtr (FY 2016)					
APRIL 2016	Southwest Coastal Louisiana, LA	HSDRR	MVN	26 FEB	LRI



Sample Timeline





CWRB Prep: Basics

- Listen into a number of CWRBs in advance
 - Include your sponsor, Commander, and other key players
 - Review previous successful CWRB material
- Scheduling logistics
 - Recommend Thursday CWRB dates for west coast Districts
 - Arrive in DC at least one full day in advance of CWRB
- Who attends?
 - Limit in-person PDT attendance

Skokomish River Basin, Mason County, WA, Ecosystem Restoration Project

Civil Works Review Board
25 August 2015 – 1:00pm

Attendees

Civil Works Review Board (CWRB)

CWRB Chair and Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations
Director of Civil Works
Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Chief, Engineering and Construction Division
Director, Contingency Operations and Office of Homeland Security
Director of Real Estate
Director of Programs, South Atlantic Division

Name:

MG Donald (Ed) Jackson
Mr. Steve Stockton
Mr. Theodore (Tab) Brown
Mr. James Dalton
Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera Via phone
Ms. Brenda Johnson-Turner
Mr. Alvin Lee

Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

OMB Examiner

Mr. Frank Sturges

Department of the Army – Office of Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works

Deputy Asst Secretary of the Army (Proj Planning & Review)
Assistant for Water Resources Planning

Mr. Doug Lamont
Ms. Cindy Barger

Planning and Policy Division

Deputy, Planning and Policy Division

Mr. Bruce Carlson

Office of Counsel

Counsel, USACE

Ms. Mayely Boyce

Office of Water Project Review (OWPR)

Chief, Office of Water Project Review
Policy Review Lead

Mr. Wes Coleman
Mr. Mark Matusiak

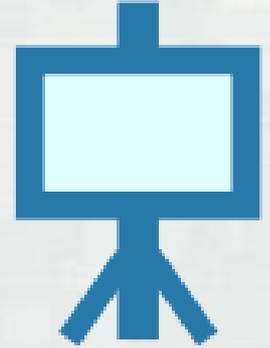


CWRB Prep in DC

- Practice, practice, practice!
 - Do dry runs with RIT, OWPR, Sponsor, and non-team members
 - Invite HQ review team lead to sit in on dry run to provide feedback on presentation
 - Arrange to do a dry run in the room that CWRB will take place
- Know the layout of the room and CWRB members



District Presentation



- Presentation material
 - Slide show
 - District Commander script
 - Placemat
 - Videos: project area overview, flyover (drone or Google earth), etc.
 - Other documents to have on hand: Q&A, key talking points, etc.
- Q&A Prep
 - Brainstorm list of potential questions
 - Flag key slides where potential questions could arise
 - Conduct a Murder Board with MSC, District Commander, and Sponsor



Other Presentations

- Sponsor Presentation
 - Make sure the Sponsor knows their role for the CWRB
 - Review Sponsor slide show, videos and script
 - Look for inconsistencies: Are the messages complementary?
- ATR & IEPR Presentations
 - ATR lead will provide slides to District & RIT
 - IEPR contractor will provide slides to IEPR Account Manager & RIT
- HQ Presentation
 - Review team lead will provide slides to RIT
- *Incorporate all presentations as early as possible*



House Keeping

- Document control
 - Filing system
 - Version control
- Keep a checklist
 - Read-ahead package & abstract
- Roles and responsibilities identified

AGENDA		
1300	Welcome and Introductions	MG Donald (Ed) Jackson <i>CWRB Chair and Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations</i>
1310	Project Briefing	COL John Buck <i>District Commander, Seattle District</i>
1355	Sponsor Support	Mr. Joseph Pavel <i>Vice Chairman, Skokomish Indian Tribe</i> Mr. Rich Geiger <i>Conservation District Engineer, Mason County</i>
1410	Division Support	BG Scott Spellmon <i>Division Commander, Northwestern Division</i>
1425	Agency Technical Review	Mr. Andrew MacInnes (via phone)

- Read Ahead Factsheet (prepared by OWPR for CWRB Members only)
- Cover Page
- Table of Contents
- CWRB Agenda (with names)
- List of Expected Attendees
- Project Map (in color if needed for clarity)
- Sponsor Letter of Support
- Report Summary
- Proposed Chief of Engineers Report
- Agency Technical Review (ATR) Certification
- Independent External Peer Review (IEPR) Summary Report, plus, summary of proposed draft Corps responses
- District Counsel Legal Certification

ABSTRACT: The purpose of this project is to restore ecosystem structure and function in the urbanized area surrounding the Lower Willamette River. This project will improve aquatic and riparian complexity, wetland plant communities, floodplain function and connectivity. The non-Federal sponsor is the City of Portland.

The Lower Willamette River is defined as the area downstream, and not upstream, of the confluence of the Columbia River at River Mile 0. The study area includes two key tributaries: the Tyeon Creek and the Columbia Slough. Most of the study area is within the city limits of Portland.

Historically, the Willamette River watershed in the Portland area was a system of active channels, open slack waters, emergent wetlands, riparian upland forest. The development and industrialization of the study area adversely affected natural riverine functions in the mainstem of the river: loss of habitat complexity, loss or degradation of off-channel habitats, reduced material, degraded water quality, and the creation of barriers to valuable Willamette River Tributaries.

The Willamette River is one of the largest tributaries to the Columbia River in the U.S. based on average annual flow. The Willamette River was named National International River Prize in 2012 as a high profile watershed for restoration. It was named American Heritage River in 1998 (1 of 14).

The overall goal of this project is to improve aquatic habitat structure and function. A fundamental component of meeting this goal is to reestablish, in measurable terms, the dynamic balance between the physical, chemical, and biological habitat components that formerly existed in the watershed. Although the watershed has been modified extensively and it is unlikely that the habitat that once existed can be fully restored, the functions that arise from the interplay of the habitat components can be restored. The objectives and actions that are proposed to achieve this goal are: 1. Reestablish Riparian and Wetland Plant Communities, 2. Increase Aquatic and Riparian Habitat Complexity and Diversity, and 3. Restore Floodplain Function and Connectivity. The restored aquatic habitat would increase habitat for Endangered Species Act-Listed fish species: Chinook salmon, Coho salmon (Upper Columbia spring-run and Snake River spring/summer-run), steelhead, bull trout (Upper Columbia, Snake and Upper Willamette), North American green sturgeon, Pacific lamprey and coastal cutthroat trout. Important wildlife linkages provided in this tidally influenced area are unique to the project area, providing wintering and breeding habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and neotropical migrants along the Pacific Flyway.



Ecosystem Restoration CWRB

- Emphasize Federal Interest and national significance
 - Emphasize early and often in the District & Sponsor presentations
 - What is happening in your watershed; how does the Federal project contribute?
 - Tell the story of species that will benefit from this project
- Be prepared to clearly discuss CE/ICA results
- Cost/acre questions may arise
- Describe how cost contingencies were developed and applied
- Fully address HTRW and Real Estate concerns
- Discuss project sustainability



Example Panel Questions

- What is the total study cost? How long has this study taken?
- Reviews
 - How many reviews were performed on this project? How much did model reviews cost? Were ATR reviewers certified? Did the ATR say the report was in good shape?
- What constitutes a best buy plan?
- How long will the project take to design and construct?
- Can we save dollars by doing this project now versus later?
- Will the project induce flooding?
- Will a future flood “blow out” the project?
- Is the project sustainable? What is the OMRR&R estimate?
- Are there willing sellers? Does the sponsor have the capability to execute the power of eminent domain?



CWRB Resources

- **ER 1105-2-100, Appendix H**
 - http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/CWRB/er1105-2-100_app-H.pdf
- **DCG-CEO Memorandum, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Review Board (CWRB) Expectations and Guidelines**
 - <http://planning.usace.army.mil/toolbox/library/MemosandLetters/14May2-CWRBExpectationsandGuidance.pdf>
- **CWRB Standard Operating Procedures**
 - http://www.usace.army.mil/Portals/2/docs/civilworks/CWRB/cwr_b_sop_v2-070210.pdf
- **Webinar: CWRBs and SMART Planning – Lessons Learned and Looking Ahead**
 - <http://planning.usace.army.mil/toolbox/resources.cfm?Id=0&WId=230&Option=Planning%20Webinars>
- **HQ CWRB Website**
 - <http://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/ProjectPlanning/CivilWorksReviewBoard.aspx>
- **Planning SMART Guide**
 - <http://planning.usace.army.mil/toolbox/smart.cfm>
- **Your MSC & RIT!**



Questions?

Type questions in the chat box.
We will answer as many
as time allows.

For more information:
<http://www.corpsplanning.us>

