



PLATTE RIVER RECOVERY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
Governance Committee Meeting Minutes
Executive Director's Office Conference Room – Kearney, NE
September 14-15, 2010

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Executive Director's Office (ED Office)

Jerry Kenny – Executive Director
Bridget Barron
Chad Smith
Beorn Courtney
Jason Farnsworth
Bruce Sackett

Governance Committee (GC)

Don Ament – State of Colorado
Brian Barels – Nebraska Public Power District
Alan Berryman – Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District
Mike Besson – State of Wyoming
Ron Bishop – Central Platte Natural Resources District
Felipe Chavez-Ramirez – Platte River Whooping Crane Maintenance Trust
Deb Freeman – State of Colorado
John Kolan – Greeley Water and Sewer Department
Don Kraus – Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District
John Lawson – Bureau of Reclamation, Chair
Kent Miller – Twin Platte Natural Resources District
Mike Purcell – State of Wyoming
Jennifer Schellpeper – Nebraska DNR
Jim Schneider – Nebraska DNR
Dennis Strauch – Pathfinder Irrigation District
Bill Taddicken – Audubon Rowe Sanctuary
Michael Thabault – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Participants

Mike George – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Henry Maddux – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Mark Czaplewski – Central Platte NRD
Brock Merrill – Bureau of Reclamation
Jeff Bandy – AECOM
John Shadle – NPPD
Jim Jenniges – NPPD
Dan Bigbee – EA
Diane Hoppe – MWH
Duane Hovorka – Nebraska Wildlife Federation
Lori Potter – Kearney Hub



Welcome & Administrative

Lawson called the meeting to order and the group proceeded with introductions. Lawson asked for agenda modifications; none offered. Strauch moved to approve the June 2010 GC minutes; Berryman seconded. **Minutes approved.**

Program Committee Updates

Land Advisory Committee (LAC)

Czaplewski provided an update on the latest LAC activities. The LAC met on June 15 and August 17. Tract 0905 was removed from further consideration. The LAC discussed the outdoor recreation policy during both meetings. A small group was formed during the August meeting to work further on the issue. Management plans for two tracts were discussed but not completed, so the GC will discuss amending the deadlines for completion of those plans. A trade land on Tract 2009008 was recommended for approval. Land evaluations for Tracts 1001 and 1002 were discussed but the LAC was not able to come to consensus on Tract 1001. The LAC recommended that the GC not pursue Tract 1002. The next LAC meeting is October 8 in Kearney.

Water Advisory Committee (WAC)

Courtney provided an update on the latest WAC activities. The WAC met on August 10. Discussion topics includes: update on CNPPID re-regulating reservoir feasibility study; update on Elm Creek Reservoir Feasibility; Nebraska Groundwater Recharge pre-feasibility study and RFP (on GC agenda; Phase 1 in 2011, Phase 2 in 2012); draft 2011 Water Plan budget; discussion on flow aspects of Adaptive Management Plan, primarily related to the North Platte choke point (still having issues with flow conveyance), which resulted in the WAC recommending extension of the 1-D model; and USFWS hired a new hydrologist. The next WAC meeting will be October 12.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

Besson provided an update on the latest TAC activities. The TAC met on May 6 and September 1. The TAC recommended peer review of the stage change study, but the ED Office is recommending a different process that will be discussed. The TAC will focus on the technical aspects of pallid sturgeon and wet meadows over the next several months, but those issues will likely come back to the GC for discussion. During the September meeting, the TAC received an update on the latest Program monitoring and research conducted in 2010. A small group held a whooping crane monitoring workshop on September 7 and a tern and plover monitoring and research workshop will be held on September 27. The summer interns/technicians worked very well during the summer of 2010. The next TAC meeting will be November 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Finance Committee (FC)

Purcell provided an update on the latest FC activities. The FC met on June 28 and August 31. During the June meeting, the FC approved the format of the bid package for work at the Elm Creek Complex. During the August meeting, the FC approved the Cottonwood Ranch Complex bid package with certain language additions/changes and approved the Elm Creek Complex bid package with similar language changes (largely related to permitting and access agreements). The FC asked that the issue of Kearney Canal monitoring be elevated to the GC for discussion. There will be a FC meeting at the conclusion of the GC meeting to discuss the Cottonwood Ranch bid package.



Program Outreach Update

Presentations

- The Program was a Platinum sponsor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Summer Water Tour of the Platte River Basin. The tour was July 12-15, beginning and ending in Kearney. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Water Center, Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District, Nebraska Public Power District, and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources jointly sponsored the tour. Brian Barels, Mark Czaplewski, and John Lawson were all speakers on the tour.
- Tim Tunnell presented on the Program to the Nebraska Nature & Visitors Center Day Camp for 8 -12 year-olds on July 15, 2010.
- Bridget Barron participated in the President's Listening Session on America's Great Outdoors in Grand Island on July 12, 2010. The goals of the initiative are; reconnect Americans, especially children, to the outdoors, building upon State and local priorities for conservation of land, water, and wildlife and use science-based management practices to restore and protect our land and water.
- Chad Smith presented on the Program at the Short Course on Adaptive Environmental Assessment and Management on August 17, 2010. The short course is sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln School of Natural Resources.

Upcoming Presentations

- Jerry Kenny and Don Krause are on a Platte River panel at the 2010 Water Summit of the Platte Institute on September 23 in Gothenburg, Nebraska.
- Chad Smith and Jason Farnsworth will be presenting on adaptive management as applied in the Platte River Basin to the Trinity River Recovery Program on September 23, 2010 in Weaverville, California.
- Jerry Kenny & Kent Miller will be presenting on responsibilities and the progress of the Program and the State of Nebraska toward meeting water goals to the Nebraska Association of NRD's annual conference on September 28, 2010 in Kearney, Nebraska.
- Beorn Courtney will be presenting on the Program as it relates to irrigated agriculture to the U.S. Committee on Irrigation and Drainage on September 28, 2010 in Ft. Collins, Colorado.
- Chad Smith and Jerry Kenny are presenting on Adaptive Management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's annual Water Law Conference on October 6, 2010 in Lincoln, Nebraska.
- Jerry Kenny is presenting on the Program Water Plan Implementation Status at the University of Nebraska Lincoln's Greater Platte Basin Symposium on October 7, 2010 in Lincoln, Nebraska.
- Beorn Courtney and Laura Belanger have a poster presentation at the South Platte Forum on October 20-21, 2010 in Longmont, Colorado.

Exhibits/Sponsorships

- The Program was a sponsor of the annual Nebraska Grazing Conference and exhibited at the conference on August 10 & 11, 2010. We made 91 contacts at the exhibit booth.
- The Program partnered with the Nebraska Nature and Visitors Center and exhibited in a 4-H sponsored tent at the Nebraska State Fair, August 27 through September 6, 2010 in Grand Island, Nebraska. David Baasch and Bridget Barron staffed the exhibit and we made 92 contacts.
- The Program has an exhibit at Husker Harvest Days in Grand Island, September 14th, 15th, & 16th. We are exhibiting in the Nebraska Association of Resources Districts tent.
- The Program will have an exhibit booth at the Nebraska Nature and Visitors Center Open House on September 25, 2010 in Alda, Nebraska.

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Press Coverage

- David Freeman’s book, “Implementing the Endangered Species Act on the Platte Basin Water Commons”, is due to be published in early October by University Press of Colorado.

PRRIP/NPPD Monitoring Agreement for Kearney Canal

Kenny discussed the proposed agreement for access and monitoring at the Elm Creek Complex including NPPD’s Kearney Canal Diversion. The agreement allows access on property near the diversion to conduct tree clearing and in-channel work similar to other locations like Cottonwood Ranch. The second part of the agreement relates to NPPD concerns associated with the potential impacts of PRRIP sediment augmentation and short-duration high flow (SDHF) activities on the diversion and Kearney Canal itself. The agreement includes a monitoring plan for sediment deposition and suspended sediment. NPPD surveyors will conduct work for sediment deposition; the Program will reimburse NPPD for this work. The Program water quality contractor, EA, will conduct the suspended sediment (water quality) monitoring. The total cost for all of this work is estimated to be \$80,000/year. The FC discussed conducting this monitoring for three years, evaluating data, and then discussing next steps – the agreement now includes this language. The term of the agreement would extend through the First Increment. Shadle added that the Program will have access upstream and downstream of the diversion to cover all FSM-related work at the Elm Creek Complex.

Chavez-Ramirez asked how something like erosion is indemnified. Kenny said if the Program is causing it, then the Program is responsible for it. Chavez-Ramirez asked what it would cost the Program to fix problems that might be discovered. Kenny said it would be on the order of other current Program work like re-shaping an island or using heavy equipment to protect a bank or move sand. Barels said one point of the monitoring is to determine potential impacts and then help to identify avoidance or mitigation strategies. The first year includes some equipment costs that will not be repeated every year. Kenny agreed. Berryman asked how incremental change or impacts will be determined. Barels said the monitoring program will provide information to compare to background information (to be collected prior to implementation of Program activities) to help determine these kind of relationships. Purcell asked what kind of instrument the Program will use to approve monitoring and equipment purchase. Kenny said the current water quality monitoring effort will be used to facilitate the monitoring. Purcell asked if the protocol has been revised to include a three-year checkpoint. Kenny said that check-point is in the agreement itself.

Lawson asked if there are entities other than NPPD that could be affected. Kenny said there are private landowners on the south bank; the Program has management agreements with those landowners. There is also an agreement with the Whooping Crane Trust downstream of the diversion at the Elm Creek Complex. Shadle said the NPPD diversion structure is the only one downstream of Lexington. Lawson asked if others might experience erosion impacts outside of the complex area related to Program actions. Kenny said there are private landowners, which is one reason why the Program has general liability insurance (third-party coverage). Since NPPD is at the Program table, potential impacts to them are not covered by the insurance.

Barels asked if management agreements with private landowners at the Elm Creek Complex mean those acres will be counted toward the Program total. Kenny said the agreements are for access only and do not include purchase, lease, or easement, so it seems like they would not count. Barels said it seems like access for research at a complex might dictate that these lands need to be included. Purcell said this seems to be ancillary to the agreement and the GC should go back to that motion. Freeman agreed that



188 Barels' point needs to be discussed, and also asked about the permitting for the Elm Creek work. Kenny
189 said it will be covered by a nationwide 27 general permit from the Corps of Engineers and those hurdles
190 seem to be cleared – a permit should be in hand any day for this work and for work at Cottonwood Ranch.
191 Freeman asked about the issue of doing in-channel work in ESA-related critical habitat. Kenny said
192 habitat valuation was part of the permitting package. Farnsworth said the Program went through a
193 footprint consultation process with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for this work and that
194 documentation was included with the permit application.

195
196 George asked why this downstream entity is protected versus other downstream interests – how do we
197 deal with others? Kenny said that is part of having Program insurance, as well as application of the Good
198 Neighbor Policy to do no harm to landowners. Schneider said another benefit could be counting toward
199 the acreage goal depending on the result of that discussion. Purcell said the issue of what counts and what
200 does not related to counting acres needs to be vented through the LAC and the USFWS. Barels said the
201 GC retains the authority to decide on any interest in land, so management agreements may need to be
202 addressed in this way.

203
204 Kolanz asked about the Platte River Recovery Implementation Foundation (PRRIF). Kenny said that is
205 the Program's Land Interest Holding Entity and holds title to all Program land interests. Lawson asked if
206 the PRRIF could do more than just hold title to acquired land, such as this kind of agreements. Kenny
207 said that is correct.

208
209 **Purcell moved to approve the agreement for Program access on NPPD land at the Elm Creek**
210 **Complex and associated monitoring activities at the Kearney Canal and Kearney Canal Diversion**
211 **(including all attachments to the agreements); Berryman seconded.** Lawson asked what funding is
212 being approved, and for how long. Kenny said \$80,000 for the first year, then on the order of \$50,000-
213 \$60,000/year for the following two years. Schellpeper said it reads the monitoring is authorized for the
214 rest of the First Increment but that it will be reviewed after three years to determine if monitoring should
215 continue. Kenny said funding would only be approved for the first three years, subject to annual
216 budgeting, until the results of monitoring are assessed after the third year. Lawson said at that point the
217 GC will determine the extent of monitoring activities that will continue beyond the third year. Kraus
218 asked if monitoring costs for EA are firm for three years or if costs could change. Farnsworth said EA
219 provided a cost estimate that would be revisited every year through the FC and GC during the budgeting
220 process; costs may need to be adjusted for the first year because time has slipped on this work. Kenny
221 said this would be subjected to budget approval each year and there would be no promises to the
222 contractor beyond what is approved annually by the GC. Chavez-Ramirez asked why monitoring would
223 potentially stop after three years; this does not seem like enough time to learn about cause-and-effect.
224 Kenny said the three-year time period is simply a check-point to allow the Program to adjust course.

225
226 Purcell said the memo to the FC on this issue lined out costs of \$62,300 for water quality monitoring in
227 2010 and \$20,000 for canal surveys. He would like to amend his motion to include a framing of potential
228 expenditures for this monitoring effort at approximately \$82,300/year for three years. It was explained
229 that the PRRIP/NPPD Monitoring Agreement addressed the surveying budget of \$22,000 per year. The
230 budget for the implementation of the sediment monitoring plan will be formalized with an amendment to
231 the contract with EA Engineering, Science, and Technology, Inc. Purcell withdrew this amendment to his
232 motion suggesting that amendment with EA should be based on the three year monitoring period rather
233 than annual amendments.



No further discussion on the original motion. **Motion approved.** Brian Barels abstained.

PRRIP/CPNRD Agreement for Elm Creek Reservoir

Kenny discussed the potential modification to the agreement between the Program and Central Platte NRD associated with feasibility investigation of Elm Creek Reservoir. The Program would agree to reimburse Central Platte NRD for a bulk of the costs associated with the feasibility investigations. There is not commitment on the part of the Program beyond completion of the feasibility investigations. The intent is to keep this on the same schedule and same level of detail as the CNPPID re-regulating reservoir feasibility investigations. The Program would agree to cover costs associated with that portion of the feasibility investigations with direct benefit to the Program – a cap figure of \$190,000. Lawson asked about the period of the agreement. Kenny said on Page 3 of 3 it is specified as July 1, 2011 at the latest. Purcell asked what budget item this will come out of. Kenny said WP-6, Feasibility Studies. Freeman asked about language in Task 6 related to alternatives being considered. Kenny said the language in Attachment A, Task 6, #2 should probably read “Consider 4 alternatives” but this is language from a contract signed by CPNRD so that language will not be changed.

Barels moved to approve the agreement; George seconded. **Motion approved.** Ron Bishop abstained.

FY 2010 Program Budget, RFPs, and Contracts

Kenny provided an update on the status of the Program budget and year-to-date finances. Land expenditures have been slower this year, but we are setting the stage for more land expenditures in 2011 (similar to the pattern in 2008 and 2009). Land management has been going well and expenditures will end up being close to the budgeted amount for that line item. Water expenditures have proceeded carefully based on need and as important questions and considerations related to the Program are addressed. Some efforts are innovative and require a slower pace to ensure work is done correctly. Adaptive management expenditures have focused on monitoring and research as well as preparing for in-channel work at places like Elm Creek and Cottonwood Ranch. Berryman asked about items in the water arena where the Program is “blazing trails”. Kenny said ideas like water transfers are relatively new in Nebraska and there is no organized and active water market at this time, so there are numerous process issues that need resolved.

Kenny provided an update on contracts and RFPs since the last GC meeting:

- 1-D model contract amendment to extend the model to cover the North Platte choke point: WP-1(a)
- LiDAR & Aerial Photography RFP is now posted: LP-2
- Nebraska Groundwater Recharge Feasibility RFP will be posted soon: WP-6
- Cottonwood Ranch Complex and Elm Creek Complex bid packages now open; permits for both are expected soon: LP-2
- Cottonwood Ranch off-channel sand and water (OCSW) bid package will be addressed by the FC tomorrow: LP-2
- Cottonwood Ranch culvert bid package will be addressed by the FC tomorrow; still have a permit hang-up on this project that is being addressed with the Corps of Engineers

Kolanz asked about the culvert at Cottonwood Ranch. Kenny said it is a multi-arch culvert to provide access across Spring Creek onto Cottonwood Ranch. Kolanz asked if it is a nationwide permit. Kenny said it is a nationwide permit that applies specifically to stream crossings. Kolanz asked why there is a lead federal agency problem with this permit. Kenny said that is the issue that needs addressed with the Corps because the Corps is pressing on the issue of who the lead federal agency is with Program projects.

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*Proposal Selection Panels*

Nebraska Groundwater Recharge Feasibility RFP – John Altenhofen, Cory Steinke, Duane Woodward, Jeff Shafer, Pat Goltl, Suzanne Sellers, Mike Besson, Steve Smith, Beorn Courtney (will recuse herself if AECOM submits a proposal and Kenny will substitute in her place); **GC approved**

LiDAR & Aerial Photography RFP – ED Office will handle this RFP; lowest bidder will be evaluated by Doug Hallum and other interested parties; **GC approved**

Smith reported on the status of two items related to the pallid sturgeon discussion at the June 2010 GC meeting:

- Tim Welker from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will provide a presentation to the GC at the December 2010 meeting in Denver on Missouri River pallid sturgeon monitoring and research activities and their relationship to Platte River pallid sturgeon activities.
- The ED Office recommends developing an agreement with PBS&J to help form and manage future peer review panels (including a panel for the stage change study) as they did before to build more independence into the process of assembling peer review panels and receiving peer review comments. This new agreement, if approved by the FC and GC and if budgeted in the FY 2011 Program budget, would commence January 1, 2011 and the first peer review panel assembled by PBS&J would be for the stage change study.

Schellpeper asked about the budget process and whether additional independent science work would need to be re-competed. Kenny said the idea would be to amend the original contract with PBS&J to include this new work. Barels asked about the scope of work and how direction would be provided to peer reviewers. Smith said the TAC, GC, and other Program parties will set the scope of work, the document to be reviewed, the timeline, the questions to be addressed, and other items necessary to complete the work, and then it will be up to the GC as to how to accept, reject, or otherwise work with peer review contracts. Lawson said this would need to come back to the FC with a sole-source justification for approval since the current contract with PBS&J has expired. Kenny agreed.

Pathfinder Modifications

Purcell provided a status report on Pathfinder modifications. Bids were received and the work has started. Runoff this year means that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) has to ensure the spillway is operational so the BOR controls the construction schedule from March to August, 2011. Since the reservoir is nearly full and there is a minimal demand for storage, Pathfinder Reservoir may spill again in the spring of 2011. The successful bidder chose the 2-year program so the project will be completed in December 2012. The bids were good and there was a cost savings.

Purcell will seek formal approval of the agreement for leasing water in the Wyoming account to the Program at the next GC meeting and wanted feedback on the draft outline handed out during the meeting. Lawson said the advantage of moving water in late September is irrigation districts are reducing their diversions from the river, thereby making it easier to ensure the delivery of water from the Pathfinder Modification Project to Lake McConaughy. Purcell said he is basing his annual cost of water to the Program on the total cost of the project, including the Environmental Account in Pathfinder Reservoir. Thabault asked if the GC was supposed to mull on this until December. Purcell asked if there were any major problems he would like to know them so he could begin to move through his approval process in Wyoming. Thabault said he would suggest adding the EA Manager to Item #3 so the water estimate



comes to both the Program ED and the EA Manager. Purcell agreed. Barels asked if the dates relate to dates tied to the development of the annual EA plan. Purcell said he had not cross-referenced those because the dates are there to accommodate Wyoming's other demands.

Kraus said Paragraph 8 uses September 1 as a date, but possibly September 15 would be a better date. Purcell said he would change it to read "No earlier than September 1". Lawson said the Platte River Program EIS took care of NEPA issues related to moving this water down the system.

PRRIP "Report Card"

Duane Hovorka discussed a Program "report card" being developed by the Nebraska Wildlife Federation and other conservation groups to assess where the Program is at since inception in 2007. The intent is to be constructive, identify what is working and what is not working, and where possible offer ideas on how to make things work better and faster. The report card will be based on the First Increment milestones in the Program document. Hovorka said they are open to all ideas and comments to help assemble the report card. He is willing to come back in December and give a presentation to the full GC on the results of the process. Freeman asked why the report card will not come back to the GC for review and discussion before it is considered final. Hovorka said there will not be any surprises. Freeman said if the intent is to provide constructive feedback, it seems like this should come back to the Program for review. Hovorka said that kind of dialogue has been going on for several years. Lawson asked about the conservation group interests and if the Nebraska Wildlife Federation has been active in working with the Trust and Audubon in giving input as the Program has begun implementation since 2007. Hovorka said there has been good communication between the conservation groups on the Program and the representation is strong. He will work with other conservation interests to discuss this idea to determine if this will be ready in time for the Platte River symposium on October 7.

Additional Items

Purcell asked what direction the GC wanted to give on Barels' question about how or if to count acres that are not owned by the Program but where the Program is entering into management agreements. Barels said he prefers to have the ED Office identify all the places in the white book that say something will happen with land interests and then come back to the GC on the best next steps for the discussion. Lawson asked if this should be added to the agenda for the December GC meeting. **GC agreed.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m. Central time.

Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Welcome and Introduction

Lawson called the meeting to order and the group proceeded with a roll call.

Public Comment

Lawson asked for public comment. None offered.

Executive Session

Berryman moved to enter Executive Session to discuss land issues; Bishop seconded. **GC entered Executive Session at 8:04 a.m. Central time.**



Purcell moved to end Executive Session; Thabault seconded. **GC ended Executive Session at 10:20 a.m. Central time.**

Program Land Tracts & Issues

Purcell moved and Schneider seconded that the GC approve:

- 1) The ED Office proceeding with negotiations on the west half of Tract 1001 including authorization of appraisal. If the owner will only consider sale of the entire property, the ED Office is authorized to develop background information, including appraisal, on the eastern portion of the property to bring back to the GC for further consideration.
- 2) The Program ceasing further consideration of Tract 1002.
- 3) The Tract 1009 trade.
- 4) The conservation easement for Tract 0805, with the following modifications:
 - The name of the Trust that the Clark Trustees represent.
 - Insert different language describing the Program.
 - Explore the easement language describing “Program target species” and “Nebraska habitat and wildlife”.
 - Fix the typo at the end of Page 11.
- 5) Extending the deadline for the following four land management plans until the March 2011 GC meeting:
 - Tract 2009006
 - Tract 2009007
 - Tract 2009008
 - Tract 2010001

GC approved.

Future Meetings & Closing Business

Upcoming meetings:

GC meeting on December 7-8, 2010 @ Denver, CO
ISAC meeting on December 8-9, 2010 @ Denver, CO

Kenny said we need to convene a budget working session in October to discuss the draft FY 2011 Program budget prior to seeking approval of that budget at the December 2011. The meeting will likely be a conference call/WebEx meeting and he will propose dates for that meeting soon.

Barels said the GC needs to have all upcoming GC meeting materials probably on the order of 10 days prior to the meeting to have enough time to review materials and prepare. Kenny said his understanding was the goal was seven days prior to the meeting and said the ED Office would do better in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m. Central time.

**Summary of Action Items/Decisions from September 2010 GC meeting**

- 1) Approved June 2010 GC minutes
- 2) Approved the agreement for Program access on NPPD land at the Elm Creek Complex and associated monitoring activities at the Kearney Canal and Kearney Canal Diversion (including all attachments to the agreements)
- 3) Approved modification to the agreement between the Program and Central Platte NRD associated with feasibility investigation of Elm Creek Reservoir
- 4) Approved Nebraska Groundwater Recharge Feasibility RFP Proposal Selection Panel – John Altenhofen, Cory Steinke, Duane Woodward, Jeff Shafer, Pat Goltl, Suzanne Sellars, Mike Besson, Steve Smith, Beorn Courtney (will recuse herself if AECOM submits a proposal and Kenny will substitute in her place)
- 5) Approved LiDAR & Aerial Photography RFP Proposal Selection Panel – ED Office will handle this RFP; lowest bidder will be evaluated by Doug Hallum and other interested parties
- 6) Requested that the ED Office bring a sole-source justification to the FC for review and approval for PBS&J to conduct independent science review work for the Program (assembling and managing future peer review panels)
- 7) Requested that the ED Office evaluate the Land Plan for instances where land interest-related items are supposed to be discussed with the GC and report back at the December 2010 meeting as to how this relates to management agreements with private landowners at locations like the Elm Creek Complex.
- 8) Approved the following land-related items:
 - a) The ED Office proceeding with negotiations on the west half of Tract 1001 including authorization of appraisal. If the owner will only consider sale of the entire property, the ED Office is authorized to develop background information, including appraisal, on the eastern portion of the property to bring back to the GC for further consideration.
 - b) The Program ceasing further consideration of Tract 1002.
 - c) The Tract 1009 trade.
 - d) The conservation easement for Tract 0805, with the following modifications:
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