



Springflow Habitat Protection Work Group

*September 9, 2020
2:00-4:00pm*

Agenda Overview

- Confirm attendance
- Meeting logistics
- Public comment
- Approve meeting minutes
- Issue 2 Motion discussion
- Mentimeter Issue 3 prioritization poll results presentation
- Overarching Issue 3 discussion regarding prioritization
- Overarching Issue 4 discussion regarding categorizing and focusing study topics
- Public comment
- Future meetings

Confirm
attendance



Meeting logistics

- Virtual meeting logistics
 - Meeting recording
 - Mute
 - Raise Hand
 - Chat / Asking questions



- Meeting points of contact
 - Meeting minutes
 - Connor Helsel (chelsel@...)
 - Meeting access
 - Kristina Tolman (ktolman@...)
 - Technical questions
 - Jared Morris (jmorris@..)
 - Participant monitor
 - Kristy Kollaus (kkollaus@...)
 - Chat and Q&A monitor
 - Damon Childs (dchilds@...)

A close-up photograph of a dark-colored salamander, possibly a Hellbender (Cryptobranchus alleganiensis), resting on a bed of small, light-colored pebbles. The salamander has a dark, mottled body with small white spots and prominent blue eyes. Its head is in the lower right, and its body extends towards the upper left. The background is a dense layer of small, light-colored pebbles.

Public comment

Consider
Meeting 7 Minutes



Issue 2 final draft Motion

Issue 2: The Implementing Committee should ensure a technical evaluation is undertaken of potential impacts of predicted extended periods of flow below 80 cfs on Comal Springs riffle beetle (CSRB) populations.

Motion by Myron Hess, second by Charles Kreitler, and later amended upon the suggestion of Jacquelyn Duke and Tom Arsuffi (made orally during August 21, 2020 meeting and later formalized in writing for consideration for formal action):

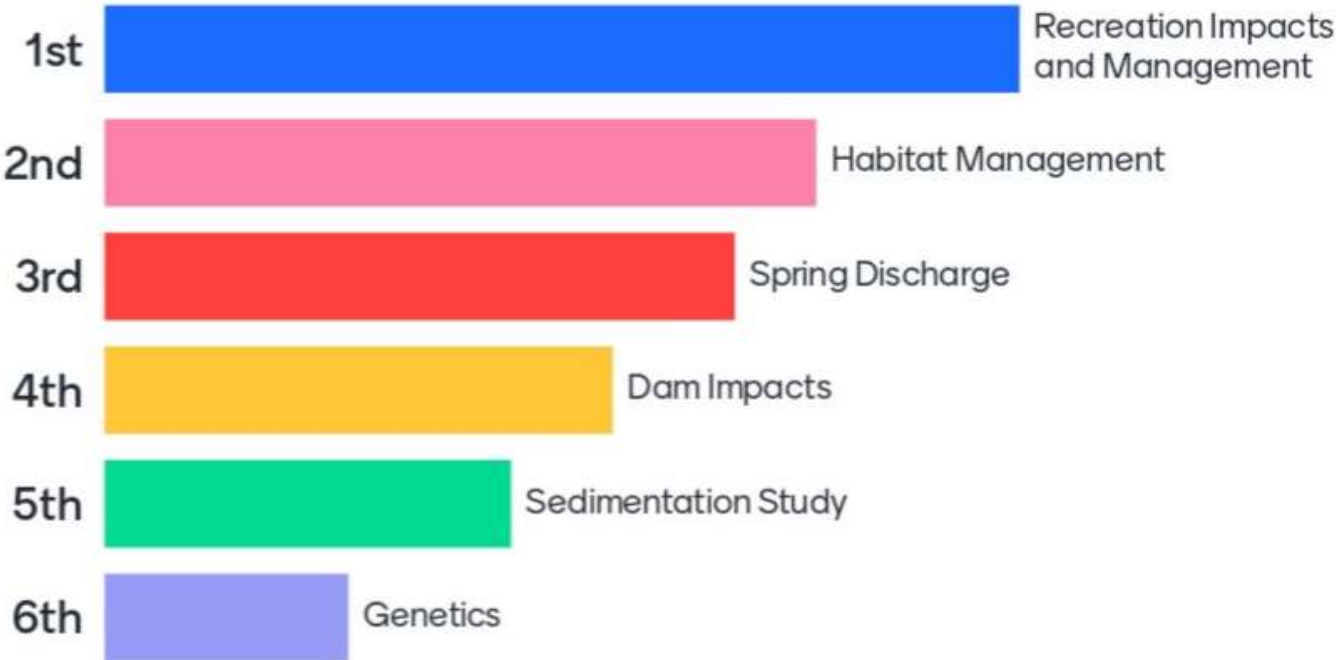
Move that the Work Group carry forward the following topics under Issue 2 for consideration in Part 2 of the Work Group's charge related to impacts of extended periods of flow below 80 cfs on CSRB populations:

Topics included under the topic area, or theme, of "substrate, subsurface well, and spring opening investigation of CSRB habitat" but with the removal of the topics specific to substrate investigation, with the addition of monitoring of spring openings in Spring Lake that are proximal to CSRB habitat to assess which openings continue to flow at different levels of low overall flow, and with the addition of the consideration of genetic studies and the results of those studies focused on understanding how low springflow may impact CSRB populations and, particularly, local adaptations exhibited by CSRB associated with different springflow areas.



**Mentimeter Issue 3
prioritization poll results and discussion**

How would you prioritize the topic areas (or themes) for technical evaluations related to the following (Issue 3):



Issue 3 Prioritization Tables

Items	1st place	2nd place	3rd place	4th place	5th place	6th place	Total
Recreation Impacts and Management	6	1	1	0	0	0	8
Habitat Management	1	4	1	1	1	0	8
Spring Discharge	1	3	1	0	3	0	8
Dam Impacts	1	0	2	2	2	1	8
Sedimentation Study	0	1	2	2	0	1	6
Genetics	0	0	0	2	1	4	7
Total responses	9	9	7	7	7	6	
Items	1st place #x9pts	2nd place #x8pts	3rd place #x7pts	4th place #x6pts	5th place #x5pts	6th place #x4pts	Total
Recreation Impacts and Management	54	8	7	0	0	0	69
Habitat Management	9	32	7	6	5	0	59
Spring Discharge	9	24	7	0	15	0	55
Dam Impacts	9	0	14	12	10	4	49
Sedimentation Study	0	8	14	12	0	4	38
Genetics	0	0	0	12	5	16	33
Total responses	81	72	49	42	35	24	



Approach for categorizing AMP study topics under Issue 4

Issue 4: The Implementing Committee should ensure ... a rigorous review process ... to assess the extent to which adaptive management study commitments included in the EAHCP that are related to flow impacts have been met, will be met, or should be adjusted;

Possible Work Group Recommendation Column Entries:

No obvious inconsistency with EAHCP study commitments: One or more studies have been done that address the referenced AMP commitment in a substantive way. The Work Group has not attempted to undertake a substantive review of study results, but, consistent with its understanding of the Work Group charge, has not identified an obvious shortcoming in addressing the AMP commitment and is not making a recommendation for further action. [Shown with green highlighting]

Possible Work Group Recommendation Column Entries:

Permit extension issue: Based on the Work Group review, this appears to be a study commitment that has not been addressed. Without making a judgment about the importance of the proposed study, the Work Group has identified an apparent shortcoming in addressing the AMP commitment and is recommending the Implementing Committee and EAHCP staff implement a process for ~~addressing~~ **assessing** the apparent shortcoming in preparation for the anticipated renewal of the incidental take permit. In some instances, only a specific subset of the commitment is identified as an apparent shortcoming. [**Shown with turquoise highlighting**]

Possible Work Group Recommendation Column Entries:

Work Group Priority Subset: Based on the Work Group review, this appears to be a study commitment that has not been addressed. The Work Group has identified an apparent shortcoming in addressing the AMP commitment that merits further consideration by the Work Group in Part 2 of its charge. [Shown with red highlighting]



Public comment



Future meetings

- Meeting 10
 - Wednesday, Sept 23
 - 2-4pm



Thank you!

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