

LJRA Directors Meeting 10/20/2016

Meeting was held at Director, Bill Bressler's cabin on Spruce Creek.

Present: Bill Anderson, Charlie Hoyer, Carl Reed, Lee Pryor, Joe Reese, Bill Bressler

Absent: John Bennis, John Little, Carl Molica and Ron Kuntz

Purpose of meeting was to review progress on goals for 2016 thru 2018 established at the last LJRA Directors meeting held on Feb. 21, 2016 and to set new goals where appropriate.

1. Continue to reduce sediment due to stream bank erosion.

- a. Badly eroded banks exist in the stretch between Logan Waste Treatment plant and Bellwood. Access is difficult and repairs are not planned at this time.
- b. Antis Township River Road site is no longer an issue for the township as they have decided to reroute the road away from the river. The erosion sites will remain and require eventual attention.

2. Seek additional cold water for the upper river.

Carl Reed and Bill Anderson met recently with Charlie Burger and Chris Fenton both of ARM Corp. to review the paper mill dam and the Kettle Creek sink hole. Both locations were visited. Charlie Burger recommended that a dye test be performed to determine where and if Kettle Creek water rejoins the river. We will ask the chosen engineering firm to do this dye check with our volunteer's help...probably next spring.

Major changes to AEP water usage at the paper mill in Tyrone will benefit the river.

- a. Hot water discharge to the LBE via the "mister nozzles" has stopped as of July 16, 2016.
- b. "Cold Spring" which has been capped off and piped to the paper mill since 1935 has been released and is now flowing via its original stream channel directly into the river approximately 2 miles upstream from Tyrone.
- c. AEPM is now using 1/3 less water from all sources than previously used (prior to July 2016).
- d. AEPM is willing to discuss the need to provide fish passage around the dam and the need to eliminate the warming effect of the dam on LBE Creek.
- e. LJRA will prepare a Request For Proposal to have an engineering firm study possible solutions. Done.
- f. LJRA will fund the RFP and then apply for a grant to fund the project.

3. Create additional fish habitat

- a. LJRA has identified a flat, shallow stretch downstream from Tipton the interchange.
- g. PFBC Habitat Management Manager will be contacted by Bill A.
- h. Remove fish barriers and obstacles in Sandy Run...Nov. 2016.

4. Continue to monitor and prevent invasives in the watershed .

- a. Learn about invasive threats to the Little j. Invited Matt Shank , SRBC to speak at Nov. 10th. LJRA meeting.

5. Elevate the “designated use” (protection level) for the entire Little Juniata River and its tributaries.

- a. Chris Kuhn, PFBC Fisheries Manager, has recommended “HQCW” from the Delayed Harvest boundary upstream to Sandy Run, based on a fish survey conducted in June 2016.
- b. DEP may not approve this change due to listed impairment for this stretch. LJRA will support this upgrade.
- c. LJRA will seek a change in the “impaired” status of the upper river. The sources (sediment due to stream bank erosion and excessive phosphorous) of impairment have been substantially addressed by LJRA efforts in the watershed.
- d. LJRA will continue to press for “High Quality Cold Water” for the entire watershed.

6. Encourage wild brook trout in the Little “j” head waters.

- a. Follow through on removal of brown trout from BGR. AWA has delayed the draw down and repairs until 2018.
- b. Kelso Run brook trout habitat project to be executed in summer 2017. Partners are JKTU and PATU. LJRA will fund the permit application and will sponsor as a 501 c 3. Phil Thomas, Habitat Mgr. of PATU has written a project plan and a material list.

7. Determine where brown trout go when water temps. Are elevated. Also, determine where favored spawning sites are.

- a. Solve transmitter expulsion problem (Juniata College).
- b. Support the development of a follow-on telemetry program with Juniata College.

8. Increase LJRA membership and participation of current members.

- a. January members banquet. Date set for 1/13.
- b. Consider new membership dues structure.

Meeting notes By: Acting LJRA Secretary Bill Bressler

(Reviewed by Bill Anderson)