

## North Platte River Restoration Meeting

Town of Saratoga, Wyoming

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Date/Time: December 18, 2013 / 9:00 AM  
Place: Town Hall, Saratoga, Wyoming  
Next Meeting: TBD  
Attendees: Consultants in attendance: Dave Rosgen (Wildland Hydrology), Brandon Rosgen (Wildland Hydrology), David Bidelspach (Stantec Consulting), Nathan Jean (Stantec Consulting)  
Absentees: N/A  
Distribution: Chuck Bartlett

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**Item:****Action:****Broad Goals and objectives as defined during AM meeting:**

- Flood reduction
- Bank erosion reduction
- Maintain hot springs
- Fish habitat improvements

**Concerns/Questions:**

- Will the work proposed by the restoration influence or affect the Hot Springs?  
The river restoration design team (Wildland Hydrology and Stantec Consulting) will need to investigate this possibility further in the next phase of work.
- Will presence of bed rock prevent the construction of a low flow channel?  
The river restoration design team will need to investigate this possibility further in the next phase of work.
- There is a bridge that is currently being designed by the Town in the Veterans Island area. Will this bridge design work with the restoration efforts?  
The river restoration design team is concerned that the bridge will not have a great enough span to work with the restoration plan. The Town and the river restoration design team need to work together to ensure that these two projects are compatible. The Town

- Can the bridge construction be completed at the same time as the river restoration project?
- After completion of the restoration, what happens to the sediment that has been transported through town?
- Utility locations in the project area?
- Property owners in the project area?
- Can the committee find a method to better inform the community and land owners the project status?
- How will the next phase of the project be paid for?

needs to provide the river restoration design team an electronic copy of the bridge design as soon as possible.

It is the preference of the river restoration design team that the restoration and the bridge construction efforts be completed at the same time.

The restoration will reduce sediment availability through reduction of bank erosion, therefore reduce aggradation potential downstream. The river restoration design team does believe that further restoration efforts up and downstream of the project area would be beneficial.

The Town needs to provide the river restoration design team an electronic copy of all utilities (specifying the location and elevation) as soon as possible.

The Town needs to provide a property ownership with property boundaries to the river restoration design team as soon as possible.

The committee is looking into different methods to accomplish this goal. Including more interaction with the local paper, mailing out flyers and one on one communication. The committee does not desire the help of the river restoration design team in this area.

The committee will address funding issues once the concept design is completed.

### General Items:

- It was acknowledged that the restoration efforts would increase recreational traffic on the river. Concerns were raised about parking availability. The Town acknowledged that they would need to address those potential parking issues.
- No increased public access to the river is desired on the east side of the river.
- At this point, the Town is unclear whether increased public access is desired on the west side of the river. The Town will let the river restoration design team know if increased access is desired before the project moves forward to final plans.
- Monitoring wells may need to be installed in the areas of the hot springs to better understand if the hot springs are tied to river water elevations.
- Two additional meeting with the Town will be required for this phase of work. The first will occur in the March/April time frame (when the river restoration design team floats the upstream reach), the second after the completion of the conceptual level design (June 23<sup>rd</sup>). The Town will send out conceptual level design plans to the community before the second meeting.
- If river flows do not reach bankfull in 2014, the river restoration design team will utilize sediment data from rivers of similar size and type to estimate the sediment supply.
- Increasing the project foot further downstream to the water diversion location is desired by the river restoration design team. This will better allow for adjustments in the channel profile through Town and will address the massive bank wasting occurring just upstream on the diversion.
- The committee desires that Dave Rosgen reach out to the Silver Spur Ranch to aid in upstream access.
- A design/build approach is desired for the next phase of the project

### Next Steps:

- Obtain utilities information from Town as soon as possible.
- Obtain property ownership information from Town as soon as possible.
- Coordination between the Town and the river restoration design team on the bridge design in the Veterans Island area.
- River float through project reach to complete the BANCS (BEHI and NBS) assessments.
- River float upstream of project (this item is currently not in the scope of work, change order will be required).
- Meeting with the Town to discuss and update project status. Meeting should occur at the same time as the float trips (this meeting is not in the current scope of work a change order may be required).
- Sediment sampling during spring runoff (estimated to be at the end of May).
- Wetland delineation

- Completion of conceptual level design (June 23<sup>rd</sup>).
- Meeting with the Town to discuss conceptual level design (early July).
- Completion of final construction plans and restoration construction (the river restoration design team is currently not under contract for this work).

The foregoing is considered to be a true and accurate record of all items discussed. If any discrepancies or inconsistencies are noted, please contact the writer immediately.

**Stantec Consulting Services Inc.**

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