

# Copper River EVOSTC Culvert Meeting Notes

## October 22, 2019

**Purpose of Meeting: Kick-off discussions for 18-mile and Goat Camp road culverts. Timeline updates for 25 mile system.**

**Attended By:**

Jeff Stutzke, ADOT&PF	Chantel Adelfio, CRWP	Theresa Tanner, USFS
	Kate Morse, CRWP	Luca Adelfio, USFS
Megan Marie, ADF&G	Lisa Docken, CRWP	
		Franklin Dekker, USFWS
Erika Ammann, NOAA	Brad Melocik, DOWL	Heather Hanson, USFWS

**“To-do list”:**

- ✓ **CRWP: Update website timeline and organize document storage**
- ✓ **DOT: Update DOWL on any icing or maintenance concerns for 18-mile culverts**
- ✓ **CRWP: Share traffic diversion discussion from 25-mile meeting with DOWL**
- ✓ **All: Stay tuned for 95% drawings for COP 43-45 anticipated to be distributed on Friday 10/25. Review meeting for these designs is scheduled for Tues. Nov. 19, 1:30pm.**

**Project website:** Project documents and past meeting minutes are available on the project website: <https://copperriver.org/copper-river-evos-project-page/>  
 Passcode: culvert

**Culvert key:**

drainage	25-mile system	18-mile system	Elsner River	Sheridan River	Black Hole
CRWP ID	COP 43, 44, 45	COP 20, 22, 25	Cab 1 & 2	Sher 1 & 2, COP 1 & 9	COP 33
State ID	20100508, 20100510, 20101511	20100485, 20100488, 20100491	20101904*, 20101905	20101903, 20101902*, 20100467, 20100475	20100499

\*Removal only

**Discussion notes**

---

**Reauthorization of EVOSTC funds:**

- EVOSTC has reauthorized funds, and commended the project!

**18-mile and Goat Camp rd. culverts:**

- On the ground visit occurred in September with DOWL (Brad and Heidi), USFWS (Franklin), USFS (Luca), and CRWP (Kate, Chantel, Kirsti, and Kristin)
- Brad:
  - Luca shared historical aerial photos with DOWL
    - These photos are too large to be posted on the website, contact USFS or CRWP for the photos
  - During the site visit a few challenges were noted and will be addressed during the survey phase. Challenges include:
    - Reference reaches for 18-mile system was difficult due to glacial outwash vs. actual bankfull width
      - Heather: Concerned that upstream reference reaches may be too large, and suggests looking at typical fish bearing streams for expected velocities when sizing culverts
      - Franklin: Found reasonable stretches upstream for bankfull width
    - Current culverts are small with only 2-3 feet of coverage, so increasing culvert size without increasing road elevation dramatically will be a challenge
    - Managing man-made upstream additions (dikes) will be brought into consideration
  - DOWL could use the following information from DOT:
    - COP 25 has grates for beavers, are there maintenance requirements DOWL should be aware of in the design of this culvert? Any icing concerns for any of the 18-mile culverts?
      - Jeff: Robbie Mattson and Dan Adamczak in M&O are the contacts for this information
    - Any specifications for traffic diversions during construction?
      - CRWP or USFWS can share the communication records for 25-mile culvert traffic diversions
      - Megan: These streams do support adult coho, so we will need to look into upstream or downstream passage options and discuss diversion channels if needed depending on timing.
      - Theresa: subsistence access to Delta in the fall is a big deal for community so this should be considered in project timeline.
- DOWL will move forward with the survey and keep the planning committee in the loop. Goal is to have final design by end of 2020. DOWL hopes to get a lot of work done this winter.
  - USFWS shared low-water ford design from another project (on website). The Copper River EVOS low-water ford project is on Goat Camp Road (USFS road). Sher 2 will be removed and replaced with low water ford.

### **Next steps for COP 43-45:**

- 95% design should be submitted this Friday, and will be distributed to partners for comments. **Review meeting scheduled for Nov. 19, 1:30-3:30pm.**
  - CRWP will be starting permits once 95% design has been submitted
- 100% design deadline should be changed to the end of December
  - Keep invitation to bid in January
- Low-flow measurements will continue into next year. Franklin currently analyzing hydrology data from 2019 and will share with partners as soon as it's done. He will be sure to focus on 25-mile data in the near term and share with BCE.

### **Closing comments:**

- Jeff: DOT has received funding to replace the 21.5 mile culvert that previously washed out.
  - Design should be completed by early summer 2020
  - Installation may happen as soon as 2020, but an exact date has not been set