

# **Rio Tinto**

## **Water Engagement Initiative**

### **Main Table videoconference**

### **Meeting 14**

**Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

**10:00 am to 12:00 pm**



# Draft Agenda

- Welcome, introductions, and agenda review (proposed addition: reservoir level discussion)
- Action item review
- Technical Working Group (TWG) update
- Presentation and discussion of the WEI conceptual schedule
- Water Release Facility (WRF) update
- Tahtsa Narrows investigation update
- Southside update
- Next meeting dates

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Add a discussion of dredging Tahtsa Narrows to an upcoming agenda.
- **Update:**
  - Update will be provided by Andrew today

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Provide Main Table with list of compiled interests for feedback and input.
- **Update:**
  - List of compiled interests provided in support of WEI Main Table Meeting 12
  - <https://www.getinvolvednechako.ca/7037/widgets/27362/documents/36842>
  - TWG is reviewing all Main Table interests and developing objectives and performance measures based on those

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Conduct offline discussions to finalize PMs and Objectives related to flooding in Vanderhoof
- **Update:**
  - Objectives and performance measures are being advanced through the TWG
  - All products being developed by the TWG will be reviewed, discussed, rejected, or approved by the Main Table

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rahul to provide the draft Conceptual Schedule to Main Table participants for review and revision
- **Update:**
  - Conceptual schedule sent to WEI participants on Tuesday, November 3, 2020 in support of this meeting (WEI Main Table Meeting 14)
  - Will be discussed today

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Rahul to add sedimentation interests to the agenda.
- **Update:**
  - Sedimentation issues need to be discussed by the Main Table in greater detail so relevant information can be provided by the TWG

# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM: Compile Henry's comments and presentations and discuss at the Main Table.**
- **Update:**
  - Three Nechako Watershed Council (NWC) reports are available on the Get Involved Nechako website
  - WEI participant's interests are being assessed by the TWG
  - Henry working with Jayson
  - Need clarity from WEI participants on:
    - What information should be presented?
    - In what format?
    - When?



# Meeting 13 Action items

- **ACTION ITEM:** Develop hydrographs showing different scenarios where flows are diverted from Kemano and used in the river instead.
- **Update:**
  - Will be assessed as part of the scenarios being developed by the TWG

# Technical Working Group (TWG) update

- Jayson, as the TWG Coordinator, will provide a summary of the efforts being undertaken by the TWG

# WEI conceptual schedule

- Prepared a schedule to track our efforts since we started, and the outline the potential road ahead
- As outlined in the WEI guiding principles,  
“the WEI Process is intended to provide a vehicle to share interests, review information, develop alternative operating options, and select a preferred option for Rio Tinto to implement in the Nechako region. This option will remain responsive, rather than a plan that “sits on a shelf.”
- Based on your interests, there are many operational components to review

# **WEI conceptual schedule (2)**

## Key elements

- High level summary of WEI Main Table activities
- WEI Main Table meeting presentations
- Technical Working Group meetings

## **WEI conceptual schedule (3)**

### Flow- related interests:

- Refine draft objectives and performance measures (to April 2021)
- Develop flow alternatives and tradeoff analysis (to June 2021)
- Draft flow scenario (to August 2021)
- Engagement on draft flow scenario (to December 2021)
- Finalize flow scenario (December 2021)

## **WEI conceptual schedule (3)**

Other key elements:

- Reservoir/Southside interests and approach development (to May 2021)
- Communication improvements (to February 2021 and ongoing improvement)
- WEI Plan Development
  - Section 1: Background and Context (to April 2021)
  - Section 2: Recommendations (to October 2021)
  - Section 3: Adaptive Management (to August 2021)
- Full implementation, January 2022

## **WEI conceptual schedule (4)**

Linkages to related initiatives:

- Nechako Fisheries Conservation Program (NFCP)
- Climate change research
- Nechako Environmental Enhancement Fund (NEEF)
- Nechako White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (NWSRI)
- Province of BC Land Use Planning
- Kenney Dam Water Release Facility (WRF)

# Water Release Facility (WRF) update

- Mike Robertson, Cheslatta Carrier Nation representative will provide an update on the WRF investigations that have been occurring
- Discussion points will be captured in the Meeting Summary



# Tahtsa Narrows investigation update

- Andrew Czornohalan will provide an update on the information gathering efforts Rio Tinto has been undertaking
- Discussion points will be captured in the Meeting Summary

## Southside update

- Jason Collier, WEI facilitation team member, will provide an update on efforts that have and will be taken to understand and hopefully address a subset of Southside interests

# Climate Change and Water Security

- New website for: Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada / Rio Tinto Industrial Research Chair (NRT-IRC) in Climate Change and Water Security
- <http://web.unbc.ca/~sdery/irc/>
- Research being conducted by Dr. Stephen Dery and his team

# Discussion of next meeting dates

- TWG meeting: Wednesday, November 18, 2020
- Main Table meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 2020

# Proposed December agenda topics

- TWG update on ongoing work
- Southside workshop update
- Present draft communication improvements

# Adjourn

Thank you