

Goudreau, Chris J.

From: Mark_A_Cantrell@fws.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2008 7:57 AM
To: steven.reed@ncmail.net; chris.goudreau@ncwildlife.org; michbolt@nc-cherokee.com; jfarmer@fs.fed.us
Cc: Mark_A_Cantrell@fws.gov
Subject: Fw: Cheoah Fund Board - emergency meeting - conference call in 3pm 2/5/08

Meeting.

The Cheoah Fund Board met by conference call on 5 February 2008, 3:01 - 3:35 pm. Mark Cantrell, Mike Bolt, Steve Reed, and Chris Goudreau were present. Jason Farmer unable to attend.

The purpose of the call was to discuss the bids received for the gravel augmentation project on the Cheoah River. At its previous meeting the Cheoah Fund Board approved the gravel enhancement, estimated at \$10k. The low bid was \$24k. Each of the bidders submitted gravel samples to Steve Reed, fiduciary agent, and Mark Cantrell, USFWS. The gravel size and quality from the low bidder was determined appropriate.

Actions.

The Board approved the low bid, subject to follow-up discussion with Jason Farmer, USFS.

Background.

Article 406 required Tapoco to file a Gravel Enhancement Plan for the Bypassed Reach of the Cheoah River. FERC approved the Cheoah River Bypassed Reach Gravel Enhancement Plan in August 2006. Article 406 specifies that 100 cubic yards of gravel be introduced at two sites within the bypassed reach during the first year of the new license [or by March 1, 2006]. However, under the approved Plan, the total 100 yards of material is to be added at 4 sites, before March 1, 2008, and monitored. The Gravel Enhancement Plan provides gravel enhancement and effectiveness monitoring in order to better manage and protect important habitats for macroinvertebrates, mussels including the endangered Appalachian elktoe, fishes that spawn over gravel substrates, and other species that utilize gravel substrates for foraging and/or cover.

thanks,
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