Hinkson Creek CAM Science Team
Notes of the August 15, 2013 meeting

Team Members Present: Paul Blanchard, Joe Engeln, John Holmes, Jason Hubbart, Robb Jacobson, Dave Michaelson, Barry Poulton

The minutes from the July 2013 meeting were approved.

Barry discussed having a student via the Pathways program. The student will be using this project as a capstone course in the Spring and Fall. He'd like to discuss this at our next meeting.

The physical habitat assessment money is now in. Jason has been having a hard time finding people to help Lynn with field component. Completion now anticipated in summer 2014. He hoped to have a proof of concept type report in October.

Chemical sampling – The team again focused on measurements of temperature, turbidity, dissolved oxygen and conductivity. The team discussed comparisons between vendors' products. YSI was considered the best but is a factor of 2 higher in cost. Eureka/Manta is the old Hydrolab group. Paul, Barry volunteered to gather more information form users. The team discussed the challenge of turbidity sensors and their sensitivity to algae or sediment accumulation. New sensors have wipers at a cost of $900-1400 per sensor. The team discussed the need for grab samples during high turbidity events to get reliable data. A mix of fixed and mobile sites may provide the best experimental approach, providing the opportunity to nest sampling.

Pools might be targeted for O2 and filamentous algae sampling. We'd also like to capture seasonal and annual conditions. An additional component might be to track a "packet" of water downstream to measure additions in terms of volume and chemical compositions from the tributaries. A framework for this sampling has yet to be produced, but is needed.

The team also discussed the need for a lab scientist to support an effort of this scale. A dedicated person would best be able to respond to stream event-driven sampling, maintenance and trouble-shooting and post-processing of data.