



Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Conference Call

Monday, April 9, 2018

3:00 pm

PRCC Meeting Representatives

Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS
Keely Murdoch, Bob Rose (Alt), YN
Chad Jackson, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW
Curt Dotson, Peter Graf (Alt), GCPUD
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS
Kirk Truscott, Casey Baldwin (alt), CCT
Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Erin McIntyre, Admin Ass't, GCPUD

PRCC Meeting Attendees

Scott Carlon, NMFS
Chad Jackson, WDFW
Curt Dotson, GCPUD
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Keely Murdoch, YN
Tom Skiles, CTUIR (by phone)
Kirk Truscott, CCT

Meeting Minutes

Decisions Made for April 9, 2018 Conference Call

1. "Evaluation of the Northern Pikeminnow Program in the Priest Rapids Project, 2018" proposal was not approved by PRCC members.

PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE CALL / MEETING:

The primary purpose of today's conference call is to address a DECISION ITEM that was first presented and discussed during the March 28th PRCC meeting. The proposal under consideration is titled "Evaluation of the Northern Pikeminnow Program in the Priest Rapids Project, 2018", and the sponsor is Kyle Hatch, Blue Leaf Environmental (BLE). The proposal is dated January 8, 2018. BLE made a power point presentation at the March 28th PRCC meeting, but since the proposal was distributed to PRCC members just two days prior on March 26th, PRCC members requested additional time for review prior to making a final decision. Accordingly, today's conference call was scheduled to address the proposal.

As discussed during the March 28th PRCC meeting, the Proposal outlines a program to evaluate the current Priest Rapids Project pikeminnow removal effort, pikeminnow collection methods, and relative predator abundance. In summary, BLE is proposing a field study and analysis that is designed to evaluate the GCPUD northern pikeminnow removal program by estimating exploitation rates, comparing alternative collection methods, and understanding the relative abundance of non-targeted aquatic predators. BLE feels analytical results of this study will bring a significant boost of knowledge to the current removal effort. Recommendations will also be provided by BLE to GCPUD to maximize fishing efficiencies, ensuring project goals can be achieved and maintained. Dotson pointed out a Northern Pikeminnow Program requirement for GCPUD is included in the PRP license. That Program is in place and funded by GCPUD, and FERC license obligations are being met. This Proposal would be an NNI funded project to improve the efficiencies of the ongoing GCPUD Program. The PRCC members discussed the proposal further including questions about the current GCPUD Program, the gaining of efficiencies with the BLE Proposal, responsibilities to fund Northern Pikeminnow removal programs, and the gaining of knowledge that could possibly be shared with others, including perhaps Douglas and Chelan PUDs.

PRCC members discussed the proposal further during today's call, with some members commenting that the goals of the BLE proposal are worthwhile. However, the GCPUD Northern Pikeminnow Program is in place and obligations are being met, and if this proposal could result in GCPUD doing the work more efficiently, they should provide the funding and not the NNI Fund. A vote was called for and the proposal was not approved with a 6-1 vote. Jim Craig, USFWS, was not in attendance, but he did provide his vote to Rohr by email dated April 9th and sent prior to the call. Rohr informed the committee of Craig's vote during the voting process.

Action Items of April 9, 2018 Conference Call

1. No action items.

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