

## **Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee Statement of Agreement on Grant PUD Steelhead Mitigation**

Submitted to PRCC Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee: Dec 8, 2007  
Approved by PRCC Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee: Dec 21, 2007

### **Statement**

The Hatchery Sub-committee of the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) agrees that in the near-term, Grant PUD steelhead mitigation responsibilities will be met with fish from two programs. Beginning with brood year 2007, the apportionment will be 80,000 yearlings from the Wells steelhead program and 20,000 yearlings from the Omak Creek (Okanogan River) steelhead program. As the Omak Creek program develops, the Hatchery Sub-committee will decide on appropriate adjustments to the apportionment.

### **Background**

Reasonable and Prudent Action 27 of the 2004 Biological Opinion for the Priest Rapids Project requires that Grant PUD rear and release up to 100,000 yearling UCR steelhead. Up through brood year 2005, Grant PUD steelhead mitigation responsibilities were met with 100,000 yearlings from the Wells steelhead program. These fish were, and any future apportionment will be, reared under an interlocal agreement with Douglas PUD to utilize excess rearing capacity at the Wells facility. Using fish from the current Wells program to meet Grant PUD steelhead mitigation requirements is understood to be an interim program by all parties of the PRCC. Ultimately mitigation requirements should be met with a program that is consistent with HSRG, and others, reports/ recommendations as they relate to localized brood development and recovery objectives to maintain within and between population variability (i.e diversity), productivity and spatial distribution.

Beginning in 2002, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CCT) began collecting steelhead broodstock in Omak Creek to develop a locally adapted summer steelhead stock. Current production goals are 20,000 yearlings for Omak Creek, however, ultimate basin-wide production goals for a locally adapted stock are 200,000 yearlings.