

SOA 2008-1

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Subcommittee Statement of Agreement on Grant PUD's Sockeye Salmon Mitigation Requirement

Submitted to PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: August 19, 2008

Approved by PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: November 04, 2008

Approved by PRCC: December 03, 2008

Statement

The Hatchery Subcommittee of the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) collectively agrees that all elements of Section 11.4, Sockeye Salmon Artificial Propagation Program, listed in the Priest Rapids Project Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement are met by the 2006-2017 Experimental Reintroduction of Sockeye Salmon into Skaha Lake. The PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee will be kept apprised of progress with the program through periodic updates and annual reports. A re-evaluation of Grant PUD's mitigation requirements will be made in 2017 by the PRCC and PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee at the end of the Skaha Lake reintroduction program.

Background

Section 11.4 of the Priest Rapids Project Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSA), requires that Grant PUD strive to artificially propagate up to 1,143,000 sockeye salmon smolts annually. However, previous attempts to propagate sockeye salmon in the middle and upper Columbia River basin have indicated that this propagation may be difficult to achieve. If it is determined that the Skaha Lake reintroduction is not feasible or inadequate, and after attempting to improve the program by implementing improved hatchery operations, the principals of adaptive management within the SSA provides for alternative actions (e.g. flow augmentation, habitat improvements, or species trades) to meet Grant PUD's compensation commitments.

The current contract with the Okanagan Nation Alliance and Grant PUD is scheduled to expire on August 31, 2017.