

SOA 2010-10

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Subcommittee Statement of Agreement on Use of the Eastbank Hatchery for Adult Holding, Spawning, and Incubation of Nason Creek and White River spring Chinook and Wenatchee and Methow summer Chinook.

Submitted to PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: 6/4/2010, revised draft 6/17/2010

Approved by PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: 7/8/2010

Statement

The HSC agrees that Eastbank Hatchery may be used as the facility for adult holding, spawning, and incubation of Grant County PUD's mitigation obligation of 250,000 Nason Creek spring Chinook, 150,000 White River spring Chinook, 278,000 Wenatchee summer Chinook, and 278,000 Methow summer Chinook. Fish management will be in accordance with the criteria established in the current submitted and approved HGMPs.

Background

In 2009 Grant County PUD and Chelan County PUD began to evaluate Eastbank Hatchery for adult holding, spawning, incubation, and rearing prior to acclimation for Grant County PUD's Nason Creek and White River spring Chinook and Wenatchee and Methow summer Chinook mitigation obligations. Coordinated fish programs at Eastbank Hatchery accelerates project delivery, reduces permitting, eliminates dual monitoring and evaluation pitfalls, and employs a hatchery system with known success and credibility. Coordinated fish culturing minimizes schedule duration and risks while it maximizes experience and infrastructure usage.

Eastbank Hatchery planning studies document that with use of the Rocky Reach Annex water, adequate water is available to accommodate both Chelan PUD's and Grant PUD's current mitigation requirements for the early life stages without the need for re-circulation. Initial plans call for bio-security between stocks and no use of re-circulated water for these life stages; over time, and in consultation with the Committee, adaptive management decisions may result in changes in these or other fish management strategies. Water will be chilled as needed. (See attached water availability summary.)

