

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee
Statement of Agreement:**

**Approval of the Study Plan for the Estimation of Juvenile
Yearling Chinook, Sockeye, and Steelhead Survival through the
Priest Rapids Project in 2025-2027**

Submitted to the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: October 24, 2023

Approved by the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: November 28, 2023

Statement: The Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) approves the Study Plan for the Estimation of Juvenile Yearling Chinook, Sockeye, and Steelhead Survival through the Priest Rapids Project in 2025-2027, dated November 28, 2023, 2023.

Background: In 2006, Grant PUD entered into the Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (Agreement) with state, federal, and tribal entities (NOAA-Fisheries, USFWS, WDFW, YN, CTCR and Grant PUD). The Agreement constitutes a comprehensive and long-term adaptive management program for the protection, mitigation, and enhancement of both ESA listed (UCR spring Chinook and UCR summer steelhead) and non-listed species (summer and fall Chinook, Sockeye and Coho), which pass or may be affected by the Priest Rapids Project.

The Priest Rapids Project Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSSA) states that Grant PUD will conduct “check-in” survival studies for all Covered Species every five (5) years (SSSA sect. 15.7.2). Section 15.7.2 also states that this frequency of five-year interval of survival studies can be modified by consensus of the PRCC, which was done by the PRCC via SOA 2018-01, which moved the frequency of “check-in” survival studies from a five-year interval to a ten (10)-year interval. The next “check-in” study will be conducted in 2025.

Discussions regarding the upcoming survival studies’ study plan started in the PRCC in May 2022, with the first draft of a study plan presented to the PRCC for their review and comment in October 2022. The version (v-7) of the draft study plan was presented to the PRCC in June 2023, and on-going discussion has occurred through the November 2023 PRCC meeting.

Proposal: Grant PUD proposes that the most recent study plan dated November 28, 2023, be approved by the PRCC, with the understanding between all Parties, that major advancements in tag technology and/or study methodologies can and will continue to be discussed within the PRCC, as it relates the Grant’s 2025-2027 survival studies.