



Grant County  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**  
*Excellence in Service and Leadership*

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee**  
Wednesday, August 23, 2017

**PRCC Meeting Representatives**

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Scott Carlon, NMFS, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS  
Keely Murdock, YN Bob Rose (Alt), YN  
Tom Skiles, CTUIR  
Curt Dotson, Tom Dresser (Alt), GPUD

Jim Craig, USFWS  
Kirk Truscott, CCT  
Chad Jackson, WDFW, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW  
Erin McIntyre, GPUD  
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

**PRCC Meeting Attendees**

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Jim Craig, USFWS  
Curt Dotson, GPUD  
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc., Facilitator  
Bob Rose, YN  
Todd Pearsons, GPUD  
Bill Gale, USFWS (Phone)  
Matt Cooper, USFWS (Phone)  
Scott Hopkins, CPUD (Phone)  
Patrick Wyena, Wanapum  
Elizabeth McManus, Ross Strategic  
Mike Tonseth, WDFW

Tom Skiles, CTUIR (phone)  
Scott Carlon, NMFS  
Erin McIntyre, GPUD  
Kirk Truscott, CCT  
Keely Murdock, YN  
Tom Dresser, GPUD  
Peter Graf, GPUD  
Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GPUD  
Cory Kampaus, YN  
Chad Jackson, WDFW  
Catherine Willard, CPUD (phone)

**Final Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 23, 2017**  
**9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

- I. **Agenda Review** (D. Rohr) – Agenda was adjusted - Lake Wenatchee Discussion item moved up. Coho timeline was added for discussion. Chad Jackson was appointed as the new representative for WDFW, via the receiving of a letter from WDFW stating him as so.
- II. **Meeting Minutes: (D. Rohr)**  
Meeting Minutes for June 28 and July 26, 2017 meeting were approved by the PRCC. CCT representative requested a minor edit to reflect that he was not present during a vote regarding the Lake Wenatchee Survival RFP. **–APPROVED.**
- III. **Action Items Review from July 26, 2017 meeting** (D. Rohr). Completed with the exception of Action 5; “PRCC members will send potential future NNI Funding projects to Rohr for consideration”. This is an ongoing action item to remain on future agendas.
  1. Rohr to provide Trout Unlimited PPT presentation to PRCC. Complete
  2. YN to provide August 23rd coho program presentation outline to Rohr for distribution to PRCC for their review and comment prior to August 23rd; GPUD will provide ISRP YN Coho

- Program Review document to Rohr for distribution to PRCC prior to August 23rd; GPUD to provide other Coho documents as needed to Rohr for distribution to PRCC; YN to provide their coho program PPT presentation at the August 23rd meeting; Rohr to coordinate with McManus, HSC facilitator, to invite HSC to attend PRCC meeting on August 23rd. Complete
3. YN and Grant will communicate with WDFW regarding UC Fish Screening Proposal. Complete
  4. Dresser will follow up with Lake Wenatchee Subcommittee meeting schedule, and Rose and Rohr will communicate process with WDFW. Complete
  5. PRCC members will send potential future NNI Funding projects to Rohr for PRCC consideration. On Going

#### IV. Review and Discussion: Grant PUD Coho Mitigation – (D. Rohr)

- A. Background and process (D. Rohr) – D. Rohr provided a brief overview on the subject of the Coho related to Statement of Agreement (SOA) 2007-16, in which an evaluation was required. D. Rohr communicated that the Yakama Nation (YN) committed to providing a presentation related to that requirement of SOA.
- B. Coho Timeline: GPUD reported they met with YN staff recently in an attempt to move the Coho mitigation discussion forward in a productive manner. To inform the PRCC on next steps, YN and GPUD staff developed a timeline related to Coho mitigation. The goal of the timeline was an attempt for YN and GPUD to work collaboratively to develop mutually agreed upon Coho Mitigation Statement of Agreement(s) (SOA) that could potentially meet the intent of and would be consistent with the Standard of Care language (sect. 4.2) within the Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement.

The timeline identified that YN would provide a presentation at today's meeting (August 23, 2017) to possibly address evaluation requirements in SOA 2007-16, include program overview, findings, changes to the existing program. The PRCC would then need to evaluate what additional information is needed to determine viability of the Coho program.

The timeline also proposed that between the August 23 meeting and the next PRCC/HSC meetings, the PRCC would need to develop mutually acceptable changes to SOA 2017-01 "Designating Coho Salmon Survival Surrogate" and the PRCC-HSC need to develop a SOA related to Coho NNI calculations (methodology, data sets, etc.).

The overall goal is to have SOA available to the PRCC and PRCC-HSC for approval at the September 21 (PRCC-HSC) and September 27 (PRCC) meetings. That would allow YN and GPUD to work towards contractual terms.

CCT representative indicated that the methodology of determining NNI and other details need to be developed as soon as possible, as he will need to present the information to his Sr. Management and it may be a tribal council decision.

- C. Coho Presentation: YN staff indicated that they received comments from CCT and GPUD, which they incorporated and/or tried to address with the presentation. GPUD staff asked if there was going to be a follow up written report or if this presentation was going to serve as the proposed evaluation of their coho program? YN indicated that they had not planned to draft a report for distribution/review by the PRCC or PRCC-HSC.

YN's ppt presentation communicated that per SOA 2007-16, the PRCC and PRC-HSC was trying to answer the following basic questions; (1) Is the Coho population stable, increasing or decreasing relative to other Permit Species and if so, (2) is the Coho program a viable program? YN also provided several definitions at the beginning of the presentation (program, population, viability and permit species) in an effort to provide context to the presentation as these terms have not been defined nor have the committees (PRCC or PRCC-HSC) reached consensus on these terms. YN staff also indicated that they had reviewed the Artificial Propagation Plan (APP) for the Coho for other possible criteria for evaluating the program.

YN presented the biological objectives and goals (*"To re-establish naturally spawning coho populations in mid-Columbia tributaries to biologically sustainable levels which provide significant harvest in most years"*) for the Coho program in the Wenatchee and Methow basin. Metric 1 is a mean escapement of natural origin returns (NOR) of 1500 in each of the Wenatchee and Methow basins and to achieve a harvest rate of 23%. The 23% includes a mixed stock (10%), mainstem (10%) and terminal harvest (5%).

YN indicated that they are using a phased approach and includes a (1) broodstock development phase, which eliminates transfers from the lower Columbia and (2) a natural production phase. The natural production phase increases geographical scope and emphasizes local adaptation. YN staff reported that elimination of transfers from the lower Columbia has been completed in both basins and they are still continuing to encourage adaptation of the stock by moving capture locations farther upstream. YN acknowledged that not all broodstock development phases (2 different phases) have been completed at this point. Slide 14 of the presentation provides a graphical presentation of the broodstock development phase that has been implemented in each basin by broodyear.

GPUD staff asked that if a phase is not complete, then the program does not move to the next phases. YN staff confirmed that assumption. YN staff presented details on the natural production phases. Details on the natural production phases can be reviewed on slides 11-13. YN staff also presented information on the monitoring and evaluation program being implemented as various project performance indicators (slide 16), species interactions (slide 17), and genetic adaptability (slides 18-19). On slide 21, the phased performance standards per the APP were summarized/presented. Based on these standards, the YN's interpretation is that they have been generally achieved.

On slides 31-34, YN staff presented abundance trends comparing Coho to the other species (spring & summer Chinook, steelhead and sockeye) in the upper Columbia River Basin, Priest Rapids Dam and by basin (Wenatchee and Methow). Based on the data presented, their interpretation was that there is no significant difference in abundance among the species based on test of the slopes of the lines. YN also presented information on Broodyear Smolt to adult returns (SAR's) by species (spring & summer Chinook, steelhead and sockeye) in each basin (Wenatchee and Methow). The YN's general interpretation was that there is no significant difference in SAR's among the species by basin.

YN also presented information on measures of local adaptation (slides 44-46). They presented information that identified patterns of variation among 3 brood lines and has continued on the original stock despite incorporation of jacks and there are patterns of variation which indicate many loci with signals of divergent selection following introduction. A conclusion reached by the YN is that the genomes of the reintroduced Coho are changing in response to new spawning habitat and increased migration distance.

- D. Review and Discussion of ISRP Document YN staff provided a general overview of why the review was completed by the ISRP and indicated that it was a response to questions and concerns that arose by the ISRP about their coho program in 2009. YN indicated that from these reviews, they learned that there is a need to look at Phase II of the broodstock development phase and come up with an enhanced brood stock. YN indicated that they are in the process of drafting a response and will hope to send it to the ISRP next week. The YN committed to provide a copy of the response to Rohr for distribution to the PRCC and PRCC-HSC.

GPUD staff also provided a brief overview of the ISRP memo from April 2017. GPUD communicated that a key element stressed by the ISRP was that the YN's coho program is still in development and additional time is needed before a determination of whether the coho population is self-sustaining or not can be made, so continue on working on the program.

- E. Open Discussion: D. Rohr indicated that between now and next PRCC committee meeting E. McManus and he would be talking with individuals to determine next steps, does the presentation address the questions related to an evaluation required in SOA 2007-16, additional data needs, etc?

CCT stated that the program needs to be evaluated from where we are at today.

GPUD staff stated that in a hatchery program, the committee goal is to evaluate recovery and that is not easy to answer and it takes time. GPUD stated that we may be at a point that we are not in a position to evaluate at this time and need to continue on with more data collection. GPUD staff also asked if standards and goals had actually been developed per the SOA (2007-16) requirement. GPUD staff also asked if we have defined what viability is? GPUD staff further stated that if goals and standards have not been developed maybe they need to be established or do we use adaptive management and go with what we currently have or add to it?

GPUD staff also stated that viability was a difficult question to answer at this stage. The hatchery program is above replacement but the natural production is below replacement.

The group had a general discussion on the background and history in the development of SOA 2007-16. There was general agreement that the SOA 2007-16 was vague and contained confusing language. YN staff stated that maybe the PRCC-HSC could develop a document that included the general information provided and then provide a technical conclusion and make a recommendation to committee.

**ACTION:**

YN to provide response to ISRP to PRCC and PRCC-HSC as soon as possible.

YN to provide a copy of coho section 10 permit to PRCC and PRCC HSC

HSC to review coho evaluation to see if it meets the requirement of SOA 2007-16

**ACTION: Assign to Hatchery Committee.**

- V. **DECISION ITEM** – NNI Funding Proposal: “Priest Rapids Project NNI Funding Request – “Support to Continue the Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program” (B. Rose, C. Jackson). GPUD requested that this item be tabled until the next meeting, as GPUD was meeting with WDFW the following day to talk about this proposal. WDFW staff indicated that they would like to request a 5 year contract term verses a 2 year term as the 2 year is not enough to complete discussions with landowners and permits sometimes take longer than two years. Basically, 5 years

provides greater flexibility. Additionally, a term of less than 5 years could result in staff turnover. WDFW proposed a clause to cover staff turnover. WDFW reported that if not NNI funded, the WDFW position would likely go away.

WDFW also provided information on how the indirect rates are developed and the current efforts to develop a long-term plan so that indirect rates are more consistent and predictable.

PRCC members indicated their continued concern to WDFW that NNI funding will not be around in the long-term and that WDFW needs to begin now to seek a legislative "fix" to address future screening projects. The PRCC members also stressed that other funding sources needed to be pursued in the near-term and may include Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Irrigation Districts and/or the farmers/ranchers themselves. PRCC members questioned the low rate of \$20 for maintenance (as reported by WDFW at last month's presentation) and wondered why a higher rate could not be requested. WDFW committed to look into it.

**ACTION:**

- WDFW to explore possible ways to increase the maintenance rate;
- WDFW & GPUD meet and see if concerns raised by the PRCC can be addressed through restructuring the current NNI screening proposal;
- Request an e-mail vote by PRCC if concerns addressed.

- VI. **DECISION ITEM** – NNI Funding Request for "Satellite Telemetry of Caspian Terns – An Evaluation of Management to Reduce Predation on ESA-Listed Salmonids in the Columbia Plateau Region – 2017 Proposal" (C. Jackson, C. Dotson). WDFW requested a reconsideration of this project as they were the single entity that vote NOT to support previously. A re-vote was taken and the PRCC, via consensus, voted to support this NNI Funding request.
- VII. **DECISION ITEM** – Wanapum Dam Gate Seal Request for Extension of Time (T. Dresser). GPUD requested an extension of time (EOT) for the Wanapum Gate Seal Replacement project (FERC License Article 406). GPUD filed a plan with FERC in 2011 in which stated that all 10 tainter gate seals would be replaced by May 2018. Due to the Wanapum fracture and trunnion alignment issues this project has been delayed. GPUD requested an EOT to July of 2020. The PRCC voted by consensus to **Approve GPUD's request for an EOT to July 2020.**
- VIII. **Update – Lake Wenatchee NNI Proposal -- Estimating the Survival of Juvenile Spring Chinook in Lake Wenatchee (T. Dresser, D. Rohr).** D. Rohr reported that a subcommittee meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 6 at the HOB Room 117 from 1:30-4:30pm.

A question was asked why this group is meeting? GPUD communicated that based on guidance from the PRCC the subcommittee needed to develop a scope of work associated with the predation issue within Lake Wenatchee, (this being generated by the WDFW Lake Wenatchee study proposal that the PRCC received back around May 2016) and would then be reviewed by the PRCC and sent out for a request for proposal/qualification (RFP). WDFW asked if an RFP process had ever been used before. GPUD indicated it had and was typically used on controversial projects such as this one in which did not have consensus by the PRCC.

GPUD further encouraged the PRCC and PRCC-HSC members attending the subcommittee meeting to review a memorandum developed by the PRCC-HSC and provided to the PRCC on

2/1/2016 which identified potential data gaps and SOA 2013-01 developed by the PRCC Policy Representatives. The information is posted on the PRCC-HSC – SharePoint site.

**ACTION:**

GPUD to make sure that the information is available and also posted to PRCC SharePoint site.

**IX.**

**UPDATES**

- A. Avian Predation Activities (C. Dotson) (Weekly Reports being distributed to PRCC members) – Dotson, has sent them out weekly. Dotson will send out report received this morning. Dresser stated Grant filed an application with FWS then retracted the application. Grant's plan going forward is meeting at the end of month with FWS and WLS to plan out a depredation permit. EA or EIS process, turn take would be brand new, aggressive time line. Grant withdrew because not enough information. Grant had a great discussion with Jennifer Miller and staff.
- B. Spill Report (C. Dotson) – Still going, fish numbers are still there. Should continue through next week.
- C. Hatchery Activities (T. Dresser) Nothing to report
  - 1. Carlton Acclimation Facility
  - 2. Nason Creek Acclimation Facility
  - 3. Priest Rapids Hatchery Modifications
  - 4. Penticton Hatchery
- D. Hatchery Permits: Sec 10 Consultation/Summer Chinook, Sec 7 Consultation/Bull Trout. (T. Dresser) – WDFW asked which process GPUD was planning on pursuing; Four D or Section 10. GPUD indicated that it was still evaluating. WDFW indicated that is basically different in that it has no time limitation on required consultation and re-consultation is only necessary if a change or if a party need requests re-consultation.
- E. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects
  - 1. Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase I - II Contract Extension (C. Jackson). No Updates
  - 2. Mid-Columbia River Intake Screen and Diversion Assessment (2016-17) (T. Dresser) No Updates
  - 3. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II (C. Jackson). No Updates
  - 4. Methow Valley Irrigation District (MVID) Instream Flow Improvement Project (T. Dresser). No Updates
  - 5. Predator Fish Recruitment Reduction (B. Rose). No Updates
  - 6. Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce / Tourism Association – 2017 Northern Pikeminnow Fishing Derby (T. Dresser). No Updates
  - 7. Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt (K. Truscott). Northern pike were documented at near Hunters, Washington. Downstream movement is still being documented with several year-classes being collected.
  - 8. Satellite Telemetry of Caspian Terns (C. Dotson). No Updates

**X.**

**Committee Reports (D. Rohr) – Rohr distributed by email.**

- XI. **Qtrly NNI and Habitat Funds Report** (D. Rohr). Current balances NNI (601)-\$5m; 602-\$4.8M and 603-\$1.3m.
- XII. **Next Meeting** – Wed, September 27, 2017, Wanapum HOB, Conf Rm 107 (D. Rohr)

**Action Items from August 23, 2017 Meeting:**

- -YN to provide response to ISRP to PRCC and PRCC-HSC as soon as possible.  
-YN to provide a copy of coho section 10 permit to PRCC and PRCC HSC.  
-HSC to review coho evaluation to see if it meets the requirement of SOA 2007-16.
- -WDFW to explore possible ways to increase the maintenance rate regarding screening proposal.  
-WDFW & GPUD meet and see if concerns raised by the PRCC can be addressed through re-structuring the current NNI screening proposal.  
-Request an e-mail vote by PRCC if concerns addressed.
- -GPUD to make sure that the information is available and posted to PRCC SharePoint site regarding Lake Wenatchee discussion.