



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
Excellence in Service and Leadership

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee
Wednesday, September 27, 2017

PRCC Meeting Representatives

Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS	Jim Craig, USFWS
Bob Rose, YN	Kirk Truscott, CCT
Keely Murdock, YN	Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Chad Jackson, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW	Erin McIntyre, GCPUD
Curt Dotson, Tom Dresser (Alt), GCPUD	
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator	

PRCC Meeting Attendees

Jim Craig, USFWS	Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Curt Dotson, Grant PUD	Scott Carlon, NMFS
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc., Facilitator	Erin McIntyre, Grant PUD
Patrick Verhey (via the phone)	Chad Jackson, WDFW
Patrick Wyena, Wanapum (Via Phone)	Keely Murdock, YN
Tom Dresser, Grant PUD	Kirk Truscott, CCT (Via Phone)

Approved Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 27, 2017
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

- I. **Agenda Review - (D. Rohr)** No adjustments requested.
- II. **Meeting Minutes - (D. Rohr)**
August 23, 2017 meeting minutes were approved after Rohr made edits per YN's clarification request.
- III. **Action Items Review from August 23, 2017 meeting (D. Rohr)**
 - -YN to provide updated Coho Master Plan to PRCC and PRCC-HSC as soon as possible. – **Completed**
 - -YN to provide a copy of Coho section 10 permit to PRCC and PRCC HSC. – **Completed**
 - -HSC to review Coho evaluation to see if it meets the requirement of SOA 2007-16. – **Still in review.**
 - -WDFW to explore possible ways to increase the maintenance rate regarding WDFW NNI screening proposal. – **Discussion today**
 - WDFW & GPUD to meet and see if concerns raised by the PRCC can be addressed through restructuring the current NNI screening proposal.
-Request an e-mail vote prior to September 27th meeting by PRCC if concerns are addressed.

- -GPUD to make sure that the information is available and posted to PRCC SharePoint site regarding Lake Wenatchee discussion. – **Complete.**

IV. Review and Discussion: Grant PUD Coho Mitigation – (D. Rohr, T. Dresser, K. Murdoch)

A. Review and Update – GPUD reported that great progress has been made between the YN and GPUD, as the parties have agreed on proposed language in a draft statement of agreement (SOA) that closes out the requirements included in SOA 2007-16. The key elements include the draft SOA are presented below. GPUD also reported that the next steps will be that the draft language will be submitted to the PRCC-HSC for review and approval and then it will be presented to the PRCC for review and approval. Additionally, GPUD reported that language related to a second SOA in development will be geared towards the methodology and data to be used in the calculation of NNI mitigation numbers. Based on preliminary discussions, YN and GPUD may also agree on several elements as well. An outstanding issue that remains however is related to what survival value should be used in the methodology. GPUD and YN have setup future meetings to discuss this further and will report progress back to the PRCC.

Draft SOA Language:

- ✓ Evaluation of the hatchery program per SOA 2007-16 has been met via a PowerPoint presentation by the Yakama Nation to the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee and the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee-Hatchery Subcommittee.
- ✓ Future assessments of the Coho program will be based on the project performance indicators/metrics included within Mid-Columbia Coho Restoration Master Plan. The Coho program will be reviewed and updated every two generations (6 years).
- ✓ Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee-Hatchery Subcommittee will be provided the opportunity to review, comment and provide recommended modifications to the Mid-Columbia Coho Restoration Master Plan during the two generation review.
- ✓ Reports and presentations that addresses the project performance indicators/metrics included within Mid-Columbia Coho Restoration Master Plan will be provided to the PRCC-Hatchery Subcommittee for review and comment on an annual basis.

V. DECISION ITEM – NNI Funding Proposal: “Priest Rapids Project NNI Funding Request – Support to Continue the Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program” (C. Jackson, D. Rohr) –WDFW reported they are working on an agreement with their staff for a new proposal to request basic maintenance materials to assist screen maintenance from screen owners. PRCC committee members continued to have questions regarding the long-term commitment to this program once NNI funding is no-longer available. After further discussion, PRCC committee members voted to approve the NNI Funding request of up to \$617,219 over a 2-year period of time beginning on October 1, 2017 and ending September 30, 2019.

ACTION: WDFW committed to working with Rohr to determine what type of monthly/annual updates/reporting will occur in the future.

VI. Lake Wenatchee NNI Proposal -- Estimating the Survival of Juvenile Spring

Chinook in Lake Wenatchee (D. Rohr) – D. Rohr provided an overview regarding the lake Wenatchee PRCC Subcommittee meeting. A key outcome from that meeting was a question back to the entire PRCC group on what specifically should be the task of that group (1) focus only on an evaluation associated with predation in the lake and/or (2) be more encompassing to also include such items as carry capacity spawning habitat availability, etc. The subcommittee has requested further direction from the PRCC. The PRCC also discussed the Wenatchee Basin spring Chinook life cycle model presentation that was provided by NOAA at a recent hatchery subcommittee meeting.

ACTION: NOAA will review the ISAB report and meet with other NOAA staff and report back to committee at next meeting regarding life cycle modeling activities.

VII. Potpourri – (D. Rohr) –

A. PRCC members will send potential future NNI Funding projects to Rohr for PRCC consideration.

VIII. UPDATE: 2017 Steelhead Survival Study (C. Dotson) – GPUD reported that data development is continuing on the 2017 juvenile steelhead evaluation and that Skalski and Blue Leaf will attend the October PRCC meeting to present results. GPUD provided the final report for the 2016 juvenile steelhead evaluation. GPUD indicated that performance standards for have been met for juvenile steelhead and that the standard error was $\pm 1.7\%$.

IX. UPDATES

A. Avian Predation Activities (C. Dotson) – GPUD indicated that based on current information, terns remained on the nesting grounds longer than previous years.

a. Caspian Tern Depredation Permit – GPUD reported that future meetings regarding a depredation permit will include USFWS, WDFW, USDA-WS, NOAA and GPUD staff. GPUD will continue to pursue a depredation permit for Caspian terns and that both an EA and SEPA analysis will be required.

B. Spill Report (C. Dotson) – GPUD reported that both the Priest Rapids and Wanapum bypasses are being operated for adult fallback and will remain in operation until Nov 15th. Bypass operations are for steelhead kelts with flows at ~2.5k.

C. Hatchery Activities (T. Dresser) –GPUD reported that adult brood stock for fall chinook started on September 1st. Spring Chinook are expected to be moved into the Nason Creek Acclimation facility on ~Oct 15th. Summer Chinook are expected to be moved into the Carlton Acclimation Facility around the same time. GPUD also reported that it was pursuing the necessary permits to relocate ~25 cubic yards of material from 1 side of the intake screen to the other side to cover the main water intake pipe that supplies water to the facility. A question was asked regarding consulting with NOAA & USFWS. GPUD stated that if materials were <25 cubic yards, the USCOE could exempt the project and the Services would not need to be consulted on this maintenance activity.

D. Hatchery Permits: Sec 10 Consultation/Summer Chinook, Sec 7 Consultation/Bull Trout. (T. Dresser) – Nothing new to Report

E. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects

1. Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase I - II Contract Extension (C. Jackson) –Nothing new to report

2. Mid-Columbia River Intake Screen and Diversion Assessment (2016-17) (T. Dresser) – Nothing new to report
3. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II (C. Jackson) – Nothing new to report
4. Methow Valley Irrigation District (MVID) Instream Flow Improvement Project (T. Dresser) – Nothing new to report
5. Predator Fish Recruitment Reduction (B. Rose) – No new updates from last meeting.
6. Quincy Valley Chamber of Commerce / Tourism Association – 2017 Northern Pikeminnow Fishing Derby, September 22-24. GPUUD reported it was a very successful event with a total of 94 registered boats. Approximately 1730 pikeminnow were removed with a total weight of ~730lbs. Average fish weight was 2.4 lbs/fish. Fish were mainly caught between lower end of West Bar upstream to Rock Island Tailrace. There is a high level of interest to continue the event next year.
7. Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt (K. Truscott) Nothing new to report
8. Satellite Telemetry of Caspian Terns (C. Dotson) (D. Rohr) – Same as earlier Committee Reports

X. **Qtrly NNI and Habitat Funds Report** (D. Rohr) – Q2 Update – Rohr will check on status.

XI. **Next Meeting** – Wed, 9:00 am, October 25, 2017, Wanapum HOB, Conf Rm 107 (D. Rohr)

Action Items for September 27, 2017 Meeting:

- NNI Funding Proposal: “Priest Rapids Project NNI Funding Request – Support to Continue the Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program”
ACTION: WDFW to work with Rohr to determine what type of monthly/annual updates/reporting will occur in the future.
- Lake Wenatchee NNI Proposal -- Estimating the Survival of Juvenile Spring Chinook in Lake Wenatchee
ACTION: NOAA will review the ISAB report and meet with other NOAA staff and report back to committee at next meeting regarding life cycle modeling activities.