



Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee

**** Special Meeting ****
Tuesday, January 31, 2017
Wanapum HOB Rm. 107

PRCC Meeting Representatives

Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS	Jim Craig, USFWS
Bob Rose, YN	Kirk Truscott, Casey Baldwin (Alt), CCT
Jeff Korth, C. Andonaegui (Alt), P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW	Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Curt Dotson, Tom Dresser (Alt), GCPUD	Erin McIntyre, GCPUD, Administrative Ass't
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator	

PRCC Meeting Attendees

Jim Craig, USFWS	Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Curt Dotson, GCPUD	Scott Carlon, NMFS
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc., Facilitator	Erin McIntyre, GCPUD
Tom Dresser, GCPUD	Casey Baldwin, CCT
Bob Rose, YN	Jeff Korth, WDFW
Kirk Truscott, CCT (via phone)	

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. The JFP, of the PRCC, met for approx. 2 hours (9:30 – 11:30 AM) prior to Grant PUD joining the meeting.
- III. ACTION ITEM: SOA 2016-05, Schedule for Conducting Sub-Yearling Summer Chinook Survival Evaluations (C. Dotson, D. Rohr) – Committee members discussed some of the language within the SOA. The words “and behavior” were removed from the sentence describing the studies as “survival and behavior studies”. Committee approved SOA 2016-05 with this edit included.
- IV. Discussion took place regarding the issue of sub-yearling Chinook survival estimates, steelhead survival estimates and their linkage to the calculating of the NNI Funding requirements, which is due Feb. 15th. Bob Rose presented to Grant the JFP’s draft “proposal” regarding the issue of NNI funding for 2017.

Steelhead Performance Standards:

The 2014 steelhead survival study would not be accepted by the JFP due to the (1) drawdown of the Wanapum Reservoir during the study period and (2) the Priest Rapids Development having a survival estimate of greater than 100% (1.0021, SE=0.0199).

The 2015 steelhead survival study would be accepted as a valid study for the Priest Rapids Project. Survival estimate of 83.71%, SE = 0.0274.

The 2016 steelhead survival study would be accepted as a valid study for the Priest Rapids Project, but under the condition that the survival estimate for the Project (86.57%) would have the standard error (SE = 0.0317), which was above the study criteria of 0.025, subtracted from the survival estimated (86.57% - 3.17%) to generate a “new” Project survival estimate of 83.4%. This new Project survival estimate (83.4%) would be used in calculating steelhead performance standard for the Priest Rapids Project.

Since the arithmetic average of three (3) steelhead survival studies are needed to determine if performance standards for the Project have been met, Grant PUD would need to do a (year-3) steelhead survival study in 2018 (since it is too late in the season to prepare for a study in 2017). This would give three years (2015, 2016, 2018) of steelhead survival estimates to determine, via the arithmetic average of three (consecutive) years of studies, if the performance standard for steelhead has been met in the Priest Rapids Project or not. If Grant did not want to use the 2016 study, then they would have to also do another study in 2019 to get three years of studies (2015, 2018, and 2019). If the three year average for steelhead survival is below the performance standard (86.49%), the JFP and Grant would need to get together again and discuss a “path forward”.

NNI Fund Contribution Calculations (steelhead and sub-yearling):

Until Grant has a new (3 year average) steelhead Project survival estimate – (which would be following the 2018 steelhead survival study (see above)) – Grant PUD would continue the same annual NNI contributions (approx.. \$1.9M) as last year (2016). Once a new steelhead Project survival estimate is generated (end of 2018), that steelhead survival estimate would have 3.6% subtracted from it to generate a summer Chinook sub-yearling survival estimate for the purpose of NNI Fund contribution calculations.

Grant asked a few follow-up questions for clarification of what the JFP was proposing. After some brief discussion, meeting ended.

V. Next Meeting – Monday Feb 27, 2017, 1:00 pm, Wanapum HOB, Room 117.