



# Grant County **PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

## Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

1:30 pm

Webinar Conference

### PRCC Members

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Scott Carlon/Bryan Nordlund, NMFS

Bob Rose, YN

Jeff Korth, C. Andonaegui, P. Verhey, WDFW

Tom Dresser/Curt Dotson, GCPUD

Jim Craig, USFWS

Kirk Truscott, CCT

Tom Skiles, CTUIR

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

### Attendees

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Scott Carlon/Bryan Nordlund, NMFS

Kirk Truscott, CCT

Tom Skiles, CRITFC

Tom Dresser/Curt Dotson, GCPUD

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS

Jeff Korth, WDFW

Bob Rose, YN

Debbie Williams, GCPUD

### Decision Summary:

1. PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval of the SOA 2014-02, Modification of 2014 Survival Study.
2. PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval of the "Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase II".
3. PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval of the PR Turbine Upgrade – Biological Performance Assessment.
4. PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval of the Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II.
5. PRCC affirmed their April 14, 2014 vote of approval of the Wanapum Dam Adult Passage and Monitoring Plan.
6. PRCC agreed that the first 50 ad-clipped hatchery fish encountered at the OLAFT will be tagged with acoustic tags and released back into the Priest Rapids Left Bank Ladder to continue migration through the Priest Rapids Reservoir. An additional 20 ad-clipped hatchery fish will be tagged with acoustic tags and transported around Wanapum Dam.
7. 2014 Spill Representatives will be Scott Carlon, Jim Craig, and Curt Dotson.

### **Distributed Items:**

1. Fish-Spill PowerPoint
2. Priest Rapids Bypass Video Clip
3. Link to "NetBlaster" in Action on Goose Island
4. FCWG & PRFF Briefing Report

### **Action Items:**

1. Rohr will request an email vote for the following meeting minutes: April 4, April 11, and April 14, 2014.
2. Dresser will find out if the boat launch below Wanapum Dam will remain closed during fishing season.
3. Weekend fish counts at McNary Dam will be compared to those at Priest Rapids Dam because of concern that the Priest Rapids Right Bank Ladder may be holding fish back. The PRCC will discuss fish counts during a conference call on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, directly following the Wanapum briefing call. Rohr will send out the call-in number.
4. Dotson will send the Fish Spill PowerPoint presentation to Williams for distribution.
5. Dotson will get video of the Wanapum Fish Bypass operating at 5 kcfs.
6. Rohr will distribute the FCWG and PRFF briefing reports.
7. Williams will set up a WebEx for the Wanapum Briefing calls on Mondays.
8. Williams will send PRCC members information on reduced rates at the Radisson Hotel for the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Final Meeting Minutes**

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

**II. Meeting Minutes Approval** – February 26, 2014, **Approved**. March 26, 2014, **Approved**. April 04, April 11, and April 14, 2014 – additional review time was requested. **Rohr will request an email vote for all meeting minutes.** Send comments to Debbie.

**III. Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.

### **IV. Action Items Review** – March 26, 2014 Meeting

1. Dresser will provide a Grant PUD cultural resources contact to Tom Skiles, CRITFC. - **Complete**
2. Dresser will find out if the boat launch below Wanapum Dam will remain closed during fishing season. – **Ongoing**
3. Dotson will duplicate the graph he was working off and distribute to PRCC members (See Item 7, Bullet 3). - **Complete**
4. Dotson will send the Priest Rapids White Paper to Rohr for distribution. Friday, April 11 @ 1:30 p.m., PRCC members will hold a conference call to discuss this matter further. - **Complete**
5. PRCC members will review the Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase II proposal and discuss on the April 11<sup>th</sup> conference call. - **Complete**

- V. **AFFIRMATION:** (April 11<sup>th</sup>) Approval of SOA 2014-02, Modification of 2014 Survival Study – T. Skiles abstained. Jim Craig approved via email. – **PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval.**
- VI. **AFFIRMATION:** (April 11<sup>th</sup>) Approval of Proposal for the “Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase II” – T. Skiles abstained. Jim Craig approved via email. - **PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval.**
- VII. **AFFIRMATION:** (April 11<sup>th</sup>) Approval PR Turbine Upgrade – Biological Performance Assessment – T. Skiles abstained. Jim Craig approved via email. - **PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval.**
- VIII. **AFFIRMATION:** (April 11<sup>th</sup>) Approval Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II – T. Skiles abstained. Jim Craig approved via email. - **PRCC affirmed their April 11, 2014 vote of approval.**
- IX. **AFFIRMATION:** (April 14<sup>th</sup>) Approval Wanapum Dam Adult Passage and Monitoring Plan – T. Skiles abstained – T. Skiles abstained. - **PRCC affirmed their April 14, 2014 vote of approval.**
- X. **Update of Wanapum Dam Activities** – Dresser provided an update on Wanapum Monolith Pier 4. No firm date has been selected for an intermediate pool raise; July 1<sup>st</sup> is an arbitrary date. On April 18<sup>th</sup>, Grant PUD presented a grout repair sequencing plan to the independent Board of Consultants, that includes tendon pinning; their response is expected within a couple of days. If approved, the plan will be sent to FERC for approval. Three tendons will be pinned through the pier, and one on either side of the ogee; seismic loading will determine the size of tendons to be used. All other monoliths at Wanapum Dam may require the same repairs. No estimate as to how much time repairs will take was provided. Modeling exercises to raise the pool to 562’ have been discussed but no decisions have been made. It was unknown if tendons may have to be installed on all other monoliths before an intermediate pool raise occurs.

Due to a lack of fish accessing the OLAFT, Battelle’s ability to tag fish with acoustic tags has been moved from Wednesday to Friday of this week. In an effort to get Wanapum passage results quickly, so that trap and transport can be discontinued as soon as possible, the **PRCC agreed that the first 50 ad-clipped hatchery fish encountered at the OLAFT will be tagged with acoustic tags and released back into the Priest Rapids Left Bank Ladder to continue migration through the Priest Rapids Reservoir. An additional 20 ad-clipped hatchery fish will be tagged with acoustic tags and transported around Wanapum Dam.**

Because of concern that the Priest Rapids Right Bank Ladder may be holding fish back, weekend fish counts at McNary Dam will be compared to those at Priest Rapids Dam. The PRCC will discuss fish counts during a conference call on Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, directly following the Wanapum briefing call. Rohr will send out the call-in number.

- XI. **Spill Representatives for 2014 – 2014 Spill Representatives will be Scott Carlon, Jim Craig, and Curt Dotson.** Dotson presented a PowerPoint presentation on Fish Spill – 2014. Spill at Wanapum Dam started on April 17<sup>th</sup> with 16 kcfs passing through tainter gates 8-12. The Wanapum Fish Bypass is passing between 4 & 5 kcfs, based on a forebay elevation of 543’ with the top of the bypass ogee at 527’. There is roughly 15’ of water from the surface of the river to the top of the ogee. Spill at Priest Rapids Dam started on April 18<sup>th</sup> with 24 kcfs (8 kcfs per tainter gate 20, 21 and 22) passing through the Priest Rapids Fish Bypass. Some inadvertent spill is occurring.

Turbines at both dams are being operated in "Fish Mode," which was developed using efficiency curves from balloon tag studies conducted in 1996 and 2005. Fish Mode was determined by finding a range that had 95% or greater survival rate, for turbine passage, by using the net head (feet range between 70' to 80') at each turbine flow rate (between 9,000 and 17 kcfs). Everything greater than 95% survival was used to determine "Fish Mode." While operating in "Fish Mode" turbines aren't allowed to run higher than 15.7 or less than 10 kcfs. Less head equals greater survival. Turbines are presently operating at less than 60' of head for a maximum of 15.5 kcfs. Juvenile survival is expected to be unchanged with current operations. In order to collect route specific data, JSATS receivers which normally would have been attached to the dam, have been placed in the boat restriction zone, 200' out from the dam. Data retrieval will occur less frequently because of heavy spill. The first fish release will be April 30<sup>th</sup>. **Dotson will send the Fish Spill PowerPoint presentation to Williams for distribution. Dotson will get video of the Wanapum Fish Bypass operating at 5kcfs.**

## XII. Updates

- A. Inland Avian Predation Work Group (IAPWG) Activities – Dotson reported that dissuasion at Goose Island appears to be working as no tern nests have been spotted. Twenty-eight terns have been tagged during the NNI funded OSU study, with satellite tags powered by solar panels that feed data to the ARGOS satellite system. All tags are collecting data; tags cycle every 32 hours (6 hours on, 26 hours resting, 6 hours on). As part of the OSU study, yearling Chinook and steelhead are being tagged at Rock Island Dam.
- B. Priest Rapids Bypass Operation – On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Bypass was tested for 6 hours. See Item XI above.
- C. Priest Rapids Turbine Installation - No update provided.
- D. Hatchery Construction Activities
  - 1. Carlton Acclimation Facility – Fish are on station.
  - 2. Nason Creek Acclimation Facility – Facility will be operationally on June 1, with fish on station this fall.
  - 3. PR Hatchery Modifications – Grant PUD is working with WDFW regarding modifications that need to take place before this fall. WDFW thanked Dresser for working through issues on PRH modifications.
- E. Hatchery Permits (Section 10 for Summer Chinook and Section 7 Consultation for Bull Trout. – The JFP is slowly working through issues. Truscott reported that because the summer Chinook program hasn't changed much and will not require much consultation, it is NOAA's lowest priority.
- F. NNI Funded Projects
  - 1. Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase I Contract Extension – Because of discussions in the PRCC, Nordlund believes there is more of an effort to find long-term funding resolution as well as to make operators responsible for operations and maintenance.
  - 2. "Mid-Columbia River Intake Screen and Diversion Assessment" - No update provided.
- G. Committee Reports - **Rohr will distribute the FCWG and PRFF briefing reports.**
- H. NNI and Habitat Funds Report – Due to staff changes in Grant PUD's Accounting department, reports will be delayed until next month.

- I. Other - The Wanapum Right Bank Ladder (WRBL) opening will be delayed a few days in order to get the ramp in front of the exit weir installed. The ramp should alleviate some of the jumping that is occurring. Dresser said that materials for both ladders have been ordered and that the WRBL should be operational on April 28<sup>th</sup>, if not before. If it's determined that sockeye have a jumping problem, a ramp will be installed on the Wanapum Left Bank Ladder (WLBL) during a 2-3 day outage.
  - J. Wanapum Briefing Calls - Dresser will provide an update on fish travel time, conversion rate, instantaneous mortality, and how many fish have been tagged? **Williams will set up a WebEx for the Wanapum Briefing calls on Mondays.**
- XIII. **Review of Next Month's Agenda Topics** – Rohr will provide a list.
- XIV. **Next Meeting** – May 28, 2014, SeaTac - Dresser reported that Grant PUD has decommissioned their SeaTac office; future PRCC meetings will be held at the Radisson Hotel in SeaTac. The June 25<sup>th</sup> PRCC meeting will be held on the Project. **Williams will send PRCC members information on reduced rates at the Radisson Hotel for the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.**