



Grant County **PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee

Monday, April 28, 2014
Conference Call

PRCC Members

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

Bryan Nordlund, NMFS

Jeff Korth, WDFW

Tom Skiles, CRITFC

Tom Dresser/Curt Dotson, GCPUD

Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS

Patrick Verhey, WDFW

Kirk Truscott, CCT @ 9:00

Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Decision Summary:

1. PRCC members decided that the PRRBL will remain at gravity flow until all fish are tagged and enough data is collected to make the decision to cease, or to continue, trap and transport.
2. The PRCC decided that no changes would be made to the flume system at this time and requested that they be addressed when the spiral chute is installed.

Action Items:

1. Dresser will get a hard installation date for the spiral chute from Grant PUD Engineers.
2. PRCC members will meet via conference call on Thursday, May 1st at 3:30 p.m.

Final Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Agenda Review – No additions were made to the agenda.

III. Update of Wanapum Dam Activities – In order to determine if the Priest Rapids Right Bank Ladder (PRRBL) should be transitioned from gravity flow to attraction flow, PRCC members met via conference call to discuss fish counts at McNary Dam vs. those at Priest Rapids Dam (PRD). Average travel time between McNary Dam and PRD averages between 4 and 5 days. As of April 26th, 165 spring Chinook passed the Priest Rapids Left Bank Video Fish Count

Station (PRLBVFCS) and another 28 spring Chinook passed the Priest Rapids Right Bank Video Fish Count Station (PRRBVFCS). PRCC members were concerned with the number of fish counted at the PRLBVFCS vs. the number of fish counted at the Off-Ladder Adult Fish Trap (OLAFT); and the lag/holding time between the two locations.

Twenty-nine spring Chinook have been tagged with acoustic tags; an additional 21 are needed to meet the 50 acoustic tag quota agreed upon by the PRCC. Battelle has been tagging 10-11 fish per day, and hopes to have all acoustic tagging completed by the end of this week.

Dresser will find out what limiting factors cause Battelle to only tag 10-11 fish with acoustic tags per day. If the PRRBL is opened, PRCC members were concerned that they will be unable to acquire the fish needed to complete acoustic tagging. **PRCC members decided that the PRRBL will remain at gravity flow until all fish are tagged and enough data is collected to make the decision to cease, or to continue, trap and transport.**

PRCC members will meet via conference call on Thursday, May 1st at 3:30 p.m. to review up-to-date passage information and whether attraction flow should be turned on at the PRRBL. Data that Dresser presented via PowerPoint during the April 28th Wanapum briefing call will be updated for Thursday's conference call. Dresser will address the following items:

- A. Counts by species at the Wanapum Fishway Exit Passage Systems - right and left bank.
- B. Behavior information at the Wanapum Fishway Exit Passage Systems - right and left bank.
- C. Number of fish trapped and transported to the Rocky Coulee release site.
- D. Total number of fish acoustically tagged and released to migrate upstream.
- E. Total number of fish PIT-tagged and released to migrate upstream.
- F. Up-to-date information on PIT-tag detections and travel times for fish (steelhead & Chinook) detected at Wanapum and Rock Island.
- G. Up-to-date ladder counts at Priest Rapids Dam (right bank vs left bank).
- H. Number of fish documented on left-bank video system versus what has been observed at OLAFT.
- I. Any information that could be gleaned from acoustic receivers (Battelle will be downloading adult acoustic tag receivers on Wednesday, April 30th).
- J. General schematics of where the video fish count stations are in relationship to PIT-arrays for all ladders and where the OLAFT is in relation to the video and PIT array in the PR left bank ladder.

Nordlund raised the issue of potentially making modifications to the flume system to reduce the amount of holding/swimming upstream, as well as fish entering the reservoir tail first. Possible ideas raised by Nordlund included adjusting the weir plate and drilling holes in the flume to reduce the amount of water. **The PRCC decided that no changes would be made to the flume system at this time and requested that they be addressed when the spiral chute is installed. Dresser will get a hard installation date for the spiral chute from Grant PUD Engineers.** Installation of the spiral chute is expected to be 2-3 days.

Dresser reported that the Wanapum Right Bank Ladder was watered up at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, April 26th.

IV. Next Meeting – May 28, 2014, SeaTac Radisson Hotel Boardroom