



Grant County **PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee

Monday, May 06, 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

Scott Carlon, NMFS
Jeff Korth, WDFW
Kirk Truscott, CCT
Tom Dresser/Curt Dotson, GCPUD
Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS
Tom Skiles, CRITFC
Bob Rose, YN
Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Decision Summary:

1. PRCC members agreed to suspend Trap-n-Transport and allow volitional passage at all Priest Rapids Project fish ladders.

Action Items:

1. Dresser will verify that PIT-tag data is being uploaded to PTAGIS and notify members.
2. Grant PUD staff will use acoustic data to establish criteria to reinstate Trap-n-Transport.

Final Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome**
- II. **Agenda Review** – No additions were made to the agenda.
- III. **Update of Wanapum Dam Activities**

Dresser explained that after yesterday's conference call, Nordlund voiced concerns regarding fish count discrepancies (10-21%) between the Video Fish Count station and the Off-Ladder Adult Fish Trap (OLAFT) at Priest Rapids Dam (PR), as well as possible crowding in the ladder. Two fish jumped out of the OLAFT and ended up in the parking lot after staff had left for

the evening; possibly do to crowding. NMFS suggested to Grant PUD that all ladders be opened for volitional passage.

As of May 4th, 2282 spring Chinook have passed the VFC vs. 481 through the OLAFT, a 21% conversion rate based on counts. Grant PUD proposed the following:

- Wanapum Left Bank Ladder will return to normal operations and be managed within standard fish passage criteria.
- Trap-n-Transport will be suspended unless indices show a need to go back to it.
- Priest Rapids Left Bank Ladder will be opened for volitionally passage.

248 of the 250 spring Chinook have been tagged; PRCC members didn't feel it was necessary to tag the remaining 2 fish. 100 PIT-tagged fish (48%) have been detected at Wanapum Dam, with a median travel time of 71 hours. As of May 4th, 51 PIT-tags have been detected at Rock Island Dam (RI), with a median travel time of 52 hours. Median travel time from the OLAFT to RI is 123 hours (24%). As of today, PTAGIS data shows 67 PIT-tagged fish have passed RI. Fish passing through the Wanapum Left Bank Fish Ladder (WLBFL) are passing without issue; outlined passage criteria are being met. **Dresser will verify that PIT-tag data is being uploaded to PTAGIS and notify members. PRCC members agreed to suspend Trap-n-Transport and allow volitional passage at all Priest Rapids Project fish ladders.** For the record, Korth noted his concern with suspending Trap-n-Transport because if something goes wrong with the Wanapum Dam fish ladders, there will be no way to collect fish that have passed Priest Rapids Dam. **Grant PUD staff will use acoustic data to establish criteria to reinstate Trap-n-Transport.** PRCC members asked that Grant PUD provide an update via conference call on Friday, May 9th at 8:00 a.m.

Carlton mentioned that Nordlund is rethinking the plan to dewater the WLBFL in order to install flat bar on the bar grating. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

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