



Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
9:00 am – 4:00 pm

PRCC Members

Scott Carlon, Bryan Nordlund, Justin Yeager, NMFS	Jim Craig, USFWS
Bob Rose, YN	Kirk Truscott, CCT
Jeff Korth, C. Andonaegui, P. Verhey, WDFW	Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Tom Dresser, Curt Dotson, GCPUD	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

Attendees

Scott Carlon, Bryan Nordlund, NMFS	Jim Craig, USFWS
Jeff Korth, WDFW	Aaron Beavers, NMFS
Patrick Verhey, Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW	Danny Didricksen, WDFW
Tom Dresser/Curt Dotson, GCPUD	Debbie Williams, GCPUD
Denny Rohr, Facilitator	

Distributed Items:

1. Priest Rapids Project NNI/Habitat Fund Request Support to Continue a Fish Screen Monitoring Program including Inspection and Maintenance, Construct new screening projects, and conduct a screen inventory.
2. FCWG and PRFF Briefing Reports.
3. Wanapum Dam Fish Ladder Observations and June 18, 2014 Summary Figures.

Decision Summary:

1. PRCC members agreed that one person observe both the left and right bank Wanapum ladders for mechanical failures and that fish counting and behavioral observations be discontinued; subject to approval by Truscott, Rose and Skiles.

Action Items:

1. Rohr will contact Truscott, Rose and Skiles regarding their vote to approve or deny Grant PUD's proposal to utilize one observer for the left and right bank Wanapum ladders.

Final Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Meeting Minutes Approval and Affirmation

1. Affirmation: April 4, 2014 – Affirmed, April 11, 2014 – Affirmed, April 14, 2014 – Affirmed. April 22, 2014, awaiting approval from Rose.
2. Approval: April 28, 2014, May 1, 2014, May 5, 2014, May 6, 2014, May 9, 2014, May 19, 2014 - Waiting approval of Rose. May 28, 2014 - Korth will send comments from Andonaegui to Melissa Rohr. Awaiting approval from Rose and Skiles.

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

IV. Action Items Review – May 28, 2014 Meeting

1. D. Rohr to contact Bob Rose and Jeff Korth for approval of April 4, April 11, April 14 and April 22 meeting minutes - **Complete**
2. D. Rohr to work with Mike Schiewe, HCP Chair, on the June 24-25 meeting possibilities - **Complete**
3. D. Rohr to contact Bob Rose regarding decision on Allen Evans proposal - **Complete**
4. Allen Evans will send PPT presentation to D. Rohr and he will distribute to committee members - **Complete**
5. D. Rohr to follow up with upper management of NOAA and Grant to discuss spiral chute installation - **Complete**
6. C. Andonaegui will contact WDFW personnel within her office regarding Lisa Pelly, Trout Unlimited, and questions regarding the MVID water diversion study - **Complete**
7. C. Andonaegui to contact WDFW personnel within her office to find out if previous work conducted on fish screens on the Twisp and Methow rivers can will be refurbished or if it will be a complete loss. – **Complete** with email response from Jenny Novak, WDFW.

From: Novak, Jennifer L (DFW)✉
Sent: Monday, June 23, 2014 11:29 AM✉
To: Andonaegui, Carmen (DFW)✉
Cc: Korth, Jeff (DFW)✉
Subject: MVID¶

¶
WDFW fabricated and installed the screens for both MVID East and West, which I believe was funded by BPA and the Bureau funded the design. The first attachment above illustrates the costs for fabrication of MVID West (\$117,500), MVID East (\$98,000) and installation costs for both (\$31,400). The project totals for MVID East and West fabrication and installation: **\$249,300**, paid for by BPA in 2004. ¶

¶
WDFW did refurbish MVID East in 2009 because the screen material was worn out due to high sediment load and debris. We replaced the (4) 6' x 12' self-cleaning traveling belt screens with new Intralox S1800 screen material, new sprockets, bottom shafts, and bearings. The 2nd attachment above itemizes the total cost for the refurbishment work: **\$34,663**, which may have been funded by PRCC. However, Danny and I are having a hard time following paper trails and Pat's old files to confirm this. ¶

¶
The screens and gantry materials can be reused at a different location if WDFW acquires them, so decommissioning is not a total loss. ¶

¶
Please feel free to call if you have any further questions! ¶

V. Update of Wanapum Dam Activities

1. **Lamprey Passage Plan** – Dresser reported that the Priest Rapids Fish Forum (PRFF) developed standard operating procedures for volitional passage and trap and haul of lamprey in the Priest Rapids Project (PRP). Lamprey will be counted via video fish counting at Priest Rapids Dam, and detected via PIT-tag detection at both Priest Rapids and Wanapum dams. Trap-n-haul activities at PRD will start on July 1 and extend through September. Trapping at Wanapum will begin on August 1, or after 10 or more adult lamprey have been counted passing the video count stations at PRD for 5 consecutive days. All trapped lamprey will be transported to Wanapum Fish Town and held until sufficient numbers are accumulated for transport above Rock Island Dam.

Dresser explained that the PRFF would like to PIT-tag 20 to 30 lamprey that have been collected downstream of the PRP and put them into the upstream sections of the Wanapum Left Bank Ladder, in an effort to see if lamprey will pass the Wanapum Fishway Exit Passage Systems (WEEPS). The PRFF would also like lamprey behavior in the WLBL to be observed at night, for one week, via infrared video, in an effort to see if passage efforts will work.

2. **Discussion of Sockeye, Summer Chinook, Steelhead and Bull Trout Observation Activities** – Dresser asked PRCC members to consider an alternative proposal to the two observers currently counting fish and providing behavioral information at the left and right bank ladders at Wanapum Dam. Grant PUD proposed that one person split their time between the two Wanapum ladders in an effort to assure that no mechanical malfunctions occur, and that fish counting and behavioral observations be discontinued, except for a subsample of fish behavior that will be observed as the person travels back and forth between ladders. Grant PUD Operators will also continue their hourly inspections of the fishways. PRCC members present didn't feel it necessary that fish be counted any longer and agreed that one person could observe both the Wanapum left and right bank ladders for mechanical failures, especially during periods of high fish passage. Status quo remains until all members vote. **PRCC members agreed that one person observe both the left and right bank Wanapum ladders for mechanical failures and that fish counting and behavioral observations be discontinued; subject to approval by Truscott, Rose and Skiles. Rohr will contact Truscott, Rose and Skiles.**

- VI. **Update by Danny Didricksen, WDFW, regarding "Mid-Columbia River Intake Screen and Diversion Assessment"** – The following update was provided by Didricksen.

PRCC NNI Funded Project
Intake Screen Structure and Diversion Assessment
Progress Update and future Plans

Project Manager: Danny Didricksen, WDFW

Project budget: \$102,838.58

As a result of the crack found in Wanapum Dam earlier this spring, and consequent lowering of Wanapum pool, emergency outreach was conducted to assure irrigators had access to their water in time for startup. Information gathered during the outreach and permitting processes resulted in significant progress relating to the NNI funds obtained by WDFW through in January 2014 to assess the intake screen structures and diversions.

In the original proposal, 23 potential points of diversion (POD's) were identified in the Wanapum pool as a result of surveys conducted by WDFW in 1994 and 1998, and by Grant PUD in 2012. It was found that many of these sites were relic diversions no longer in use. While final scoping is still necessary, it seems most active diversions in this reservoir are either adequately screened or in the process of becoming compliant.

Originally, WDFW had planned to hire divers to inventory all the potential sites after the irrigation season ended in 2014. It now seems that this effort will only be necessary in the Priest Rapids pool, where there are only 9-10 diversions to evaluate. WDFW is moving forward with a modified SOW to accomplish that objective. This will represent a cost savings for the project.

I would like to have input from the PRCC members regarding the project timeline and how the funds should be spent. I would point out that assisting with some immediate correction of screens in the Wanapum pool, Barnes and West diversions specifically, would be advantageous logistically and of benefit to fish if we could perform that work before this winter.

Didricksen and Dresser will work on diver coordination efforts in the Priest Rapids Reservoir (PRR). Dresser proposed that the PRR assessment be conducted, and then discussions be held in the PRCC regarding the following issues: timing and how intakes will be screened upon pool refill, considerations of reverse load factor, and NNI funding of this project.

- VII. **Affirmation of NNI Funding Proposal** – *“Comprehensive Assessment of Total Smolt Mortality in Relation to Avian Predation on the Mid- and Lower Columbia River: Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Reservoir-Specific Smolt Losses”* – PRCC members affirmed their vote. Rose approved via a telephone conversation with Rohr.
- VIII. **Affirmation of NNI Funding Proposal (from Habitat Subcommittee)** – *“Methow Valley Irrigation District Instream Flow Improvement Project”* – PRCC members affirmed their vote. Rose approved via a telephone conversation with Rohr. Email approval was provided to Rohr by WDFW.
- IX. **Spill Report for 2014** – Spring spill changed to summer spill on June 15, 2014.

X. Updates

1. **Inland Avian Predation Activities (Goose Island / NW Rocks Follow Up)** – The following update from Allen Evans, regarding the OSU/RTR Fish Tagging Study Update was provided by Curt Dotson - *Thursday (6/12) was our final day of PIT-tagging at the Rock Island Dam juvenile fish trap for the 2014 season. In total, we PIT-tagged and released 7,662 juvenile steelhead (5,669 hatchery, 1,993 wild) and 5,450 yearling Chinook (5,039 hatchery, 411 wild) between 12 April and 12 June. We achieved our target sample size goals for the season and fish were tagged in proportion to the run passing Rock Island Dam, with fish selected for tagging regardless of rear-type or condition (i.e., a representative sample of the run at-large).*
PIT tag recovery at bird colonies, including the Caspian tern colony on Goose Island (NW Rocks), is scheduled for late-July through August.
Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Otherwise, we'll keep you updated as the 2014 nesting season comes to an end.
2. **Priest Rapids Bypass Operation** – PRCC members toured the bypass during today's tour.
3. **Hatchery Construction Activities** – No updates.
 - a. Carlton Acclimation Facility
 - b. Nason Creek Acclimation Facility
 - c. PR Hatchery Modifications
4. **Hatchery Permits (Section 10 for Summer Chinook and Section 7 Consultation for Bull Trout - Ongoing**
5. **NNI Funded Projects**
 - a. Real Time Research Avian Study – Will look at other islands (Alan Evans)
 - b. Comprehensive Assessment of Total Smolt Mortality in Relation to Avian Predation on the Mid- and Lower Columbia River: Spatial and Temporal Analysis of Reservoir-Specific Smolt Losses - Ongoing
 - c. Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase I Contract Extension - Ongoing
 - d. Upper Columbia Fish Screen Monitoring Program Phase II – Change order has been signed by both parties. - Ongoing
 - e. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II – Ongoing
 - f. Mid-Columbia River Intake Screen and Diversion Assessment - Ongoing
 - g. Methow Valley Irrigation District (MVID) Instream Flow Improvement Project – Working through contract process.
 - h. Supplementary Tags and Tagging for Assessment of Predation Losses of Subyearling Chinook Salmon in the lower Hanford Reach and Upper McNary Reservoir – Funding approved for sub tracking. **Dresser will follow up with Langshaw.**
6. **Committee Reports** – Rohr emailed to committee members.
7. **NNI and Habitat Funds Report** – Rohr will send electronic copies.

XI. Next Meeting – July 23, 2014 SeaTac Radisson Hotel