

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee**  
**Statement of Agreement on juvenile steelhead and summer subyearling Chinook**  
**NNI Calculations and Evaluation Schedule**

**Submitted to the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: 3/16/2017**

**Approved by the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee: 3/17/2017**

**Statement:** The Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) agrees to the following;

1. PRCC agrees to use only the 2015 and 2016 estimated survival for juvenile steelhead and (linked) summer subyearling Chinook to recalculate the 2017 NNI payment (2014 Priest Rapids development data removed). This would result in an increase in the NNI payment of \$71,437.00 (total 2017 NNI payment would be \$1,060,608.50). The difference would be to the NNI account within 30 days of agreement of this Statement of Agreement.
2. PRCC agrees that the estimated survival for juvenile steelhead (85.15%) and summer subyearling Chinook (81.55%) for the Priest Rapids Project will be based on only the 2015 and 2016 data. These estimates for survival will be used until new data is obtained in either 2017 or 2022.
3. The PRCC current acceptance of any previous study, and in particular the current 2015 and 2016 study results does not establish precedence for acceptance of future study results that are determined to be outside of the accepted standard error or Standard of Care.
4. PRCC agrees that it is necessary to conduct an additional steelhead evaluation in 2017 to provide an updated estimated survival for juvenile steelhead and (linked) summer subyearling Chinook.
5. PRCC agrees that 2018 estimated survival for juvenile steelhead and (linked) summer subyearling Chinook and NNI contribution will be based on data from the 2015, 2016 and 2017 evaluations; provided that the 2017 data is valid<sup>1</sup>.
6. PRCC agrees that study designs will be developed and conducted to achieve a standard error (SE) of  $\pm 2.5\%$ . The identified standard error ( $SE \pm 2.5\%$ ) and model assumptions developed by J. Skalski (University of Washington; School of Aquatic and Fishery Science) will be used as the standard of care for future evaluations. If the standard error is within  $\pm 2.5\%$  of the estimate, the PRCC will deem the study valid. However, for any specific study, a less precise estimate of up to  $\pm 3.5\%$  may be acceptable if the PRCC agrees.

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<sup>1</sup> Valid is defined as achieving a standard of error within  $\pm 2.5\%$  of the estimate and meeting the model assumptions included in Giorgi et al 2010.

7. If 2017 data is not valid the PRCC agrees to use the 2015 and 2016 to estimate survival for juvenile steelhead and summer subyearling Chinook and to determine NNI calculations beginning in 2018 and would continue through 2022. Based on the 2015 and 2016 survival data, the estimated annual and five year NNI contributions are included below. These estimates will need to be calculated and updated annually per Section 15.1 of the Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement.
  - a. 2017 = \$1,060,608.50
  - b. 2018 = \$1,078,638.85
  - c. 2019 = \$1,096,975.71
  - d. 2020 = \$1,115,624.26
  - e. 2021 = \$1,134,590.91

**5 – Year Estimate Total = \$5,486,438.26**
8. The PRCC agrees that the next scheduled 5 year check-ins for juvenile steelhead are 2022 and 2027. The 2022 survival evaluation will be consistent with the 2016 and 2017 study designs (unless modified by the PRCC) and will be designed to achieve a  $SE \pm 2.5\%$ . The identified standard error ( $SE \pm 2.5\%$ ) and model assumptions developed by J. Skalski (University of Washington; School of Aquatic and Fishery Science) will be used as standard of care for future evaluations.
9. The PRCC agrees that prior to 2019, the juvenile steelhead action plan (developed in 2012) will be updated and revised to identify future reasonable and feasible measures necessary to achieve the juvenile steelhead survival standards if performance are not achieved in 2017.
10. The PRCC agrees to define “reasonable progress” in achieving NNI for juvenile steelhead prior to 2019, as described in the juvenile steelhead action plan, if the 2017 survival study is determined to be either invalid or the 2015, 2016 and 2017 three year survival average does not achieve Project survival standards.
11. The PRCC agrees that if performance standards for juvenile steelhead are not achieved in 2022 and/or if study results are not valid; NNI contributions would be determined using the current methodology and linkages to subyearling summer Chinook<sup>2</sup> and would be based upon data from 2015-2017 (if valid). If 2017 data is not valid, then 2015-2016 data would be used to calculate NNI contributions.
12. The PRCC agrees that if the 2017 and the 2022 performance standards for juvenile steelhead are not achieved then Grant PUD will need to move towards Reasonable Progress in achieving survival standards during the next five years. PRCC consensus will be required to define “Reasonable Progress”. The new NNI

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<sup>2</sup> Unless the PRCC has developed (by consensus) an alternative methodology to estimate subyearling summer Chinook survival, has decoupled the linkages between juvenile steelhead and subyearling summer Chinook, or developed other means of achieving No-Net-Impact. Alternative approaches may require FERC review and approval.

payment will be calculated and continued through 2027. A five year steelhead survival check in will be implemented in year 2027.

13. Per Section 4.6 (Financial Capacity) of the Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (Agreement); Grant PUD shall maintain the financial capacity to fulfill the requirements of the reasonable and prudent alternatives contained in the Biological Opinion. While the Agreement remains in effect, Grant PUD shall also undertake such actions as may be necessary to ensure that it will maintain the financial capacity to implement the components of this Agreement.