

## **PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Meeting**

Thursday, June 18, 2015

Via Conference Call

Meeting Summary

### **PRCC HSC Members**

Matt Cooper, USFWS (alt)  
Bill Gale, USFWS  
Keely Murdoch, Yakama Nation  
Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GPUD (alt)  
Todd Pearsons, GPUD  
Mike Tonseth, WDFW  
Kirk Truscott, CCT

### **Other Participants**

Eric Lauver, GPUD  
Elizabeth McManus, Facilitator  
Andy Chinn, Facilitator

### **Activities Between May and June HSC Meetings**

*(Note: This section is intended to document key activities that occur between HSC meetings)*

1. HSC members agreed via e-mail to the proposed alternative plan for rearing and release of BY 14 Chiwawa hatchery origin safety-net fish at Nason Creek to test the Nason Creek Acclimation facility.

### **Decisions**

- A. HSC members approved aligning the M&E report schedule, as per discussions in the HC.

### **Actions**

1. Ross Strategic will confirm NMFS' approval to align the M&E report schedule.
2. HSC members will work through the White River decision tree data table during the next 1 – 2 committee meetings.
3. Ross Strategic will circulate the draft redline May meeting summary for HSC review and approval.
4. Committee members will contact USFWS (Carl Halupka) to let them know their plans and timing for commenting on the ITS and/or biop.
5. WDFW will check to see if there is any historical White River data prior to 1958 (e.g., USFWS spawning ground surveys). (status: carried over from previous meeting summary)
6. GPUD will update the White River spring Chinook productivity presentation for the next HSC meeting. (status: carried over from previous meeting summary)
7. WDFW will contact state invasive species staff to determine the timeline for development of a New Zealand Mud Snail protocol. (status: carried over from previous meeting summary)
8. CCT will circulate its Chief Joseph hatchery program workshop report with the HSC. (status: carried over from previous meeting summary)

### **I. Updates**

- A. PRCC** – During the spring migration period at Priest Rapids Dam, the powerhouse did not operate outside of fish mode due to flow levels and power demands. The Wanapum

bypass alternated on three day blocks of 15,000 cfs and 20,000 cfs discharge due to juvenile bypass. For summer migration both powerhouses are operating in fish mode and the Wanapum bypass is operating at 15,000 cfs discharge.

**B. PAC** – PAC is developing a draft response to GPUD’s questions on ACOE activities at Ringold Hatchery; the response will likely be circulated in July.

**C. HSC-HC**

- The HC approved aligning the schedule of M&E reports such that June 15 – July 15 would be the HSC’s review period for the Wenatchee M&E report; Bioanalysts would incorporate changes during July 15 – August 31, with the final Wenatchee M&E report due to NOAA on September 1.
- HSC members approved aligning the M&E report schedule with the approved HC schedule (e.g., HSC review from June 15-July 15).
- CPUD reported on the first sockeye release (1.7 million fry) from Penticton Hatchery into Shingle Creek.
- The HC agreed that the HC and HSC facilitators will coordinate prior to meetings to identify joint meeting topics. When a decision is needed within both committees, the decision will be made in both committees. However, the discussion and background will take place in one of the committees, and the facilitators will make clear that all participants have a chance to contribute to the discussion. For purposes of record-keeping, the relevant committee’s meeting summary section will be cut and pasted into the other committee’s meeting summary. All PUDs will have the opportunity to review and provide edits to the meeting summary of joint topics.
- WDFW and DPUD will re-circulate the documents on adult management at Methow Hatchery and the HC will take up the discussion of adaptive management again in September.

**D. Next Steps**

- Ross Strategic will confirm NMFS’ approval to align the M&E report schedule.

**II. GPUD Facilities**

**A. Update on GPUD Hatcheries and Acclimation** – GPUD updated HSC members on White River spring Chinook short term acclimation for BY2013, Nason Creek spring Chinook BY2013 releases, Methow River summer Chinook at Carlton Acclimation Facility, and Hanford Reach fall Chinook at Priest Rapids Hatchery for BY2014. Data for the programs will be available in the final M&E reports.

- There were no issues with icing on the cone screen at Nason Creek Acclimation Facility.

**III. White River Planning**

**A. Questions for 2026 Technical Committee** – HSC members agreed to work through the data table (in particular Column E which describes data gaps) during the next several HSC meetings, rather than work on the table between meetings.

- GPUD clarified that the information in Column E is not intended to be a complete proposal; it is intended to provide an overview of the topic area that would be used to design a proposal.

**B. Next Steps**

- HSC members will work through the White River decision tree data table during the next 1 – 2 committee meetings.

**IV. Meeting Summary Review**

**A. May Meeting Summary** – HSC members agreed to review and approve the May meeting summary via e-mail.

**B. Next Steps**

- Ross Strategic will circulate the draft redline May meeting summary for HSC review and approval.

**V. Permit Updates**

**A. USFWS** – Committee members should send comments on the biological opinion to Carl Halupka. The final biological opinion for operations at Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery related to NMFS species is complete.

- WDFW plans to submit comments on both the ITS and the biop.
- WDFW suggested USFWS review comments submitted to-date on the ITS during the July coordination meeting.

**B. NMFS** – On June 4, WDFW received a signed biological opinion on the re-consultated spring Chinook programs (Nason Creek and Chiwawa). CCT is awaiting NMFS consultation and Section 10 permitting for Okanogan steelhead.

**C. Next Steps**

- Committee members will contact USFWS (Carl Halupka) to let them know their plans and timing for commenting on the ITS and/or biop.

**VI. Wrap Up and Next Steps**

**A. Next Meeting:** Thursday, July 16, 2015

**B. Potential July Meeting Agenda Items**

- White River 2026 planning
- White River productivity

**Meeting Materials**

The following documents were provided to HSC members in advance of this meeting:

- June meeting agenda
- May Nason Creek rotary trap report
- May White River rotary trap report
- Revised White River decision tree
- 2014 M&E report