

**PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Meeting**  
Monday, March 12, 2018  
GPUD Wenatchee Office and via Conference Call  
Meeting Summary

PRCC HSC Members

Matt Cooper, USFWS  
Brett Farman, NOAA (via phone)  
Bill Gale, USFWS  
Peter Graf, GPUD (alt)  
Keely Murdoch, Yakama Nation  
Todd Pearsons, GPUD  
Mike Tonseth, WDFW  
Kirk Truscott, CCT

Other Participants

Betsy Bamberger, DPUD (for joint agenda item)  
Tom Kahler, DPUD (for joint agenda item)  
Greg Mackey, DPUD (for joint agenda item)  
Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel, GPUD  
Catherine Willard, CPUD (for joint agenda item)  
Pat Wyena, Wanapum Tribe (via phone)  
Elizabeth McManus, Facilitator (via phone)  
Andy Chinn, Facilitator (via phone)

Decisions

A. Approved the February 2018 meeting summary as amended.

Actions

1. HSC and HC members will provide comments to WDFW on the draft 2018 broodstock collection protocols by March 30. If there are any comments that require further discussion with the Committees, WDFW will either request a conference call and/or request an extension of the submission deadline for the protocols.
2. HSC members will review the draft 2018-2019 PRH M&E implementation plan by March 15.

**I. Draft 2018 Broodstock Collection Protocols (Joint HSC/HC Agenda Item)**

- A. Notable Items in 2018 Protocols** – Details on notable items in the 2018 broodstock collection protocols are listed on pages 1 – 3 of the [draft document](#). Examples include:
- Expansion of spring Chinook trapping at the Wells Dam East and West ladders to provide flexibility to trap up to 7 days per week.
  - Addition of Appendix H which describes a draft preferred approach to integration of the Methow conservation steelhead programs.
  - Further refinement to Upper Columbia River surplus steelhead management.
  - Expansion of the Chiwawa weir operation to ensure sufficient NORs for the Chiwawa program. This will require an expansion of the total number of trapping days, and an increase in bull trout encounters. The proposed action is consistent with the sideboards for bull trout impacts as described in the Biological Opinion.
  - Management plan for excess production from Wenatchee spring Chinook programs.
  - Contingency for changing operations at Tumwater Dam beginning September 1 to allow for lamprey passage.

Other notes:

- WDFW suggests that broodstock monitoring include fish girth, as measured behind the pectoral fins. For various reasons, including climate change trends, fish may be reaching appropriate size at length, but not appropriate weight, which could be affecting fecundity. Girth may provide a better measure than POH to determine fecundity.
- Last year and this year the steelhead returns were low but WDFW still had to manage for excess fish. WDFW recommends eliminating fall contingency collections for above-Wells steelhead programs to mitigate the surplus fish issue.

**B. Next Steps**

- HSC and HC members will provide comments to WDFW on the draft 2018 broodstock collection protocols by March 30. If there are any comments that require further discussion with the Committees, WDFW will either request a conference call and/or request an extension of the submission deadline for the protocols.

**II. Updates and Meeting Summary Review**

- A. Upcoming Regional Meetings** – For the Washington/British Columbia AFS meeting, GPUD is organizing a session on hatchery reform. The Chief Joseph Hatchery Annual Performance Review (APR) is scheduled for March 14 and 15.
- B. HC Meeting** – The location of the April HC meeting is tentatively planned for Wells Hatchery.
- C. February 2018 Meeting Summary** – HSC members approved the February 2018 meeting summary as amended.

**III. Priest Rapids Hatchery**

- A. Draft 2018-2019 PRH M&E Implementation Plan** – The draft implementation plan was circulated with the HSC on February 15 for 30-day review.
- B. Next Steps**
- HSC members will review the draft 2018-2019 PRH M&E implementation plan by March 15.

**IV. Other Updates**

- A. Fish Health and Marking** – Following on the February discussion of alternative marking for Nason spring Chinook and Okanogan steelhead (currently peduncle tagged) due to potential impacts on fish health, GPUD discussed the issue with Chris Moran at WDFW. Anecdotal information suggests very little incidence of crinkle back in most years; however, tag loss was between 1 and 7% for snout tags and 1 – 8% for the peduncle mark. GPUD is planning to look at crinkle back in a pre-release sample of the Nason Creek safety net and conservation program. The results of this sample will determine if further study is warranted.

**V. Wrap Up and Next Steps**

- A. Next Meeting:** April 18, 2018
- B. Potential Agenda Items:**
  - TBD

**Meeting Materials**

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

- March meeting agenda
- Draft 2018 broodstock collection protocols