

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee
Statement of Agreement on Summer Chinook HGMP Development
Time Extension**

Approved by PRCC Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee: December 7, 2006

Approved by PRCC: January 23, 2007

Statement

The Hatchery Sub-committee of the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) has determined that more time is needed for development of the Hatchery Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) for the summer Chinook Artificial Propagation Program included in Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (Agreement). At this time the Hatchery Sub-committee of PRCC agrees to extend the timeline for completion of an HGMP by six months for a total of 18 months from the effective date of the Agreement.

The Hatchery Sub-committee of PRCC has also determined that no modifications in the implementation timeline as it relates to site evaluations and selections (within 18 months of plan approval); facility design, permitting and contracting (within 2 years of site approvals); and facility construction (within 2 years following permit approvals) is necessary at this time. They do however recognize that the schedule may need to be revisited in the future.

The Parties to Priest Rapids Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement also agree that this change is covered under Section 2.4 (Revisions) of the Agreement, which allows for revisions. It specifically states that *“Parts I through XV of this Agreement may be modified by written agreement of all of the Parties. If any amendments would require the approval of FERC prior to implementation, they will become effective upon approval by FERC”*.

Background

The Agreement requires that Grant PUD in consultation with the PRCC Hatchery subcommittee, develop the facilities necessary to produce 833,000 (plus an additional 10% capacity allowance to provide flexibility) yearling summer Chinook smolts as called for in the Biological Assessment and Management Plan (BAMP)¹. In developing this program, Grant PUD shall within 1 year of the Effective Date write a HGMP for approval by the Parties and submission for ESA permits as appropriate. Grant PUD shall seek to complete site evaluations and selections within 18 months of plan approval; facility design, permitting and contracting within 2 years of site approvals; and facility construction within 2 years following permit approvals. Grant PUD shall, in consultation with the PRCC Hatchery subcommittee, develop a monitoring and evaluation plan to assess the effectiveness of the summer Chinook propagation program at meeting the objectives developed by the Parties and consistent with the monitoring and evaluation plan described below in Section 13.1.4.

At this time, the PRCC Hatchery subcommittee needs more time in determine the appropriate split of the 833,000 summer Chinook between the Okanagon, Methow and Wenatchee Basins. Grant, WDFW, Colville, and Yakama Nation staff will be working on making a recommendation for splits of Grant PUD’s summer Chinook program for presentation at the next PRCC HSC meeting in December.