

SOA 2007-5

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-committee
Statement of Agreement on Coho Protection Program**

Presented to the Priest Rapids Hatchery Subcommittee: **January 30, 2007**

Approved by the Priest Rapids Hatchery Subcommittee: **February 23, 2007**

Statement

Priest Rapids Hatchery Subcommittee has agreed that more time is needed to determine if the development of an anticipated long-term coho hatchery program and/or the establishment of a threshold population of naturally reproducing coho in the above three subbasins (Wenatchee, Entiat, and Methow Rivers) has occurred. At this time the Priest Rapids Hatchery Subcommittee agrees to extend the timeline for this determination by 12 months (January 1, 2008).

Background

Part XII. Reintroduction Species – Section 12.1 Coho Protection Program

This section reads as follows; Compensation for coho in the Wenatchee, Entiat and Methow river basins will be assessed within 6 months following the signing of the Settlement Agreement, following the development of an anticipated long-term coho hatchery program and/or the establishment of a threshold population of naturally reproducing coho in the above three subbasins.

The PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee shall make the determination as to whether a hatchery program and/or naturally reproducing population of coho is present in any or all of the three basins. Should the Hatchery Subcommittee determine that such a program and/or population of coho exist in any or all of the three basins, then the Hatchery Subcommittee shall determine the most appropriate means to satisfy NNI for the Wenatchee, Entiat, and Methow river basins. Programs to meet NNI for the Wenatchee, Entiat and Methow river basins may include but are not limited to; 1) Provide operation and maintenance funding in the amount equivalent to 14% (7% per project) juvenile project passage loss or 2) provide funding for acclimation or adult collection facilities both in the amount equivalent to a total of 14% for the Priest Rapids Project. The programs selected to achieve NNI for the three subbasins will utilize an interim value of project survival, based upon the three-year average juvenile project mortality of 7% per each dam and reservoir. This interim value of total Project mortality will remain until specific passage and survival studies can be conducted and verified by the PRCC on coho passing through the Priest Rapids Project, and until and the evaluation of ongoing programs/populations in the Wenatchee, Entiat, and Methow subbasins by the PRCC is accomplished.