

Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee's Hatchery Sub-Committee
Statement of Agreement

Grant PUD Hatchery Production Objectives, Release Years 2014-2023

Submitted to PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: December 5, 2011

Approved by PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: January 18, 2012

Approved by PRCC: January 25, 2012

Statement

The Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee's Hatchery Sub-committee approves the adjusted NNI hatchery compensation for spring Chinook, steelhead, summer Chinook, and fall Chinook, described in the Implementation Plan presented here in Table 1. The adjusted hatchery compensation within the Plan begins with the 2014 releases and continues until the next adjustment of hatchery compensation, with releases beginning in 2024. Further adjustments of the Plan may occur between 2014 and 2023 as described in the Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement. The methodology underlying this Agreement applies to this Agreement only and does not influence the methodologies that may be utilized in future recalculations.

Table 1. Priest Rapids Project (Wanapum and Priest Rapids dams) recalculated hatchery production objectives, 2014-2023.

Species	Facility	Smolt production obligation	Purpose
Spring Chinook	Chief Joseph ^a	110,000	NNI
	Methow	134,126	NNI
	White ^b	74,556	NNI
	Nason ^b	149,114	NNI
Summer Chinook	Chief Joseph ^a	278,000	NNI
	Carlton ^c	200,000	NNI
	Dryden ^c	181,816	NNI
Fall Chinook	Priest Rapids	5,000,000	Inundation
		325,543	NNI
		1,000,000 fry ^d	SSSA
Steelhead	Wells/Okanogan	100,000	NNI
Sockeye	Penticton Hatchery	Fund Skaha Reintroduction Program	NNI
Coho		Fund Yakama Nation Coho Program	NNI

^a Okanogan Basin/Upper Columbia Mainstem. Due to construction delays at Chief Joseph Hatchery, releases of spring and summer Chinook will occur in 2015.

^b While the program levels identified in the White River and Nason Creek programs is reduced from levels identified in current facility designs and permit packages, the JFP's maintain concerns about reducing the size of the facilities to meet the new production levels. While the JFP's do not necessarily agree with downsizing the facilities to meet the new production levels, in particular the White River facility, we recognize that there may be financial considerations and would not be opposed it, provided there would be no delays in implementing the programs (facility operation) within the current identified time frame. In addition, the JFP's have the expectation that if the White River/Nason Creek facilities are downsized, and if at the next recalculation period, production in those programs increase, there will be no delay in meeting that obligation in a manner agreeable

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to parties through Committee discussions. If a delay is unavoidable GCPUD will provide alternate compensation as described in the Priest Rapids Project 2006 Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement, specifically Part 8.3 and 2008 Biological Opinion for the Priest Rapids Project, specifically Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1. Grant PUD will target its 2014 release year mitigation in the Wenatchee by producing 169,068 White River smolts and 60,516 Chiwawa River smolts. The Chiwawa River smolts will be produced by Chelan PUD in exchange for a like number of fish produced by Grant PUD at the Methow Hatchery during the 2014 release. When the White River and Nason acclimation facilities are completed to receive progeny from BY 2013 (2015 release), then the JFP through adaptive management will assure that these facilities will be populated consistent with total combined mitigation for White River and Nason programs.

^c GCPUD will implement overwinter acclimation of its program if feasible per SOA 2009-09.

^d The JFP recognize and agree with having consensus on a fall Chinook fry conversion as part of the whole GCPUD implementation plan but do not want to have it as a confounding issue during development of the NNI recalculation implementation plan. At this time the fry conversion will be included in the overall plan but not considered within this recalculation implementation plan.

Background

The Salmon and Steelhead Settlement states that hatchery compensation levels, except for original inundation mitigation, shall be reviewed in 2013 and every 10 years thereafter to determine if adjustments are appropriate to achieve and maintain NNI. The Habitat Conservation Plans's (HCP) Hatchery Committee (HC) initiated discussion on the first adjustment of hatchery compensation under the HCPs (set for the 2014 releases) during the fall of 2010, and ultimately agreed to a methodology to calculate the adjustments (SOA dated July 20th, 2011). Grant PUD was included in the recalculation discussions in hope of having a coordinated approach among the mid-Columbia PUDs. A technical subcommittee of the HCs and HSC developed a database in a parallel effort for use in the hatchery compensation adjustment efforts (approved on August 17th, 2011). These methods and associated data were then used to develop ranges of hatchery compensation (i.e., "Sensitivity Analysis"). The Sensitivity Analysis was distributed on August 16th, 2011, and the HC agreed during the August 17th meeting and August 30th, 2011 conference call to use the Sensitivity Analysis ranges of hatchery compensation as the basis for development of an Implementation Plan. A draft Implementation Plan was provided by the three Mid-Columbia PUDs and discussed at the September 21st, 2011 HC meeting. Comments and clarifications requested by the HCs and HSC were adapted and the updated Implementation Plan was provided to the HC and HSC on September 28th, 2011. The updated Plan included more detail on specific PUD hatchery compensation by facility and basin, as well as more extensive annotation of programs, as requested by the HC and HSC. The JFP provided an amendment to the PUD Plan on November 4, 2011, then Grant PUD provided a counter to the JFP amendment on November 14, 2011, and finally both committees provided a final amendment on November 28, 2011.

The implementation plan provides for extensive use of existing facilities owned by other PUDs to provide for GCPUD's mitigation obligations; to ensure continuity of mitigation should space no longer be available, sharing agreements terminated or other unforeseen delays occur, the GCPUD will provide alternate compensation as described in the Priest Rapids Project 2006 Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement, specifically Part 8.3 and 2008 Biological Opinion for the Priest Rapids Project, specifically Reasonable and Prudent Measure 1 .