



# Grant County **PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

## Priest Rapids Fish Forum

Wednesday, 2 July 2014  
Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

### PRFF Members

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Stephen Lewis, USFWS  
Bob Rose, YN  
Carl Merkle, Umatilla Tribe  
Tom Dresser, GCPUD  
Aaron Jackson, CTUIR

Patrick Verhey, WDFW  
Keith Hatch, BIA  
Pat McGuire, WDOE  
Mike Clement, GCPUD  
Jason McLellan, CCT

### Attendees:

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Pat McGuire, WDOE  
Patrick Verhey, WDFW  
Aaron Jackson, CTUIR (Via phone)  
Tom Skiles, CRITFC (Via phone)  
Steve Lewis, USFWS (Via phone)  
Brian McElroy, CRITFC (Via phone)  
Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Doris Squeochs, Wanapum  
Bob Rose, YN  
Chad Jackson, WDFW (Via phone)  
Jim Powell, BC Center for Aquatic Health Sciences (Via phone)  
RD Nelle, USFWS (Via phone)  
Mike Clement, GCPUD  
Tracy Hillman, Facilitator

## Final Meeting Minutes

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Agenda Review
  - A. Action Items from last meeting – Complete
  - B. Meeting Minute Approval – 04 June, 2014 – Additional review time was requested.
  - C. Additional agenda items – No additions were made to the agenda.
- III. **Update on Wanapum Dam and Fish Passage** – Grant PUD provided a PowerPoint presentation on Wanapum Dam.
  - Spiral chutes have been installed on both the right and left bank Wanapum Fishway Exit Passage System, and are working very well. Large numbers of Chinook and sockeye have been observed passing the flume head down.
  - Fracture repairs continue; 15 of the 30 pilot holes have been drilled and 1.5 of the 16" diameter tendon holes is complete.
  - Reverse Load Factoring and an intermediate pool raise by the end of 2014 is being discussed by the Fall Chinook Work Group.
  - Adult Pacific Lamprey SOP has been approved.

- Still waiting for LiDAR information to complete the Benthic Fauna Survey & Evaluation; expected by end of summer 2014.

#### IV. Update on PLMP

- A. **NNI Update** – The PRFF discussed the next steps needed to address Pacific lamprey assessments and recovery actions for NNI. The PRFF and RRFF have agreed to attend a joint meeting, but it's unknown if Douglas PUD will participate at this time, other than maybe contribute telemetry equipment and a location for translocation of lamprey. Rose will send out the original document with examples of tasks.
- B. **Lamprey Passage and Trap-n-Transport** – Grant PUD incorporated comments received into their lamprey Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Traps were seasoned for two weeks before trapping was initiated on July 1<sup>st</sup> at Priest Rapids Dam. Lamprey passage remains slow. No lamprey has been observed ascending the phase weir (observations only occur during daylight hours). Grant PUD agreed to release 20-40 fish collected by the Umatilla's at John Day Dam. They will be tagged with HD tags and released 10 weir walls before the false weir. Infrared observation cameras will be placed on the false weir and slide. Blue Leaf Environmental will be downloading HD detectors daily. Time stamps will be compared to infrared continuous video for the first 4-6 days after release on the upper left bank ladder. Clement and Jackson will work out logistics of the transfer.
- C. **Lamprey Regional Implementation Planning Process** – Nelle reported that regional meetings have been held and that USFWS representatives will meet to discuss the Pacific Lamprey Regional Implementation Planning process at the end of July.
- D. **Other Lamprey Items** - None

#### V. Update on WSMP

- A. **Update on Dispute Resolution and Stocking Decision for 2014** – Hillman reported that the PRFF Policy Committee met via conference call on June 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the number of juvenile white sturgeon to release into the Priest Rapids Project in 2014. To date, 4,332 fish have already been released this year. An additional 2,168 remain on station at the Yakama Nation sturgeon hatchery at Marion Drain. The Policy group was unable to agree with the fate of the remaining fish, so Grant PUD will submit a letter to WDOE, asking them to make the final decision. All parties will review the letter by July 10<sup>th</sup>. A statement of agreement will be drafted to determine future release numbers; equal ranking will be given to genetics and numbers. If it's decided that the remaining fish will be released, they will be tagged by Grant PUD. Hillman said Parker was going to check with Donella Miller as to the drop dead date for release of fish on station, but he hadn't heard anything yet. The PRFF will be asked to review developed criteria on an annual basis.
- B. **Broodstock Collection** – A 5x4 cross was achieved with the initial spawning. A second 5x3 cross could also possibly occur, for a total of 35 half family groups. Clement said Grant PUD is considering not fishing below Rock Island Dam next year because of the success experienced below McNary Dam while augmenting Chelan PUD efforts. 12 fecund males and 9 females caught below McNary Dam in two weeks while efforts below Rock Island Dam didn't produce anything near that. Powell said larval collection efforts need to be discussed in the near future. Rose reported that while Mike Parsley was showing Donella Miller, YN, they successfully collected larvae. The YN will start their pilot larval collections early next week. Juvenile collection efforts need to be coordinated between Oregon and Washington to assure the comfort level of future juvenile collection plans.

- C. **Spawning and Rearing** – See above.
- D. **Other White Sturgeon Items** – None
- VI. **Next Meeting** – 6 August 2014 at Grant PUD's Wenatchee office.