



## Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Meeting

### FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

1:00 pm

ZOOM Webinar

#### PRCC Representatives

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Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS  
Keely Murdoch, Brandon Rogers (Alt), YN  
Chad Jackson, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW  
Curt Dotson, Peter Graf (Alt), GCPUD  
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS  
Kirk Truscott, Casey Baldwin (alt), CCT  
Tom Skiles, CTUIR  
Erin Harris, Admin Ass't, GCPUD

#### PRCC Meeting Attendees

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Curt Dotson, GCPUD  
Scott Carlon, NMFS - Absent  
Chad Jackson, WDFW  
Tom Skiles, CTUIR  
Kirk Truscott, CCT – Absent

Keely Murdoch, YN  
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator  
Erin Harris, GCPUD  
Jim Craig, USFWS  
Peter Graf, GCPUD

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#### Decisions Made During Tuesday, July 27, 2021 Meeting

1. Draft SOA 2021-06 was finalized and will be distributed for review and email vote.

### Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed everyone.
- II. **Agenda Review** – No additions made to the agenda.
- III. **Meeting Minutes**
  - A. May 25, 2021, additional review of draft minutes with Murdoch edits. - **APPROVED**
  - B. June 22, 2021, draft minutes with Murdoch edits. **APPROVED**

**IV. Review of Actions Items from June 22, 2001, Meeting –**

1. Murdoch will develop a draft SOA for committee members to review regarding PRCC Facilitator Selection Process. - Completed

**V. SOA 2021-06, Review and Evaluation of PRCC Facilitation -** Rohr stated that the initial draft SOA that was received on June 28<sup>th</sup> from Murdoch and distributed to committee members by email. An edited copy with comments of draft SOA 2021-06 was received from Dotson on July 21<sup>st</sup> and distributed to the PRCC for their review and further discussion during today's meeting.

All committee members concurred that Bryan Nordlund will be the newly hired facilitator. Next, committee members discussed the original draft SOA, plus the edits provided by Dotson. The Background section of the draft SOA was discussed first, and all agreed with Dotson's edits provided. Next, the Statement section was reviewed, and Murdoch explained the suggestion of developing a review protocol for formal evaluation after a 12-month period to allow the committee to determine if the facilitation arrangement will continue. Included in the formal evaluation would be a 6-month informal check-in to allow for discussion, recommendations, and corrective action, if needed, prior to the end of the 12-month period. Committee discussion continued regarding how to grade the formal evaluation at the end of the 12-month period. The original draft SOA from Murdoch suggested consensus be required to continue the facilitation arrangement. Dotson's edits shared an alternative approach wherein each committee member would be involved individually and anonymously in evaluating the facilitator, and Murdoch and others agreed with this approach. Moreover, all agreed to the creation of an evaluation questionnaire with a scoring system that would be completed by each committee member. All agreed if a score of 80% or higher was achieved, the facilitator would remain, and no further action is needed. However, if a score of less than 80% was achieved, all agreed a vote of the committee members would be conducted and 5 of 7 votes of approval would be required to continue the facilitation arrangement. There was agreement that SOA 2021-06 expires following the 12-month evaluation for Bryan Nordlund. Rohr was tasked with providing a final copy of the draft SOA with clarification of the agreement reached through today's discussion. Next, Rohr will conduct an email vote of the final draft of the SOA. Rohr will contact Carlon and Truscott, who were absent from today's meeting, and inform them of today's path forward. There was additional discussion of developing an ongoing evaluation protocol for the facilitator position, and all agreed to continue that discussion after Bryan Nordlund assumes the position after the August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**VI. 2021 Spill Report –** Dotson shared Wanapum and Priest Rapids are in full spill mode, and both powerhouses are operating their turbines in fish-mode.

**VII. Potpourri –** Nothing additional.

**UPDATES**

**VIII. Avian Predation Activities** – Dotson commented that RTR will scan for PIT tags on Goose Island, and RTR has notified the USBR ahead of time to let them know RTR’s intent. Skiles inquired how RTR will use the raw data for determining predation rates, saying that they must know what the detection probabilities are at the different locations for finding the tags. Dotson stated to the committee that Grant provided RTR with additional PIT tags pre-season for the purpose of sowing the different colony locations for determining detection probabilities post nesting season. Dotson also shared that there were no PIT tags detected on Goose Island the past few years, since active dissuasion was taking place and it will be interesting to see how many, if any, PIT tags are detected since tern nesting has been observed this season on Goose Island.

**IX. FCRPS BiOp – Corps/BOR Avian Predation Management in Columbia Plateau Region** – Rohr shared that the USBOR has a new Fish & Wildlife Supervisor, Sarah Fesenmeyer, overseeing their avian program, and her contact information is: [sfesenmyer@usbr.gov](mailto:sfesenmyer@usbr.gov) , Office: 208-378-5275 Cell: 208-292-7968.

**X. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects**

- A. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II - Rohr shared there has not been any movement on this project.
- B. “Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase I” – Murdoch shared the following report from Geoff McMichael; Otoliths from larvae are being processed in the lab, sampling and micro chemistry results will be summarized in a letter report by mid-September.
- C. “Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt” – No update
- D. Avian Predation on ESA-listed Juvenile Salmonids on the Mid-Columbia River, 2021 - Dotson reported that Ken Collis, Real Time Research, and his team will be surveying Goose Island for PIT tags later this week. After the PRCC meeting Dotson shared an email from Mitch Mumma, USBR that requested RTR delay their Goose Island survey as protected gull nests and forester tern chicks are on the island that can’t be disturbed. Once the USBR verifies nesting is completed for the season, they will let the RTR team conduct their survey.
- E. Barkley Irrigation Co Permanent Point of Diversion, Completing Implementation of the Permanent Solution - Rohr shared this is still on hold with PRCC-Hab. SC working with MSRF (Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation) and Trout Unlimited on what can be done for land restoration.

**XI. Committee Reports**– Email distribution.

**XII NNI and Habitat Funds Report 2021 Q1 / Q2** – Harris is working with Grant Accounting to review all the NNI/Habitat agreements to ensure correct balances and closing old agreements. She will be meeting with Dave Duvall, Grant PUD PRCC-Hab. SC representative, on 8/2/2021 to close out old agreements and expects Patti Dietmeyer to send out Q2 report in August.

**XIII. Next Meeting** – August 24, 2021, 1:00, ZOOM Webinar Meeting - Bryan Nordlund will be joining the August meeting.

**Action Items from July 27, 2021 meeting**

- Rohr will contact Carlon and Truscott, who were absent from today's meeting, and inform them of today's path forward regarding draft SOA 2021-06.
- Rohr was tasked with providing a final copy of the draft SOA 2021-06 with clarification of the agreement reached through today's discussion, plus he will conduct an email vote of the final draft of SOA 2021-06.

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