



## Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Meeting

### FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 28, 2019

10am

Wanapum Dam HOB, Room 107

#### PRCC Representatives

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Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS  
Keely Murdoch, Bob Rose (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, GPUD

#### PRCC Meeting Attendees

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Curt Dotson, GPUD  
Keely Murdoch, YN (absent)  
Scott Carlon, NMFS  
Kirk Truscott, CCT  
Chad Jackson, WDFW (Via Phone)

Jim Craig, USFWS  
Tom Skiles, CTUIR (Via Phone)  
Peter Graf, GPUD  
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator  
Erin Harris, GPUD

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#### Decisions made during August 28, 2019 meeting

1. Agreed to not continue with McMichael predator study plus other decisions listed below regarding final activities and contract Change Order requirements.
2. Agreed to No-Cost Change Order to HFA 601-28 to extend Upper Columbia Basin Screening Contract to December 31, 2020.

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#### MEETING MINUTES

- I. **Safety Briefing** – Completed
- II. **Welcome and Introductions**

- III. **Agenda Review (D. Rohr)** – No additions
- IV. **Meeting Minutes (D. Rohr)**
  - A. Affirm final approval of June 26, 2019 Meeting – Approved
  - B. July 24, 2019 Meeting – Under development
- V. **Review of Actions Items from July 24, 2019 Meeting (D. Rohr)**
  - A. Murdoch will notify Rohr by email of review of June 26th draft meeting minutes. – **Completed.**
  - B. Jackson will follow up with D. Didricksen regarding Stemilt screen project justification and no-cost change order to contract HFA 601-28H. – **Agenda item today**
  - C. Graf will follow up with preparation of SOA 2019-01 – **Agenda item today**
  - D. Dotson / Rohr will follow up with drafting of avian predation/BiOp letter to NMFS – **Completed.**
- VI. **(Decision Item) Discussion of G. McMichael August 16th Report In Re HFA 601-33H, Non-Native Predator Recruitment Contract, Phase 1 Activities (D. Rohr)** – McMichael provided a written project update, dated August 16, 2019, in which he provided some updated study results and a proposed path forward. Accordingly, discussion and voting activities took place regarding this subject. Committee members present agreed with McMichael's email of August 16th that hydrodynamic modelling of water surface elevation drops is not warranted and to not continue with the study.

Additionally, there was further review and discussion of the August 16th project update with particular review upon the "Proposed path forward". After discussion, votes were taken relative to several questions in the proposed path forward, including 1) consideration of performing some specific microchemistry work (**not approved**), provide an in-person presentation on the full study results at the November 2019 PRCC meeting (**not approved**), prepare a draft report and final data set by December 31, 2019 (**approved**), and complete a final report by January 31, 2020 (**approved**).

Rohr will contact Murdoch for discussion and concurrence as she was not in attendance. All agreed a Change Order to the funding contract would need to be made to reflect all changes taking place. Rohr will discuss with Murdoch the need to communicate with McMichael regarding final decisions by the committee and contract changes required.

- VII. **(Decision Item) No-Cost Change Order to HFA 601-28, Upper Columbia Basin Screening Contract (C. Jackson)** –
  - A. Change Order Details and Information – Discussion continued regarding a request from WDFW for a "No-Cost time extension to December 31, 2020 Change Order for HFA 601-28, Upper Columbia Basin Screening Contract". After review and discussion, committee members present approved the requested Change Order, subject to approval by committee member

Murdoch who was not in attendance. Rohr contacted Murdoch after the meeting and received concurrence to approve.

**B. Stemilt Screen Project** – WDFW requested removing the Colockum Project from the list of work to be completed and replacing it with the Stemilt Project which was ready to move to construction. Rohr distributed information to committee members describing details of the Stemilt project that also included work to be done by the landowner. After further review and discussion, committee members requested a written agreement be received from the landowner outlining the work to be done. Jackson will discuss this request with D. Didricksen and the subject will be placed on the September 25<sup>th</sup> PRCC meeting agenda for further discussion.

- VIII. **UPDATE Discussion of PRCC Letter to NMFS Regarding Columbia Plateau Avian Predation Activities in 2020 FCRPS BiOp (C. Dotson, D. Rohr)** – Rohr informed members that he has received email from Ritchie Graves (NMFS), and Michael Tehan (NMFS), acknowledging receipt of the letter that was sent. Committee members discussed information received and possibilities of a path forward. The US BOR did not fulfill any of its 2019 interim BiOp requirements as they relate to avian predation management on Goose Island/Potholes area and members are concerned there may be a repeat in 2020. Information has been received by Dotson that the BOR funding planned for 2020 appears to be inadequate for proper dissuasion activities. Dotson has had detailed discussions with Lesa Stark of the BOR Boise office, and BOR is having additional internal discussions regarding the issue. Carlon will talk with Lynne Krasnow, NMFS, and Dotson will continue his discussions with Stark, BOR.
- IX. **Discussion of Draft SOA 2019-01, Schedule of Conducting Sub-yearling Summer Chinook Survival Evaluations (P. Graf)** – Graf distributed a new draft to committee members with the updates discussed during the July PRCC meeting. After further discussion, additional updates identified will be included and Graf will distribute a new draft to committee members for review. The SOA will be presented for vote at the September 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- X. **Potpourri (D. Rohr)** - Nothing to report.
- XI. **GENERAL UPDATES**
- A. Avian Predation Activities (C. Dotson) – RTR Reports; IAPMP Reports** – The 2018 IAPMP final report has been released. Weekly reporting by RTR of field activities in the Columbia Plateau region for 2019 have been completed. RTR will continue to visit both Goose Island in Potholes Reservoir and the Blalock Islands in John Day Reservoir opportunistically through August or until Caspian terns have dispersed. Final reports from RTR will be completed later this year.
- B. FCRPS BiOp – Corps/BOR Avian Predation Management in Columbia Plateau Region (C. Dotson)** – no additional information.
- C. Update and Review of the White River Spring Chinook Mitigation 2026 Decision Framework (D. Rohr) – (Placeholder -- Jeff Jorgenson, NMFS, attendance at September PRCC Meeting)** – Jorgenson will be

attending next month's meeting. Some Hatchery SC members will also attend. Hatchery SC members are preparing questions for Jorgenson to address during the meeting, and Rohr will share the questions with PRCC members when received.

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

1. **Continued Support for UC Fish Screen Program (C. Jackson)** – no additional discussion.
2. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II (C. Jackson, D. Rohr)** – Rohr informed committee members this project may become active again soon. The project was put on hold for several months while an internal water rights review was taking place.
3. **“Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase I” (K. Murdoch)** – no additional information.
4. **“Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt” (K. Truscott)** – Colville are using set lines with some success. Truscott will forward information to committee members.

XII. **Committee Reports (D. Rohr)** – Rohr distributed to committee members.

XIII. **NNI and Habitat Funds Report (D. Rohr)** – Rohr distributed to committee members.

XIV. **Next Meeting (D. Rohr) – Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 10:00 am, Wanapum Dam, HOB, Room 107**

**Action Items from August 28, 2019 Meeting**

1. Rohr will contact Murdoch to discuss McMichael Predation study decisions.
2. Jackson will contact D. Didricksen regarding committee members request for a written agreement from the landowner outlining the work to be done.
3. Dotson will continue discussions with Lesa Stark, BOR, and Carlon will check with Lynne Krasnow, NOAA, regarding avian predation activities.
4. Graf will make final updates to SOA 2019-01 and distribute to committee members.
5. Rohr will follow up and distribute Hatchery SC questions for Jeff Jorgenson to PRCC members.

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