



## Priest Rapids Fish Forum Conference Call

Wednesday, 6 July 2022  
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

### FINAL MINUTES

#### PRFF Members

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RD Nelle, USFWS  
Ralph Lampman, Donella Miller, YN  
Clayton Buck, Wanapum  
Jason McLellan, Bret Nine, CCT  
Mike Clement, Chris Mott, Grant PUD  
Tracy Hillman, Facilitator

Patrick Verhey, Laura Heironimus, WDFW  
Breean Zimmerman, WDOE  
Aaron Jackson, Carl Merkle, CTUIR  
Marchelle Foster, BIA  
Tom Skiles, CRITFC/CTUIR

#### Meeting Attendees

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Ralph Lampman, YN  
Mike Clement, Grant PUD  
Tom Skiles, CRITFC/CTUIR  
RD Nelle, USFWS  
Tim Taylor, Grant PUD  
Tracy Hillman, Facilitator

Breean Zimmerman, WDOE  
Doris Squeochs, Wanapum/Grant PUD  
Patrick Verhey, WDFW  
Emily Orling, USFWS  
Erin Harris, Grant PUD

#### Action Items:

- Ralph Lampman will ask Nathan Patterson to provide a summary email on the 2022 White Sturgeon broodstock collection and rearing efforts and send it to Tracy Hillman, who will share it with the PRFF.

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Tracy Hillman welcomed everyone to the meeting and identified all attendees.

## **II. Agenda Review**

The PRFF reviewed and approved the July agenda.

## **III. Approve June Meeting Notes**

The PRFF reviewed and approved the 1 June 2022 meeting minutes.

## **IV. Review Action Items**

The PRFF reviewed the following action items from the June meeting:

- PRFF members will identify their policy representatives and share those with Tracy Hillman. **In Progress.** Tracy has identified representatives from all entities except BIA. He is continuing outreach with BIA. Tracy will share the list of representatives with Bryan Nordlund, PRCC facilitator, who will contact the policy representatives and try to schedule a policy meeting this fall.
- Tracy Hillman will ask Kirk Truscott and Matt Young if they or someone else from the CTCR would be willing to talk with the PRFF about the CTCR Pacific lamprey reintroduction program in the Okanogan subbasin. **Completed.** Tracy indicated that Kirk Truscott or Matt Young will present their Pacific Lamprey reintroduction program during the August PRFF Meeting.

## **V. White Sturgeon**

**2022 White Sturgeon Broodstock Collection and Rearing** – Ralph Lampman shared that Nathan Patterson and Donella Miller have been very busy and are unable to join the meeting. Ralph added that he received a text from Nathan indicating that they successfully spawned six females and six males at the Yakama Nation Sturgeon Hatchery. Progeny from the spawning are now on feed. Ralph said he will have Nathan provide an email describing the spawning and early rearing of sturgeon at the hatchery.

**Other Sturgeon Items** – No other sturgeon items were discussed.

## **VI. Pacific Lamprey**

**Adult Trapping at Priest Rapids Dam** – Mike Clement updated the Forum on the proposed schedule for trapping adult Pacific lamprey at Priest Rapids Dam this year. After discussions with Douglas PUD, Mike indicated that he would like Grant PUD to start trapping on Monday, 18 July. All fish captured during the first four weeks will go to Douglas PUD for their tagging study (DPUD needs about 460 adults for their study). Fish captured during the last four weeks of trapping will fulfill Grant PUD's SOA. Lamprey collected during the second four-week period will be provided to Douglas PUD (if needed to meet their target number for their study), CTCR (for relocation into the Okanogan River basin), and/or released at Kirby-Billingsley Hydro Park upstream from Rock Island Dam. Mike added that they have observed about 135 adult lamprey at Priest Rapids Dam and 20 at Wanapum Dam. About 10,000 have been counted at Bonneville Dam. Ralph Lampman noted that there was a fairly large peak of adult lamprey counted at Bonneville Dam on 2 July. The run has since decreased but may increase again in early August.

Mike asked Forum members present if they agree with beginning adult lamprey trapping at Priest Rapids Dam on 18 July. All members present agreed to begin trapping on 18 July.

Doris Squeochs asked how many adult lamprey the CTCR intend to release into the Okanogan River basin. No one was sure, but it was noted that they (CTCR) are collecting larval lamprey in their traps. Mike indicated that CTCR will tell us more about their relocation program in August.

**Other Pacific Lamprey Items** – Ralph Lampman reported that YN collected water samples that were examined for eDNA. Samples were collected at Bonneville, McNary, Rock Island, and Wells dams. Recent samples indicated positive detections of Pacific lamprey at all four locations. Only one of the samples collected at Wells Dam was positive for Pacific lamprey eDNA.

## **VII. Administration**

**PRFF Policy Committee Representatives and Meetings** – Tracy Hillman shared that he and Bryan Nordlund are working to gather a list of all current Policy Representatives on the PRCC, PRFF, and FCWG/HRWG. Grant PUD intends to host a policy-level meeting this September at Wanapum Dam. Tracy added that there are currently no specific issues that need to be resolved by the policy groups. Rather, the gathering will be a “get-to-know-each-other” meeting as well as a discussion of some of the challenging issues with the Priest Rapids Project. There will likely be a follow-up meeting of policy representatives later this year or next year that will include presentations from Grant PUD outlining the status and progress of implementing elements of the Settlement Agreement. Tracy noted that he has identified policy representatives from all organizations except BIA. He has tried to contact Marchelle Foster but received no response. It was noted that BIA rarely participates on the PRFF.

## **VIII. Adjourn**

Tracy Hillman adjourned the meeting at 9:40 am.

## **IX. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the PRFF will be on 3 Aug 2022.