



**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee
FINAL Meeting MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

1:00 pm

PRCC Representatives

Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS
Keely Murdoch, Brandon Rogers (Alt), YN
Chad Jackson, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW
Curt Dotson, Tom Dresser (Alt), GPUD

Jim Craig, USFWS
Kirk Truscott, Casey Baldwin (alt), CCT
Tom Skiles, CTUIR

PRCC Meeting Attendees

Curt Dotson, GPUD
Scott Carlon, NMFS - Absent
Chad Jackson, WDFW
Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Kirk Truscott, CCT
Bryan Nordlund, FPE (facilitator)

Keely Murdoch, YN
Jim Craig, USFWS
Tom Dresser, GPUD
Erin Harris, GPUD

**Decisions, Approvals and Action Items Made During
Tuesday, April 26, 2022, Meeting**

- 1. Spill season will commence for juvenile outmigration in April 2022.** P-4 Turbine at Priest Rapids is down for overhaul and generator work and is needing to have certified commissioning take place in the month of June 2022. **Action:** Curt Dotson will put together a formal memo on P-4 turbine to share with the PRCC.
- 2. PRCC Operation Protocols.** Committee members would like timelines for all documents, meeting protocols and voting. Action Item: Bryan Nordlund to develop a straw-man document with a bullet list to share at the May meeting.
- 3. March 22, 2022, Meeting Minutes. PRCC meeting minutes** – March meeting minutes were distributed by Bryan Nordlund by email on March 26. Comments were due by April 26, 2022, all PRCC members have approved, and March minutes are final.

4. **Joint PRCC & HCP Meeting** - Bryan Nordlund is working with John Ferguson to determine joint meeting details for the May 24,2022 meeting. This will allow the CCT Tribe to provide a status update related to the Phase II Report for Salmonid Reintroduction above Grand Coulee.

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome, Announcements and Introductions** – Bryan Nordlund welcomed committee members to the meeting.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Committee members reviewed the agenda with no additions made.
- III. **Meeting Minutes Approval**
 - A. March 22, 2022, PRCC meeting minutes – March meeting minutes were distributed by Bryan Nordlund by email on March 26. Comments were due by April 26, 2022, all PRCC members have approved, March minutes are final.
- IV. **Status of Actions Items from March 22, 2022, Meeting**
 - A. Nordlund has followed up with John Ferguson to develop agendas for the joint CC meetings in May regarding Phase II Upper Columbia Re-introduction plans.
 - B. A search of files for an earlier draft of PRCC meeting protocols was conducted. - Tom Dresser shared there was an earlier discussion of formal protocols and members agreed nothing was needed at that time.
 - C. Follow-up on Corp/BOR Avian Predation Management (Skiles, Carlon and Dotson – work in progress). Tom Skiles shared updates will be provided on a quarterly basis.
 - D. YN letter sent to NOAA request clarifying survival performance standards - Keely Murdoch will check with her managers to determine whether this can be distributed to the PRCC. Keely Murdoch sent the YN letter to Bryan Nordlund and he distributed the letter to committee members. (completed)
- V. **2021 Fish Passage Operations Report**
 - A. **Update on investigations for fish count discrepancy:**

Curt Dotson shared Grant PUD will evaluate if the protocols put into place are working, they are watching for any discrepancies between Rock Island Dam and Wanapum/Priest Rapids dams. Tom Dresser shared that there is no official documented protocol at this time, related to the steps that Grant has taken internally to correct the adult fish counts discrepancy have been shared verbally and are in past meeting minutes.

B. Fish ladder inspections:

Tom Skiles performs monthly ladder inspections at the GPUD dams for the fisheries agencies and tribes. Inspections should start up again in April of 2022. Tom Skiles inquired if Grant PUD's COVID restrictions have been lifted. Tom Dresser shared Grant PUD's COVID restrictions have been lifted and reminded Tom Skiles to coordinate with both Chris Mott and Plant Operators to schedule his inspections. Curt Dotson added a reminder on the construction work being performed at Priest Rapids Right Bank Embankment.

C. Fish spill updates:

Spill season will commence for juvenile outmigration in April 2022. Curt Dotson shared that beginning 4/18/2022 Wanapum Dam's turbines are in fish mode and fish spill has commenced, and as of Tuesday 4/19/2022 Priest Rapids turbines are in fish mode and fish spill has commenced. Curt also noted that P-4 turbine is down for turbine and generator work and will now need to have certification commissioning done at Priest Rapids to bring the turbine back on-line for power generation., The commissioning of the turbine will take place in the Month of June 2022. **Action:** Curt Dotson will put together a formal memo on P-4 Turbine to share with the PRCC.

D. Fish counts for 2022 (April 15 – April 16)

Project/Life Stage	Spring Chinook	Summer Chinook	Sockeye	Fall Chinook	Steelhead	Coho
Priest Rapids adults	29				1	
Rock Island adults	1				4	
Priest Rapids jacks	0					
Rock Island-jacks	0					

- VI. Discussion - Develop PRCC operations protocols (e.g., SOA development, timing, agenda items, presentations etc.)** Committee members discussed and shared that some protocols are needed and sending out a draft agenda calling for agenda items. They would like timelines for all documents, meeting protocols and voting. Action Item: Bryan Nordlund to develop a straw-man document with bullet list to share at the May meeting.

UPDATES

VII. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects

- A. **Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II** – No update.
- B. **Avian Predation on ESA-listed Juvenile Salmonids on the Mid-Columbia River, 2021** - Curt Dotson shared an update from RTR that terns have returned to the North Islands of the Potholes area and on Goose Island. The terns are only loafing with no nesting taking place. RTR will conduct aerial surveys.
- C. **Barkley Irrigation Company Permanent Point of Diversion - Completing Implementation of the Permanent Solution** – No update.
- D. **Northern Pike Removal (2022-2024)** Curt Dotson shared this new contract is in place and is moving forward.
- E. **Quincy Pikeminnow Derby** – Curt Dotson shared this will take place May 13-15, 2022.
- F. **Wenatchee PIT tag barge – exception to SOA 2013-04 granted** – Curt Dotson shared this contract is moving forward.

VIII. Committee Updates

Bryan Nordlund has forwarded the latest subcommittee distributions he has received to date via email.

- A. Priest Rapids Fish Forum – The April 2022 meeting has been canceled. Next is May 4th, 2022.
- B. Habitat Subcommittee – HSC met on April 14, 2022.
- C. Fall Chinook Work Group – The FCWG met on April 5, 2022,
- D. Hatchery Subcommittee – The next meeting was April 20, 2022.

IX. SOA(s) discussed in 2022

SOA number	Key words	Last Discussed	Status
2021-06	Facilitator selection	January 25, 2022	open

X. Next Meetings

The next PRCC meetings are scheduled for May 24 and June 28, 2022.