

Memorandum

To: Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCPs
Coordinating Committees

Date: January 27, 2018

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris

Re: Final Action Items from the January 23, 2018 HCP Coordinating Committees Meeting

This memorandum provides a summary of action items, decisions, agreements, and documents for review as discussed during the Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) Coordinating Committees meeting, which met at the Grant PUD Office in Wenatchee, Washington, on Tuesday January 23, 2018, from 9:00 to 11:45 a.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A. These action items include the following:

Action Item Summary

- Kristi Geris will coordinate with Tracy Hillman and will notify the HCP Coordinating Committees of the date the HCP Hatchery Committees plan to tour the new Wells Fish Hatchery (tentatively scheduled for spring 2018; Item I-C).
- Douglas PUD will further review run-timing data for wild and hatchery yearling Chinook salmon with regard to Wells Dam bypass operation dates, and will report back to the HCP Coordinating Committees (Item I-C).
- Chelan PUD will request approval of the 2018 Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Action Plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on February 27, 2018 (Item III-A).
- Lance Keller will provide fish rescue numbers for Rock Island and Rocky Reach dams, to Kristi Geris for inclusion in the meeting minutes and distribution to the HCP Coordinating Committees (Item III-B). (*Note: Keller provided these numbers following the meeting on January 23, 2018, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees on January 24, 2018.*)
- Scott Carlon will verify who is currently the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) point of contact for issuing Section 10 incidental take permits for steelhead (Item III-B).
- John Ferguson will notify Tracy Hillman (HCP Hatchery Committees Chairman) about HCP Coordinating Committees discussions regarding potential modifications to Section 10 incidental take permits to allow 12-to-18-inch steelhead collected in fish ladders during fish rescues associated with fishway winter maintenance outages to be sampled for coded wire tags (CWTs) and identified as to their source (Item III-B). (*Note: Ferguson notified Hillman, as discussed, on January 26, 2018.*)
- Douglas PUD will request approval of the 2018 Wells HCP Action Plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on February 27, 2018 (Item IV-A).

- The Wells HCP Coordinating Committee will submit a vote via email on the Draft 2018 Wells Dam Gas Abatement Plan and Bypass Operating Plan to Tom Kahler (and copy Kristi Geris) no later than February 12, 2018 (Item IV-D).
- Douglas PUD and the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee will complete the following action items associated with the Douglas PUD 2020 Verification Survival Study (Item IV-E):
 - Keely Murdoch will provide smolt-to-adult return (SAR) data, based on CWTs, for coho salmon released and recaptured at Wells Dam.
 - Tom Kahler will ask John Skalski (Columbia Basin Research) to calculate sample size ranges needed, based on SARs, to achieve precision standards for Wells summer Chinook salmon, Winthrop spring Chinook salmon, and Methow coho salmon; and Kahler will determine if these ranges result in capacity issues at Wells Fish Hatchery.
 - Kirk Truscott will determine the feasibility of using Winthrop spring Chinook salmon from Chief Joseph Hatchery for the study, including transferring the fish to Wells Fish Hatchery for rearing.
 - Tom Kahler will determine whether there are permitting issues for rearing study fish at Wells Fish Hatchery.
 - The Wells HCP Coordinating Committee will continue discussing what potential biological risks exist associated with management of verification survival study fish when they return to spawn.
- Kristi Geris will coordinate with Sarah Montgomery (HCP Hatchery Committees support staff) and Julene McGregor (Douglas PUD Information Systems Staff) to add Betsy Bamberger (Douglas PUD Fish Health and Evaluation Specialist) to select HCP Hatchery Committees email distribution lists and provide Bamberger with visitor access to the HCP Hatchery Committees extranet site, as approved by the HCP Coordinating Committees (Item IV-F). *(Note: Geris contacted Montgomery and McGregor, as discussed, on January 24, 2018.)*
- The HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on February 27, 2018, will be held **in-person** at the Grant PUD Wenatchee Office in Wenatchee, Washington (Item V-B).

Decision Summary

- There were no HCP Decision Items approved during today's meeting.

Agreements

- HCP Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed to add Betsy Bamberger, the new Douglas PUD Fish Health and Evaluation Specialist, to select HCP Hatchery Committees email distribution lists and provide Bamberger with visitor access to the HCP Hatchery Committees extranet site (Item IV-F).

Review Items

- The Draft 2017 Wells Post-Season Bypass Report (including the appended Draft 2017 Wells Dam Passage Dates Analysis) was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 29, 2017. The draft report is available for a 60-day review period, with edits and comments due to Tom Kahler by February 27, 2018 (Item IV-C).
- The Draft 2018 Wells Dam Gas Abatement Plan and Bypass Operating Plan was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on January 16, 2018. The draft plan is available for review with an email vote due to Tom Kahler (and copy Kristi Geris) by February 12, 2018 (Item IV-D).
- The Draft 2018 Wells HCP Action Plan was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on January 22, 2018. The draft plan is available for a 30-day review period, with edits and comments due to Tom Kahler by February 21, 2018 (Item IV-A).
- The Draft 2017 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Report, Draft 2017 Rock Island Smolt and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Report, Draft 2018 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Operations Plan, Draft 2018 Rock Island Bypass Monitoring Plan, and Draft 2018 Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Action Plan were distributed to the Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on January 22, 2018. The draft documents are available for a 30-day review period, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by February 21, 2018 (Items III-A and III-C).

Finalized Documents

- There are no documents that have been recently finalized.

**Attachment A
List of Attendees**

Name	Organization
John Ferguson	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Tracy Hillman ⁺⁺	BioAnalysts
Lance Keller [*]	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler [*]	Douglas PUD
Andrew Gingerich	Douglas PUD
Scott Carlon [*]	National Marine Fisheries Service
Jim Craig [*]	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chad Jackson [*]	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mike Tonseth	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Patrick Verhey ^{*†}	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kirk Truscott [*]	Colville Confederated Tribes
Keely Murdoch [*]	Yakama Nation

Notes:

- * Denotes HCP Coordinating Committees member or alternate
- † Joined by phone
- †† Joined by phone for the HCP Tributary and Hatchery Committees Update