



Conference Call Action Items

Aquatic Settlement Work Group

To: Aquatic SWG Parties

Date: April 13, 2023

From: John Ferguson, Chair, Anchor QEA, LLC

Re: **Final Action Items of the April 12, 2023, Aquatic SWG Conference Call**

Below is a summary of Action Items from the Aquatic Settlement Work Group (SWG) meeting that was held by conference call on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A. These action items include the following:

Summary of Action Items

1. The Yakama Nation (YN) will continue planning for an annual regional meeting to discuss the latest literature on Pacific Lamprey passage improvements and technology (Item I-C).
2. Douglas PUD and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will discuss possible approaches to address regional Bull Trout data gaps under the Recovery Planning Participation and Regional Coordination objectives of the Bull Trout Management Plan (MP) and will report back to the Aquatic SWG (Item I-C).
3. Douglas PUD will draft a Pacific Lamprey Translocation Statement of Agreement (SOA), for implementation from 2023 to 2024, that is consistent with the Pacific Lamprey MP and with a commitment to continue discussing a potential study design for implementation in 2025, for discussion and possible decision during the Aquatic SWG conference call on May 10, 2023 (Item II-B).
4. The Aquatic SWG meeting on May 10, 2023, will be held by conference call (Item III-B).

Summary of Decisions

1. There were no decision items approved during today's conference call.

Agreements

1. Aquatic SWG members present agreed to proceed with White Sturgeon spontaneous autopolyploidy (SAP) screening of the 328 brood year (BY) 2022 White Sturgeon slated for the Douglas PUD mitigation program, understanding that: 1) there is a slight risk of mortality associated with the blood-draw process; 2) should fish losses bring numbers down

below the target stocking number stipulated in the current SOA¹, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR) agree to make up the shortfall with surplus BY 2022 White Sturgeon from the CTCR Resident Fish Hatchery; and 3) if surplus BY 2022 White Sturgeon from the CTCR Resident Fish Hatchery are needed to supplement the Douglas PUD program and are below the target fish size stipulated in the current SOA, the Aquatic SWG agrees Douglas PUD still meets the stocking obligation stipulated in the current SOA (Item II-A).

Review Items

1. The draft *Annual Report Calendar Year 2022 Activities Under the Aquatic Settlement Agreement* (2022 ASA Annual Report) and appended *2022 Annual Report White Sturgeon Management Plan*, *2022 Bull Trout Management Plan and Incidental Take Annual Report*, *2022 Annual Report Water Quality Management Plan* and appended *2022 Water Temperature Annual Report*, *Pacific Lamprey Management Plan 2022 Annual Report*, *Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan 2022 Annual Report*, and *Resident Fish Management Plan 2022 Annual Report* were distributed to the Aquatic SWG by Kristi Geris on March 10, 2023, and are available for a 45-day review with edits and comments due to Geris by April 24, 2023 (Item III-A).

Documents Finalized

1. There are no documents that have been recently finalized.

¹ *Statement of Agreement Regarding Wells Reservoir White Sturgeon Supplementation 2023-2026*, approved by the Aquatic SWG on August 10, 2022, stipulates stocking 325 ($\pm 10\%$) White Sturgeon into the Wells Reservoir annually, with a target fish size of ≥ 350 grams per fish.

Attachment A – List of Attendees

Name	Role	Organization
John Ferguson	Aquatic SWG Chairman	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Administration/Technical Support	Anchor QEA, LLC
Andrew Gingerich	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Douglas PUD
Chas Kyger	Aquatic SWG Technical Alternate	Douglas PUD
John Rohrback	Aquatic SWG Technical Support	Douglas PUD
RD Nelle	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Judy Neibauer	Aquatic SWG Technical Alternate	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Patrick Verhey	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Laura Heironimus	Aquatic SWG Technical Alternate	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Breean Zimmerman	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Washington State Department of Ecology
Jason McLellan	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Ralph Lampman	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Yakama Nation