



Conference Call Minutes

Aquatic Settlement Work Group

To: Aquatic SWG Parties

Date: December 12, 2018

From: John Ferguson, Chair (Anchor QEA, LLC)

Re: Final Minutes of the November 14, 2018 Aquatic SWG Conference Call

The Aquatic Settlement Work Group (SWG) met by conference call on Wednesday, November 14, 2018, from 10:00 to 10:30 a.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A of these conference call minutes.

I. Summary of Action Items

1. Douglas PUD will continue communicating to the Aquatic SWG the coordination with Wells Dam mechanical staff regarding inspection of the diffuser grating spacing in the Wells Dam collection gallery during the 2018/2019 Wells Dam winter maintenance period (Item VI-2).
2. Douglas PUD will provide a document outlining husbandry practices, including feeding regimes, to implement during future White Sturgeon rearing at Wells Fish Hatchery to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Aquatic SWG (Item VI-5). *(Note: Andrew Gingerich provided this document to Kristi Geris on November 29, 2018, which Geris distributed to the Aquatic SWG that same day.)*
3. Douglas PUD will provide a document summarizing Douglas PUD 2018 Pacific Lamprey translocation efforts, including those in coordination with Grant PUD, the Yakama Nation (YN), and the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT), to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Aquatic SWG (Item VI-7).
4. The Aquatic SWG meeting on December 12, 2018, will be held by **conference call** (Item VII-1).

II. Summary of Decisions

1. Aquatic SWG members present approved the Douglas PUD Spill Prevention Control and Counter Measures Plan (SPCC), as revised (Item VI-3). *(Note: Breean Zimmerman and Kirk Truscott provided Washington Department of Ecology [Ecology] and CCT approval, respectively, via email prior to the conference call on November 14, 2018.)*

III. Agreements

1. There were no agreements discussed during today's conference call.

IV. Review Items

1. There are no items that are currently available for review.

V. Documents Finalized

1. The Final Douglas PUD SPCC Plan was distributed to the Aquatic SWG by Kristi Geris on December 11, 2018 (Item VI-3).

VI. Summary of Discussions

1. Welcome, Review Agenda, Meeting Minutes Approval, and Review of Action Items (John Ferguson):

John Ferguson welcomed the Aquatic SWG members (attendees are listed in Attachment A) and reviewed the agenda. Ferguson asked for any additions or changes to the agenda.

Ralph Lampman added a brief discussion on Douglas PUD 2018 Pacific Lamprey translocation efforts.

Ferguson said because the technical representatives from Ecology, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the CCT are unable to attend today's conference call, he proposed addressing the Decision Item and providing brief updates on the other agenda items during today's call; however, postponing full discussions until there is higher Aquatic SWG member attendance during the meeting on December 12, 2018. Andrew Gingerich agreed.

The revised draft October 10, 2018 conference call minutes were reviewed. Kristi Geris said all comments and revisions received from members of the Aquatic SWG were incorporated into the revised minutes and there are no outstanding items remaining to be discussed. Aquatic SWG members present approved the October 10, 2018 conference call minutes, as revised.

Action items from the Aquatic SWG conference call on October 10, 2018, are as follows (note: the following italicized item numbers correspond to agenda items from the October 10, 2018 conference call):

- *Douglas PUD will draft a bullet list outlining husbandry practices, including feeding regimes, to implement during future White Sturgeon rearing at Wells Fish Hatchery (Item VI-3).*
This action item will be discussed during today's conference call.
- *Chas Kyger will consult Wells Dam mechanical staff and Tom Kahler (Douglas PUD Habitat Conservation Plan [HCP] Coordinating Committee representative) about the required specifications for the diffuser grating spacing in the Wells Dam collection gallery (Item VI-5).*
This action item will be discussed during today's conference call.

2. Tentative Wells Dam Fishway 2019/2020 Winter Maintenance Schedule (Chas Kyger):

Chas Kyger said the Mechanical Foreman at Wells Dam indicated the east fish ladder will be the first fishway to be taken offline for maintenance during the 2018/2019 winter maintenance period. Kyger said dewatering of the east fish ladder is tentatively scheduled to begin the week of November 26, 2018. He said the east fish ladder will receive a major overhaul this period, which will require at least 1 month to complete. He said the west fish ladder will be taken offline for maintenance when the east fish ladder maintenance is complete so that one fishway and ladder is watered up and available for fish passage during the maintenance period.

Kyger said he discussed with the Mechanical Foreman the diffuser grating spacing in the collection gallery and spacing throughout the fish ladder pools. Kyger said he provided the foreman with the photographs taken by Ralph Lampman during the tour of Wells Dam in early 2018, which show the areas of concern. Kyger said he plans to accompany the mechanical crew in the fish ladders to help point out areas and discuss potential fixes, which will likely consist of mounting aluminum plating around edges where the grating spacing is greater than 1 inch. He said there is support from the Douglas PUD Natural Resource Managers to keep the fish ladders offline as long as needed to get these fixes in place during this winter maintenance outage.

John Ferguson asked if the shorter fish ladder outage takes about 2 weeks? Kyger said typically yes and added that there is a relatively large window for maintenance activities because one fish ladder is operational at all times; therefore, there are no issues if one ladder needs to remain offline a little longer.

Patrick Verhey asked Kyger to let him know when he plans to accompany the mechanical crew in the fish ladders so he can possibly join him. Ralph Lampman also asked to be included. Kyger said this will likely happen during the routine fish salvage operation that occurs right after the ladder is dewatered. He said he will continue communicating to the Aquatic SWG regarding his continued coordination with the Wells Dam mechanical staff as they inspect and repair any diffuser grating spacing in the Wells Dam fishway during the 2018/2019 winter maintenance period.

3. DECISION: Douglas PUD SPCC Plan (Andrew Gingerich):

Andrew Gingerich noted that Douglas PUD received formal approval of the revised SPCC Plan from Ecology and the CCT via email, and the SPCC Plan is also undergoing a review and approval process with the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee. Since the USFWS representative on the Aquatic SWG was not able to attend the meeting today, he pointed out

that the USFWS technical representative on the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee is reviewing the SPCC Plan.

John Ferguson summarized that Breean Zimmerman and Kirk Truscott provided Ecology and CCT approval, respectively, via email prior to the conference call on November 14, 2018. Aquatic SWG members present approved the Douglas PUD SPCC Plan, as revised. The Final Douglas PUD SPCC Plan was distributed to the Aquatic SWG by Kristi Geris on December 11, 2018.

4. Brood Year 2018 Wells White Sturgeon Rearing at Wells Fish Hatchery (Andrew Gingerich):

Andrew Gingerich said not much has changed since last month and fish are still converting and growing well. He said there are just over 100 fish on station for production. He said fish are rearing on 60°F water, as discussed during the conference call on October 10, 2018. He said Douglas PUD and the Aquatic SWG need to discuss how to approach making up the difference in the stocking target this year. He said it seems the most logical approach would be to stock more fish in 2020 compared to 2019. He said this will be further discussed during the Aquatic SWG meeting on December 12, 2018.

5. Brood Year 2019/2020 Wells White Sturgeon Rearing Approach (Andrew Gingerich):

Andrew Gingerich recalled an action item to develop a bullet list outlining husbandry practices for future White Sturgeon rearing. He said a document is being drafted, which is more comprehensive than a bullet list but seems necessary to properly document approaches and methodology. He said this document is currently with the Wells Fish Hatchery staff for review. He said the document will then go to Betsy Bamberger (Douglas PUD Fish Health Specialist) for review, and then to the Aquatic SWG for review hopefully before the Aquatic SWG meeting on December 12, 2018.

Douglas PUD will provide a document outlining husbandry practices, including feeding regimes, to implement during future White Sturgeon rearing at Wells Fish Hatchery to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Aquatic SWG. *(Note: Gingerich provided this document to Geris on November 29, 2018, which Geris distributed to the Aquatic SWG that same day.)*

Patrick Verhey said Chad Jackson is also interested in this discussion and will hopefully attend the next meeting on December 12, 2018.

6. 2018 Total Dissolved Gas Summary (Andrew Gingerich):

Andrew Gingerich said a 2018 Total Dissolved Gas Summary was distributed to the Aquatic SWG by Kristi Geris prior to the conference call on November 14, 2018. Gingerich said he already provided Ecology with a high-level summary of this information.

John Ferguson and Gingerich proposed postponing this update until the Aquatic SWG meeting on December 12, 2018.

7. Douglas PUD 2018 Pacific Lamprey Translocation Efforts (Ralph Lampman):

Ralph Lampman asked if there is a document summarizing all of the release locations from Pacific Lamprey translocation efforts in 2018. Chas Kyger said Andrew Gingerich developed a summary table that Kristi Geris distributed to the Aquatic SWG on September 12, 2018. Gingerich clarified that the table only included fish from Douglas PUD's effort and does not include YN translocation activities. Lampman said it would be convenient to have a succinct summary document for reference. Gingerich and Kyger said Douglas PUD will provide a document summarizing Douglas PUD 2018 Pacific Lamprey translocation efforts, including those in coordination with Grant PUD, the YN, and the CCT, to Geris for distribution to the Aquatic SWG.

VII. Administration

1. Upcoming meetings (John Ferguson):

The Aquatic SWG meeting on December 12, 2018, will be held by conference call.

Other upcoming meetings include: January 9, 2019 (TBD) and February 13, 2019 (TBD).

List of Attachments

Attachment A List of Attendees

Attachment A – 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	Technical Support	Douglas PUD
RD Nelle	Technical Support	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Patrick Verhey	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ralph Lampman	Aquatic SWG Technical Representative	Yakama Nation