

## Memorandum

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

Date: December 20, 2022

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris, HCP Coordinating Committees Support

**Re: Final Action Items of the December 16, 2022, HCP Coordinating Committees  
Conference Call**

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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 Plan (HCP) Coordinating Committees meeting, which met by conference call on Friday, December 16, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to this memorandum.

### Action Item Summary

1. Chelan PUD will continue providing Rocky Reach Dam and Rock Island Dam turbine unit maintenance updates as information becomes available (Item I-C).
2. Chelan PUD will verify dates and times the Rock Island Adult Ladder Tailrace Entrance was closed while calculating adult conversion rates for the 2021 Rock Island Dam Confirmation Survival Study (Item I-C).
3. Chelan PUD will provide a synopsis of the engineering options considered to meet the minimum 1.0-foot head differential target at all four entrances at the Rock Island Dam Right Bank Adult Fishway during high spring flows in the Columbia River (Item I-C).
4. Douglas PUD will distribute a draft Statement of Agreement (SOA) to change the timing of Wells Dam bypass operations, beginning in 2023 and going forward, for a vote in January 2023; and this change in operations will be reflected in the 2023 Wells Bypass Operating Plan for a vote in February 2023, before the plan is due to Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) on February 28, 2023 (Item III-B). *(Note: Tom Kahler provided the draft SOA for review on December 19, 2022, which was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris that same day.)*
5. Wells HCP Coordinating Committee representatives will contact Douglas PUD with questions, if any, about the draft SOA to change the timing of Wells Dam bypass operations prior to the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on January 24, 2023 (Item III-B).
6. The next scheduled HCP Coordinating Committees meeting is on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to no later than 4:00 p.m., and is to be held by conference call (Item VI-A).
7. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will distribute weblinks to access the codes for the models and simulations discussed in the steelhead overshoot presentation

during today's HCP Coordinating Committees conference call (Item VII-A). (Note: Andrew Murdoch provided these weblinks, which were distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 19, 2022.)

## Decision Summary

1. Wells HCP Coordinating Committee representatives present approved the *Summary of 2022 Juvenile Fish Bypass Operations at Wells Hydroelectric Project* (2022 Wells Post-Season Bypass Report) and appended *Proportion of Juvenile Plan Species Outmigrating through Wells Dam during Juvenile Bypass Operations in 2022* (Passage-Dates Analysis) (Item III-B).

## Agreements

1. Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed that starting in 2023, Chelan PUD will release fish rescued during fish salvage operations accordingly, upstream or downstream of the dam, based on life stage (Item IV-C).

## Review Items

1. The draft *2021 Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County Northern Pikeminnow Removal and Research Program* (Douglas PUD 2021 Northern Pikeminnow Removal Annual Report) was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on November 22, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review with edits and comments due to Tom Kahler by December 22, 2022 (Item III-A).
2. The *2022 Biological Evaluation of the Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Draft Report* (2022 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Report) was distributed to the Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 2, 2022, and is available for a 90-day review with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by February 28, 2023 (Item IV-A).
3. The *2022 Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring Program and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Draft Report* (2022 Rock Island Smolt and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Report) was distributed to the Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 2, 2022, and is available for a 90-day review with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by February 28, 2023 (Item IV-A).
4. Wells Project Land-Use Permit Application for LUP 130B-01 was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 15, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review with comments due to Tom Kahler by January 14, 2023 (Item III-D).
5. The draft SOA, *Wells Dam 2023 Bypass Operations and Methods*, was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 19, 2022, and is available for a 30-

day review with edits and comments due to Tom Kahler by Wednesday, January 18, 2023  
(Item III-B).

## **Finalized Documents**

1. The final 2022 Wells Post-Season Bypass Report and Passage-Dates Analysis was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on December 19, 2022 (Item III-B).

**Attachment A  
List of Attendees**

Name	Organization
John Ferguson	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Tracy Hillman <sup>††</sup>	BioAnalysts
Bryan Nordlund <sup>∞</sup>	Fish Passage Engineering, PLLC
Denny Rohr <sup>∞</sup>	D. Rohr and Associates
Lance Keller <sup>*</sup>	Chelan PUD
Bill Towey <sup>*</sup>	Chelan PUD
Alene Underwood <sup>∞</sup>	Chelan PUD
Catherine Willard <sup>⊙</sup>	Chelan PUD
Scott Hopkins <sup>∞</sup>	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler <sup>*</sup>	Douglas PUD
Andrew Gingerich <sup>*</sup>	Douglas PUD
Shane Bickford <sup>◦</sup>	Douglas PUD
Tom Dresser <sup>∞</sup>	Grant PUD
Curt Dotson <sup>∞</sup>	Grant PUD
Scott Carlon <sup>*</sup>	National Marine Fisheries Service
Jim Craig <sup>*</sup>	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chad Jackson <sup>*</sup>	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Andrew Murdoch <sup>*</sup>	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Keely Murdoch <sup>*</sup>	Yakama Nation
Kirk Truscott <sup>*</sup>	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Tom Skiles <sup>∞</sup>	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Nathan Buck <sup>∞</sup>	Wanapum Tribe

Notes:

- \* Denotes HCP Coordinating Committees member or alternate
- †† Joined for the HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees update
- Joined for the HCP Douglas PUD agenda items
- ⊙ Joined for the HCP Chelan PUD agenda items
- ∞ Joined for the joint HCP Coordinating Committees and PRCC presentation