

Memorandum

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

Date: August 23, 2023

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris, HCP Coordinating Committees Support

Re: Final Action Items of the August 22, 2023, HCP Coordinating Committee Meeting

This memorandum provides a summary of action items, decisions, agreements, and documents for review as discussed during the Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Coordinating Committees meeting, which met in person at Wanapum Dam in Beverly, Washington, on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, 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. National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) will provide a summary of study fish and tagging protocols used in studies conducted at federal dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers in recent years (Item I-C).
3. Chelan PUD will inquire internally about the appropriate timing to engage the HCP Coordinating Committees in discussing the collection of additional run-timing information and conducting species composition monitoring at Rock Island Dam and Rocky Reach Dam in 2024 (Item I-C).
4. Douglas PUD will draft for Wells HCP Coordinating Committee review an updated section in the Wells HCP 2023 No Net Impact (NNI) Comprehensive Progress Report that summarizes “whether each Plan Species is rebuilding,” per the Wells HCP (Item I-C).
5. Douglas PUD will conduct a post hoc analysis of passive integrated transponder (PIT) detections of steelhead within the east and west adult fish ladders at Wells Dam, to evaluate passage rates during Pacific Lamprey trap operations from August 28 to September 15, 2023 (Item III-B).
6. Chelan PUD will verify the passage dates of the two PIT-tagged adult Spring Chinook Salmon that were observed passing Rock Island Dam on or after July 1, 2022, which were excluded from the adult conversion rate in the 2022 Rocky Reach Confirmation Survival Study (Item IV-A).
7. The Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committee will be prepared to vote on the SOA, *Approval of the Methodology to Evaluate the Adult Conversion Rate for Spring Chinook Through the Rocky Reach Project in 2023*, and appended, *Rocky Reach Spring Chinook Salmon Adult Conversion Rate: Summary of Methods*, during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on September 26, 2023 (Item IV-A).

8. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will correct the sample sizes used to calculate Yakima River steelhead overshoots (Slide 5) and the proportion of wild Wenatchee steelhead overshoots detected in the Wenatchee River (Slide 11), as shown in the presentation, *UCR Overshoot Steelhead Part 4*, that was shared during today's meeting (Item V-A).
9. Anchor QEA, LLC (Anchor QEA) will coordinate with Bryan Nordlund (Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee [PRCC] Chairman), Chelan PUD, and Douglas PUD, regarding a possible joint session with the PRCC to discuss WDFW's memorandum, *Wild Spring Chinook Smolt Survival*, during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on September 26, 2023 (Item V-B). (Note: This coordination took place on August 23, 2023, and consensus was not reached to convene a joint session.)
10. The HCP Coordinating Committees will discuss a possible Subyearling Chinook Salmon Workshop to occur in the near future, during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on September 26, 2023 (Item VI-A). (Note: Kristi Geris redistributed materials from the 2009 and 2016 Subyearling Chinook Salmon Workshops, after the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on August 22, 2023.)
11. The next scheduled HCP Coordinating Committees meeting is on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to no later than 12:00 p.m. and is to be held in person at the Wanapum Dam Hydro Office Building, Room 107, in Beverly, Washington (Item VII-A).

Decision Summary

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

Agreements

1. The Wells HCP Coordinating Committee agreed to Douglas PUD's proposed Pacific Lamprey trap operations from August 28 to September 15, 2023, with regard to passage of HCP Plan Species, and contingent on Douglas PUD conducting a post hoc analysis of PIT detections of steelhead within the east and west adult fish ladders at Wells Dam (Item III-B).

Review Items

1. The draft *Rock Island and Rocky Reach Anadromous Fish Agreements and Habitat Conservation Plans 2023 Comprehensive Progress Report* was distributed to the Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on February 10, 2023, and was available for a 60-day review, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by April 11, 2023. This review period was extended to May 12, 2023. Chelan PUD is currently addressing comments.
2. The draft *Northern Pikeminnow Predator Control Program, Rocky Reach and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects, Draft Summary Report, 2021* and draft *Northern Pikeminnow Predator*

Control Program, Rocky Reach and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects, Draft Summary Report, 2022 (2022 Northern Pikeminnow Removal Program Report) were distributed to the Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committees by Geris on July 24, 2023, and are available for a 60-day review, with edits and comments due to Keller by September 22, 2023.

3. Wells Project Land-Use Permit Applications for LUPs 109A-01, 109C-01, 128A-01, and 128B-01 were distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Geris on July 27, 2023, and are available for a 30-day review, with edits and comments due to Kahler by August 26, 2023 (Item III-A).
4. A draft letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, *Rock Island Hydroelectric Project No. 943 Continuation of Rehabilitation Work (Unit B8)*, was distributed to the Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committees by Geris on July 29, 2023, and is available for review, with edits and comments due to Keller by August 30, 2023 (Item IV-C).
5. The draft SOA, *Approval of the Methodology to Evaluate the Adult Conversion Rate for Spring Chinook Through the Rocky Reach Project in 2023*, and appended, *Rocky Reach Spring Chinook Salmon Adult Conversion Rate: Summary of Methods*, were distributed to the Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committee by Geris on August 17, 2023 (Item IV-A).

Finalized Documents

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

Attachment A
List of Meeting Attendees

Name	Organization
John Ferguson	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Tracy Hillman ^{††}	BioAnalysts
Lance Keller [*]	Chelan PUD
Bill Towey ^{*†}	Chelan PUD
Catherine Willard	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler [*]	Douglas PUD
Andrew Gingerich [*]	Douglas PUD
John Rohrback	Douglas PUD
Bill Gale [*]	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chad Jackson [*]	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Andrew Murdoch [*]	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Keely Murdoch [*]	Yakama Nation
Kirk Truscott ^{*†}	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Notes:

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