

Memorandum

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

Date: September 27, 2022

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris, HCP Coordinating Committees Support

Re: **Final Minutes of the August 16, 2022, HCP Coordinating Committees Meeting**

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Coordinating Committees met in person at Douglas PUD Headquarters in East Wenatchee, Washington, on Tuesday, August 16, 2022, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to these meeting minutes.

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 discuss internally options available for the HCP renewal process to inform Rock Island relicensing discussions (Item I-C).
3. Chelan PUD will verify dates and times the Rock Island Adult Ladder Tailrace Entrance (TRE) was closed while calculating adult conversion rates for the 2021 Rock Island Dam Confirmation Survival Study (Item I-C).
4. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Douglas PUD will provide updates regarding the Methow River Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) Detection Raft (Methow PIT Raft) to the HCP Coordinating Committees, as needed and as they become available (Item I-C).
5. 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).
6. Anchor QEA will add Patrick Verhey (WDFW) to the HCP Coordinating Committees secondary email distribution list and will coordinate visitor access for Verhey to the HCP Coordinating Committees extranet site (Item VI-A). *(Note: Kristi Geris completed these items following the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on August 16, 2022.)*
7. The HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, will be held in person at Wanapum Dam in Beverly, Washington (Item VI-B).
8. Douglas PUD will look into hosting the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on October 25, 2022 (Item VI-B). *(Note: Tom Kahler confirmed the Video Conference Room is reserved for the entire day.)*

Decision Summary

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

Agreements

1. HCP Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed to add Patrick Verhey to the HCP Coordinating Committees secondary email distribution list and provide Verhey with visitor access to the HCP Coordinating Committees extranet site (Item VI-A).
2. HCP Coordinating Committees representatives agreed via email to add Nathan Buck (Wanapum) to the joint HCP Hatchery Committees and Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Subcommittee primary email distribution list, as follows: NMFS agreed on August 19; and Chelan PUD, Douglas PUD, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), WDFW, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR), and the Yakama Nation (YN) agreed on August 22, 2022.

Review Items

1. HCP Plan Species comments received during the Rock Island relicensing process were provided by Chelan PUD and distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on May 24, 2022. The YN's categorization of YN comments were distributed on July 25, 2022 (Item III-A).
2. Wells Project Land-Use Permit Application for LUP 1134-01 was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on August 31, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review with comments due to Tom Kahler by Friday, September 30, 2022.
3. Wells Project Land-Use Permit Application for LUP 86-01 was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on September 12, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review with comments due to Tom Kahler by Wednesday, October 12, 2022.
4. The *Chelan PUD Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCPs Draft 2022 Fish Spill Report* (2022 Rock Island and Rocky Reach Fish Spill Report) was distributed to the Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on September 22, 2022, and is available for review with comments due to Lance Keller by Monday, October 24, 2022.

Finalized Documents

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

I. Welcome

A. Review Agenda (John Ferguson)

John Ferguson welcomed the HCP Coordinating Committees and reviewed the agenda. Ferguson asked for any additions or changes to the agenda. Lance Keller added Rocky Reach and Rock Island End of Summer Spill Update.

B. Meeting Minutes Approval (John Ferguson)

The HCP Coordinating Committees reviewed the revised draft July 26, 2022, meeting minutes. Kristi Geris said there were a few additional edits after distribution of the revised minutes. Scott Carlon made two clarifying edits under review of a NMFS action item. Additionally, Geris added a note regarding the same action item (i.e., carrying forward to the meeting in September 2022). All other comments and revisions received from members of the Committees were incorporated into the revised minutes. HCP Coordinating Committees members present approved the July 26, 2022, meeting minutes, as revised. The CTCR abstained because a representative was not present during the July 26, 2022, meeting.

C. Last Meeting Action Items (John Ferguson)

Action items from the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on July 26, 2022, and follow-up discussions were as follows. (*Note: Italicized text corresponds to agenda items from the meeting on July 26, 2022*):

1. *Chelan PUD will continue providing Rocky Reach Dam and Rock Island Dam turbine unit maintenance updates as information becomes available (Item I-C).*
This action item will be discussed during today's meeting and will also be carried forward.
2. *NMFS will discuss internally options available for the HCP renewal process to inform Rock Island relicensing discussions (Item I-C).*
On August 12, 2022, Scott Carlon notified Anchor QEA that he spoke with Ritchie Graves about his thoughts on the gap. However, rather than conveying this via email, he prefers to do this in-person during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on September 27, 2022. Graves' comments were not controversial (in Carlon's opinion), but he guessed there will be questions and conversation. This action item will be carried forward.
3. *Chelan PUD will verify dates and times the Rock Island Adult Ladder TRE was closed while calculating adult conversion rates for the 2021 Rock Island Dam Confirmation Survival Study (Item I-C).*
This action item will be carried forward.
4. *WDFW and Douglas PUD will provide updates regarding the Methow River PIT Detection Raft (Methow PIT Raft) to the HCP Coordinating Committees, as needed and as they become available (Item I-C).*

Chad Jackson said WDFW is continuing to coordinate with Douglas PUD, and there are no further updates at this time. This action item will be carried forward.

5. *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).*

This action item will be carried forward.

6. *The Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee will be prepared to discuss and prioritize HCP Plan Species comments received during the Rock Island relicensing process (the list distributed on May 24, 2022, and the YN's categorization of YN comments distributed on July 25, 2022) during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on August 16, 2022 (Item I-C).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

II. HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update

A. HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update (Tracy Hillman)

Tracy Hillman said the HCP Hatchery Committees will meet tomorrow, August 17, 2022.

Hillman updated the HCP Coordinating Committees on the following actions and discussions that occurred during the HCP Tributary Committees meeting on August 11, 2022:

- *Budget Amendment:* The Rocky Reach HCP Tributary Committee received a budget amendment request from Cascadia Conservation District on the Chumstick Baseflow and Riparian Enhancement Project. Because of lower-than-expected engineering costs and higher than expected travel and field work expenses, the sponsor asked to shuffle funds among different line items in their budget. The budget amendment did not change the overall budget for the project. The Rocky Reach HCP Tributary Committee approved the budget amendment.
- *Scope Change:* The Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee received a request from Cascade Fisheries for a scope change on the Chiwawa Nutrient Enhancement Project. The sponsor asked to use remaining funds (approximately \$12,000) to assist USFWS in distributing surplus Chinook Salmon carcasses in the Entiat River. The Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee concluded that they do not support the use of the remaining funds to be used to help distribute surplus carcasses in the Entiat River. Thus, they denied the scope change.
- *Chiwaukum Creek Restoration Project:* Cascade Fisheries (CF) joined the meeting to discuss the Chiwaukum Creek Project located on lower Chiwaukum Creek, a tributary to the Wenatchee River. CF described the geomorphology, hydraulic modeling results, and restoration design concepts for the Chiwaukum Creek Project. Restoration will focus on reconnecting the floodplain by removing camp sites and associated infrastructure. Large wood structures will be placed strategically to help reactivate side channels and the floodplain. CF intends to seek

funding to implement the project. John Ferguson asked about the nature of the comments. Hillman said all comments were positive. The HCP Tributary Committees helped fund part of this design. CF was seeking additional reactions and HCP Tributary Committees members thought it was great.

- *Beaver Creek Barrier Replacement Project:* Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) joined the meeting to discuss the final design for the Beaver Creek Barrier Replacement project. Beaver Creek is a tributary to the Wenatchee River. The purpose of the project is to replace a culvert, which is 67% passable, with a precast, concrete, split-box culvert that will accommodate higher flows and will be passable at all flows. Unfortunately, because of increased costs due to inflation and the fact that they will have to relocate a power pole and provide a paved parking space, the cost of the project has more than doubled. The original cost was about \$240,000. The revised cost estimate is about \$500,000. CCNRD intends to submit a budget amendment to the Rocky Reach HCP Tributary Committee. Kirk Truscott asked when this project will end. Hillman said this was the final design.
- *Eagle Rocks Discussion:* The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) joined the meeting to discuss the Eagle Rocks Project located on the Methow River between river miles 42.75 and 43.50. Last month, the Wells HCP Tributary Committee provided comments on the 30% design elements. The intent of this discussion was for the sponsor to get further clarification from the Wells HCP Tributary Committee on their comments. The Committee provided additional feedback and clarification and also responded to the sponsor's follow-up questions. MSRF thanked the Committee for the additional information and will move forward with developing the 60% designs. Tom Kahler recalled the Wells HCP Tributary Committee discussing costs of various components of the proposed project, and there was concern about the upper three structures and whether excavation was necessary within the floodplain. He understood that MSRF was going to provide an itemization of costs before 60% design. Hillman said he believes this is correct. MSRF will provide a breakdown of costs for the three restoration elements. MSRF also asked the Wells HCP Tributary Committee to identify which elements the Committee wants to fund. MSRF does not want to stop the entire process and may seek funding from other sources.
- *Next Meeting:* The next meeting of the HCP Tributary Committees will be on September 8, 2022.

III. Chelan PUD

A. HCP Plan Species Comments – Prioritization of Topics (Lance Keller)

HCP Plan Species comments received during the Rock Island relicensing process were provided by Chelan PUD and distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on May 24, 2022. The YN's categorization of YN comments were distributed on July 25, 2022.

John Ferguson summarized comments received and the YN's categorization of topics.

Keely Murdoch said last week, she met with Alene Underwood (Chelan PUD Fish and Wildlife Manager) to further discuss relicensing timelines, because this was unclear in terms of prioritizing. Most of the YN comments are not about adaptively managing the HCP; rather, most are things the YN sees as uncertainties about the HCP or how well the HCP is working, which the YN would like to figure out how to resolve before addressing the gap. For instance, before considering whether to extend the HCP, the YN wants to first understand whether the HCP is protecting wild versus hatchery fish. The YN was under the impression that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) would not issue a new FERC license until it was clear what would happen with the HCP at the end of the current FERC license. The YN's concern is that these discussions about the HCP will be difficult, time-consuming, and may even require collecting more data. What she learned from Underwood is, the hope is that a decision is not needed right away about what happens during the gap. That there would be a license article in the governing documents that states, starting 10 years before the HCP expires, the Parties must convene to figure out what to do moving forward. Underwood indicated that she would be open to further discussing these uncertainties, if needed. Murdoch said, in this context, while the YN does not want to completely drop these discussions, this does resolve a little of the urgency around addressing comments that are not about adaptive management.

Murdoch said, three of the YN's comments are about adaptively managing the HCPs, and she suggested maybe starting with these (flagged in red in the YN's categorizations). Row 13 will likely be discussed after subyearling studies. Row 15 is about powerhouse encounters versus non-powerhouse encounters (or the PITPH¹ model). Tom Kahler noted that the PITPH model is based on Snake River projects and does not work for the PUD projects. Murdoch also noted that Row 15 has somewhat been discussed already. Row 16 is the steelhead overshoot issue, which she would defer to WDFW on this because they are already discussing this and collecting data. Row 19 is also flagged as adaptive management (flagged in red in the YN's categorizations); however, this is not a YN comment (comment submitted by Scott Carlon).

Murdoch said the way she views this, is some issues can be handled through adaptive management of the HCP. Other issues are outside the scope of the HCP. For example, whether the HCP is providing the same coverage for wild and hatchery fish, considering the HCP is blind to fish origin. This is information the YN wants to know when considering whether to extend the HCP, as is, with modifications, or something else. Ferguson said Murdoch provided a good categorization of timing.

¹ "PITPH" is the calculated probability, based on PIT tag detections, that a juvenile fish originating in the Snake River Basin will pass through one or more powerhouse routes on its out-migration. For example, a PITPH of 0 signifies the fish is projected to pass through 0 of 8 dams via turbines/bypasses (rather than spill) and a PITPH of 8 signifies the fish passed through 8 of 8 dams via turbines/bypasses.

Murdoch said the conversation with Underwood really helped. Murdoch thinks the actual timeline is still up in the air, but this is how Chelan PUD is envisioning it will play out.

Kirk Truscott said, if the path forward is to extend the HCP as part of the new license, some of these issues will just need to be addressed again later. The Parties will just be in the same predicament down the road. Murdoch said this is not what she is saying. Her understanding is the current HCP will be part of the new license until the HCP expires. Starting 10 years before the HCP expires, the Parties will begin discussing whether to extend the HCP, extend with modifications, or other. Lance Keller clarified that "10 years" is an example and the actual timeline will be captured in the license. Like Carlon said, there are many ways to approach this, but Murdoch did a good job of summarizing the general timing of things.

Murdoch noted that FERC is going to need Endangered Species Act coverage for the term of the license, although this may be in the form of spelling out a process and not necessarily an explicit description of coverage. It might be helpful to have Underwood and Carlon discuss the landscape and timeline for addressing uncertainties. Ferguson said this may need to include Ritchie Graves (NMFS Columbia Hydropower Branch Chief), too.

Murdoch said most of the categories flagged in blue in the YN's categorizations are about decision-making related to the HCP, but not adaptively managing the HCP itself. She thinks starting with the categories flagged in red in the YN's categorizations makes sense and suggested that WDFW start with overshoots.

Chad Jackson said WDFW is in the process of setting up meetings with Underwood, as well. WDFW hopes to get clarity about the role of the Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee with Plan Species and what is truly adaptive management versus potential changes to the HCP that is not adaptive management. WDFW was a little taken aback when Carlon reported on his discussions with NMFS legal counsel, which seemed to be inconsistent with Graves. WDFW is also reaching out to NMFS for clarity about what may be required. If it is a whole new set of Biological Opinions, this will dictate the timeline on how topics are addressed. WDFW should be ready to further discuss these topics in the next month or so after these coordination calls occur. Ferguson asked who will be meeting with Underwood? Jackson said himself, Brock Hoenes (WDFW HCP Policy Committees Representative), Michael Garrity (WDFW Energy, Water, and Major Projects Division Manager), and Andrew Murdoch (WDFW HCP Coordinating Committees Alternate) will meet with Underwood in September 2022. Jackson asked, following Carlon's report out last meeting, has Chelan PUD reached out to NMFS regarding NMFS legal counsel comments? Keller said Chelan PUD has discussed this internally and does plan to connect with Graves. Keller also tried to find notes or minutes for when Graves outlined options for paths forward, but nothing was located.

Ferguson asked about Row 15. Is there preparation that can be done to get ready for a discussion? Can someone provide a briefing on the PITPH model? Murdoch said the second half of Row 15 deals with spill. She suggested perhaps Tom Iverson (YN Regional Coordinator) calling into a meeting to discuss the PITPH model? Kahler said Bob Lessard (Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission) created the model and has provided presentations on the model that were recorded. Keller asked if the comments in Row 15 are directed to one Plan Species or to all? Murdoch said she is unsure, but she viewed this comment more in the context about renegotiation of the HCP or license article versus adaptively managing the HCP. This might be something to consider regarding next steps. The spill issue is already being addressed. Keller said yes, spring species have already been tested and these data are being reviewed with regard to subyearlings at Rock Island and changes to the summer fish spill shape in 2021. Murdoch noted that some aspects of the HCP are not open to adaptive management. Is 93% the correct metric when Plan Species are not reaching recovery? Can managers do better? Should managers be doing better? Ferguson asked then, there is no urgency for Row 15? Murdoch said no and suggested maybe separating Row 15 into two comments. She would like to hear on subyearling spill changes. Keller said Chelan PUD will have these data soon.

Ferguson summarized that the next steps include: 1) hear feedback from Carlon about Graves' thoughts on options available for the HCP renewal process during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on September 27, 2022; 2) WDFW will meet with Chelan PUD and NMFS to obtain clarification on the process in September 2022; and 3) invite Underwood and Graves for a questions and answers session during a future meeting.

Truscott said there are available data, and the PIT detection rafts may provide further information on immigration characteristics of Plan Species, pre-smolts, moving into the Rock Island Pool. The current HCP measures juvenile survival based upon smolts or active migrants; however, "active migrants" is not defined. What life stages will be measured or can be measured? It does not appear the Rock Island HCP says anything about active migrants, so this is where he sees adaptive management coming in. Murdoch said Carlon submitted comments about this. Murdoch said, for example, there is new information for the Rock Island Pool and not just from the PIT detection rafts. There is also the Lower Wenatchee smolt trap. This is new information that did not exist when the HCP was signed. Fish are moving in from the Entiat trap much earlier than the Lower Wenatchee. Is it measuring survival, or maybe consider providing a downstream passage route that requires turning on the bypass earlier? She does not know what this looks like, but it is worth discussing under adaptive management to determine what can be done. Truscott said this is an example of something that will need to be addressed later. Murdoch said she thinks this falls under Row 19. Truscott said this will really be relevant when studying subyearlings. Is the project-level survival based on the aggregate or only on active migrants? The HCP does not say. Keller said this gets back to "can it be measured."

Ferguson suggested reviewing Section 10.3.2 of the Rock Island HCP—

This Agreement provides for on-going, active and adaptive management activities. Adaptive management provides for ongoing modification of management practices to respond to new information and scientific development. Adaptive management will yield prescriptions that may vary over time. Such changes are provided for in this Agreement and do not require modification of the Agreement or amendment of the Permit, provided, that such changes will not result in a level of incidental take in excess of that otherwise allowed by this Agreement and the Permit.

Murdoch suggested also reviewing Section 12.2 of the Rock Island HCP—

This Agreement may be amended or modified only with the written consent of the Parties, provided that, Parties who withdraw from the Agreement do not need to, and have no right to, approve any amendments or modifications, provided further, that this Agreement provides for on-going, active and adaptive management activities. Adaptive management provides for ongoing modification of management practices to respond to new information and scientific developments. Adaptive management will yield prescriptions that may vary over time. Such changes are provided for in this Agreement and do not require modification of the Agreement or amendment of the Permit, provided that such changes will not result in a level of incidental take in excess of that otherwise allowed by this Agreement or modify the provisions set out in Section 3 “Survival Standards and Allocation of Responsibility for No Net Impact”, further provided, that unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties NNI applies only to the identified Plan Species on the date this Agreement became effective originally.

Truscott said Section 12.2 seems to address how the HCP can be amended and is not so much about adaptive management. These discussions will continue.

B. Rock Island Dam Powerhouse 1 Maintenance Update (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller said work continues on Turbine Unit B3. There has also been more effort on Turbine Units B5 and B7. There is a large presence of contractors working on Turbine Unit B3, and he is trying to assess an accurate return-to-service date.

C. Rocky Reach Dam Turbine Units Maintenance Update (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller said work continues on Turbine Units C4 and C5. The return-to-service for Turbine Unit C4 is September 2022. The return-to-service for Turbine Unit C5 is January 2023. Recall this is the last small unit addressing trunnion issues and is the key unit to complete prior to the Rocky Reach Dam Confirmation Survival Study.

D. Rocky Reach and Rock Island End of Summer Spill Update (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller said a Rocky Reach and Rock Island end of summer spill update was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on August 15, 2022.

Keller said Chelan PUD has been monitoring the daily index counts of subyearling Chinook Salmon at Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams, as well as monitoring the Columbia River Data Access in RealTime (DART) database, to determine when to end summer fish spill for the 2022 Fish Spill Season. He recalled these three criteria include: 1) the DART run-forecast model must estimate that 95% of the subyearling Chinook Salmon run has passed; 2) based on spill initiation, spill operations must cover at least 95% of the subyearling Chinook Salmon out-migration; and 3) the subyearling Chinook Salmon daily index counts must be 0.3% or less of the cumulative run for 3 of 5 consecutive days.

At Rocky Reach Dam, Thad Mosey (Chelan PUD) considered shutting down spill on Friday, August 12, 2022, but thought an additional day may provide more confidence in meeting the criteria. Therefore, spill was ended at midnight on Saturday, August 13, 2022. Including the additional day resulted in daily index count percentiles below 0.3% of the cumulative index count for 4 consecutive days. DART estimated that spill coverage for 95% of the out-migration was achieved on August 7, 2022, based on initiating spill on June 1, 2022. Daily index counts being less than 0.3% of the cumulative index counts was met on August 8, 2022, and counts continued a downward trend.

At Rock Island Dam, all criteria to shut down spill were met as of yesterday, August 15, 2022. Index counts have been below 0.3% of the cumulative index count over the last 4 days. DART estimates that the 95th percentile of the subyearling Chinook Salmon out-migration as well as spill coverage for 95% of the out-migration was achieved on August 6, 2022, based on initiating spill on June 1, 2022, when it was estimated that 0.18% of the run had passed so far. There is still some volatility in the index counts. One criterion not required but implemented is a "gut check." Chelan PUD decided to take the conservative approach and continue to spill to provide confidence that the index counts across the remaining days of August will not exceed 5% of the cumulative index count. Mosey will monitor this day-to-day. This year, Chelan PUD was conservative in turning on spill and there will also be a conservative analysis to shutoff spill on the back side.

Kirk Truscott asked if this volatility in the tail end of the subyearling migration occurs more often than not at Rock Island Dam? Keller said the end spill dates at Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams are not synced up. In the past there has been some discussion about shutting down Rock Island Dam before Rocky Reach Dam. Regarding volatility at the end of the run, this changes year-to-year, and he is unsure about how it compares project-to-project.

IV. Douglas PUD

A. Wells Dam Bypass Update (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said per the *2022 Wells Hydroelectric Project Bypass Operating Plan*, bypass operations were terminated at midnight on August 9, 2022. Crews began removing bypass barriers the next day.

Kirk Truscott asked if the bypass barriers were removed for a fair amount of time this season, and Kahler said yes. John Ferguson asked about the current river flow, and Kahler said around 145,000 cubic feet per second (145 kcfs).

V. Chelan PUD / Douglas PUD

A. Subyearling Chinook Salmon Studies – Quarterly Check-In (Lance Keller and Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said Douglas PUD has no updates at this time.

Lance Keller provided an update on the ongoing Rock Island Dam Subyearling Chinook Salmon Behavior Study. He said receivers are still deployed in the river, but crews will start retrieving these from the river next week. A full report is expected in the first quarter of 2023. This year, the study started the week of June 13, 2022, and the last release was on August 4, 2022, in the Rock Island Dam tailrace. The study ran longer this year compared to last year, and the sample size was larger. This year, there was volatility in the subyearling run, which compromised the sample size in July 2022. Sample size targets were not met on some collection days. For example, one day crews operated the sampling screen for 5 consecutive hours, and only collected 60 fish when the target was 150 fish. The next week, numbers were back up. This type of randomness was observed throughout the run, which is drastically different from last year. This year was actually quite normal. Five autonomous receivers in the Rocky Reach Dam forebay have not been located due to high river flows sustained for long periods of time. Efforts to find and retrieve these receivers will occur once river flow decreases for safety purposes. This year, river flow approached 330 kcfs. This also affected where crews could release fish. When river flow was high, crews had to release fish parallel to the tagging site. The target release site was at the Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass outfall pipe, but this location could not be safely accessed. Boat restriction zone buoys were also lost. At Rock Island Dam, many of the fish releases were off the dock, because it was unsafe to dock and undock a barge for releases in the middle of the river. Nonetheless, data were collected. The receivers downstream at Crescent Bar and Sunland Estates stayed in place and have been downloaded once already. There is a lot of data to process. This year, the study targeted 1,300 fish for sample size, and he thinks the sample size was slightly above 1,000 fish. More to come on this study in the first part of 2023.

B. 3-Year Review of the HCP Coordinating Committees Chair (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler recalled this is a routine process, which was kicked off early this year. He distributed a question to HCP Coordinating Committees representatives about reviewing John Ferguson as the Chair and Anchor QEA as support. Responses were received right away. There was good input. He compiled a memorandum with comments and sent this to Ferguson. In conclusion, Ferguson and Anchor QEA were invited to another 3-year term. Everyone seems happy with the administrative process. There was also feedback and suggestions for improving. He asked if there is interest in discussing this feedback. Ferguson said he reviewed the comments and can reach out to representatives individually.

VI. HCP Administration

A. HCP-CC Extranet Access and Email List – Patrick Verhey (WDFW) (John Ferguson)

John Ferguson said a WDFW HCP Coordinating Committees representation designation letter was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on August 2, 2022. Ferguson said Andrew Murdoch is the new WDFW HCP Coordinating Committees Alternate, and Chad Jackson requested that Patrick Verhey retain email and extranet access. With Verhey transitioning out of the WDFW HCP Coordinating Committees Alternate role, his inclusion on the HCP Coordinating Committees email lists and visitor access to the HCP Coordinating Committees extranet site must first be approved by the HCP Coordinating Committees.

HCP Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed to add Verhey to the HCP Coordinating Committees secondary email distribution list and provide Verhey with visitor access to the HCP Coordinating Committees extranet site.

Anchor QEA will add Verhey to the HCP Coordinating Committees secondary email distribution list and will coordinate visitor access for Verhey to the HCP Coordinating Committees extranet site.

(Note: Geris completed these items following the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on August 16, 2022.)

B. Next Meetings (John Ferguson)

The next scheduled HCP Coordinating Committees meeting is on Tuesday, September 27, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., to be held in person at Wanapum Dam in Beverly, Washington.

The October 25, 2022, meeting will be held in person at Wanapum Dam, starting at 9:00 a.m. Jim Craig said Wanapum Dam may not be available for the October 2022 meeting. Tom Kahler said Douglas PUD will look into hosting the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on October 25, 2022.

(Note: Kahler confirmed the Video Conference Room at Douglas PUD is reserved for the entire day. The meeting will be held in person at Douglas PUD and will start around noon, depending on the length of the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee meeting that day.)

The November and December 2022 meetings will be by conference call, to be determined.

VII. List of Attachments

Attachment A List of Attendees

Attachment A

Name	Organization
John Ferguson	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Tracy Hillman††	BioAnalysts
Lance Keller*	Chelan PUD
Bill Towey*	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler*	Douglas PUD
Jim Craig*	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chad Jackson*†	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
- †† Joined by phone for the HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees update