

FINAL MEMORANDUM

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

Date: May 27, 2014

From: Michael Schiewe, Chair

Cc: Kristi Geris

Re: Final Minutes of the April 22, 2014 HCPs Coordinating Committees Conference Call

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) Coordinating Committees met by conference call on Tuesday, April 22, 2014, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Attendees are listed in Attachment A of these meeting minutes.

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

- Lance Keller will coordinate with Steve Hemstrom to develop a timeline for completing the new Valid Flow Duration Curves, including a brief summary describing underlying data and the calculation methods used, and a draft Statement of Agreement (SOA) memorializing the new Valid Flow Duration Curves (Item I-B).
 - Chelan PUD will provide the 2013 Rocky Reach and Rock Island Bypass Reports to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Coordinating Committees (Item I-B).
 - Jeff Korth will coordinate with Charlie Snow about developing a summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of steelhead trapped at both the east and west fish ladders at Wells Dam when the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) conducts stock assessment and brood collection from August 1 to October 31, 2014 (Item II-A).
 - Tom Kahler will develop a summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of summer and fall Chinook trapped at both the east and west ladders at Wells Dam when WDFW conducted stock assessment and brood collection from August 1 to October 31, in years prior to 2013 (Item II-A). *(Note: Kahler provided these data for trapping activities in 2013 to Kristi Geris following the conference call on April 22, 2014, which she distributed to the Coordinating Committees that same day.)*
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- Chelan PUD will provide periodic adult fish passage reports for Rock Island Dam to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Coordinating Committees (Item III-B).
- Mike Schiewe will coordinate with Lance Keller and Tom Kahler regarding meeting logistics for the Coordinating Committees meeting on June 24, 2014 (Item V-A).

DECISION SUMMARY

- There were no decisions approved during today's conference call.

AGREEMENTS

- Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed to allow WDFW to conduct stock assessment and brood collection for steelhead at both the east and west ladders at Wells Dam from August 1 to October 31, 2014, contingent that trapping at the east ladder is limited to one day per week, and also that WDFW provides a summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of steelhead trapped per ladder to help inform trapping decisions in future years (Item II-A).

REVIEW ITEMS

- Kristi Geris sent an email to the Coordinating Committees on April 21, 2014, notifying them that the draft Douglas PUD 2013 Pikeminnow Program Annual Report is out for a 60-day review period, with comments due to Tom Kahler by Friday, June 20, 2014.

DOCUMENTS FINALIZED

- There are no documents that have been recently finalized.

I. Welcome

Mike Schiewe welcomed the Coordinating Committees and asked for any additions or other changes to the agenda. Tom Kahler added a brief reminder about the draft Douglas PUD 2013 Pikeminnow Program Annual Report that is out for review.

A. Meeting Minutes Approval (Mike Schiewe)

The Coordinating Committees reviewed the revised draft March 25, 2014 meeting minutes. Three outstanding edits were discussed:

- Jeff Korth approved revisions to his edit regarding the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) annual request to tag sockeye salmon at Wells Dam in 2014, and an action item for him to coordinate internally to discuss the feasibility of collecting broodstock and tagging in tandem.
- Lance Keller approved an edit to Chelan PUD's 2014 Fish Spill Plan discussion clarifying a comment made by Bryan Nordlund about operating the powerhouses under the current Wanapum forebay elevation.
- The Hatchery Committees reviewed and approved late revisions submitted by Catherine Willard on Chelan PUD's Rocky Reach Trap discussion.

Kristi Geris said that all other comments and revisions received from members of the Committees were incorporated in the revised minutes. The Coordinating Committees members present approved the March 25, 2014 meeting minutes, as revised. Geris will finalize the minutes and distribute them to the Committees.

B. Review of Action Items (Mike Schiewe)

Action items from the last Coordinating Committees meeting on March 25, 2014, and follow-up discussions were as follows: *(Note: italicized item numbers below correspond to agenda items from the March 25, 2014 meeting.)*

- *Tom Kahler and Kristi Geris will coordinate with Douglas PUD Information Systems (IS) Staff to troubleshoot HCP Extranet Site issues raised by Coordinating Committees members (Item I-C).*

Geris said that a help document was developed and distributed to the Coordinating Committees on April 1, 2014. The document was designed to address the common issues that Coordinating Committees representatives noted during the meeting on March 25, 2014, including step-by-step instructions for accessing the HCP Extranet sites, troubleshooting errors, retrieving documents, and other daily Extranet tasks.

- *Tom Kahler will convey to the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) the Coordinating Committees' conditional approval of CRITFC's annual request to tag sockeye salmon at Wells Dam in 2014, with the requirements that: 1) fish subjected to MS-222 prior to release must be Floy-tagged; 2) sockeye trapping will only occur on the west ladder; 3) to the extent practical, trapping will occur in coordination with the WDFW's summer Chinook trapping for the Carlton program (Jeff Korth will coordinate internally to discuss the feasibility of collecting broodstock and tagging in tandem) and would in no case exceed 3 days per week, 16 hours per day; and 4) tagged sockeye must be released upstream from Wells Dam rather than returned to the ladder (Item II-A).*

Kahler said that these conditions were conveyed, as noted.

- *Chelan PUD will provide: 1) their new Valid Flow Duration Curves; 2) a brief summary describing the underlying data and the calculation methods used; and 3) a draft SOA memorializing the new Valid Flow Duration Curves (Item III-A).*

Lance Keller said that work on these is still underway and that he will coordinate with Steve Hemstrom to develop a timeline for completing this action item.

- *Chelan PUD will provide the 2013 Rocky Reach and Rock Island Bypass Reports to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Coordinating Committees (Item III-C).*

Lance Keller requested that this action item be carried forward.

- *Chelan PUD will verify the conditions being tested during the preseason tests at the Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass (RRJFB), including how many pumps will be operated during testing (Item III-C).*

Lance Keller provided this clarification in the revised draft March 25, 2014 meeting minutes, and will also address further today.

II. Douglas PUD

A. 2014 Trapping Activities (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said that a 2014 Trapping Schedule for Douglas PUD Trapping Facilities (Attachment B) was distributed to the Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on April 11, 2014. He noted that trapping associated with obtaining Wells steelhead broodstock that was scheduled for March and April is no longer needed because sufficient broodstock have been collected to replace broodstock that were lost. He added that the Wells steelhead trapping

scheduled for August through October is for back-up purposes in case not enough hatchery-origin recruits (HORs) are collected in the tributaries the following year. He also noted WDFW's stock-assessment effort where they trap, passive integrated transponder (PIT)-tag, and release 10% of the run. He said that Charlie Snow (WDFW) indicated that they prefer to trap at both the east and west ladders; however, Kahler indicated that he was uncertain about allowing this because he had already told CRITFC that they could only trap in the west ladder. Kahler said that WDFW only plans to sample one day per week, and he asked the Coordinating Committees if they approve this activity. He added that WDFW's trapping effort would be following the peak sockeye salmon and summer Chinook runs.

Bryan Nordlund asked if there is an advantage for WDFW trapping at both ladders. Kahler said he believes that it is an issue of obtaining a representative sample of the run at large. He added that it is believed that Wells Hatchery-stock fish preferentially use the west ladder whereas Methow and Okanogan natural-origin recruits (NORs) tend to use the east ladder. He said, however, that he did not know whether empirical data supports this belief. Nordlund said that if WDFW is only sampling one day per week, there are few concerns; however, if there is higher use than that, consistent with the message sent to CRITFC, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) would prefer trapping at only one ladder. He added that this may be reconsidered if there are data supporting that different runs use certain ladders.

Jeff Korth noted that the Coordinating Committees told CRITFC to trap only in the west ladder "if possible." Kahler agreed, and added that CRITFC was not told that they absolutely could not use the east ladder.

Nordlund asked what "run trap to full each day" means (in reference to the trap on the Wells Hatchery outfall channel, as depicted on Attachment B). Kahler explained that when fish "volunteer" and enter the hatchery outfall channel, they hold in a pool before jumping up a false weir into the trap. He said that fish may hold in the pool below the trap for long time periods, so staff leaves the trap open. He said that when the trap fills up, they shut the entrance and process those fish, and those fish that did not enter the trap that day will remain in the holding pool until they eventually move up.

Kirk Truscott said that if WDFW traps at both the east and west ladders, the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) request that WDFW provide a report that describes the origin composition of fish they sample to inform future trapping operations—in particular, whether there is a need to operate both traps for stock assessment. Korth said that he will coordinate with Snow about developing a summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of steelhead trapped at both the east and west fish ladders at Wells Dam during the period when WDFW conducts stock assessment and brood collection from August 1 to October 31, 2014; and Kahler indicated that he will develop a similar summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of summer and fall Chinook. *(Note: Kahler provided these data for trapping activities in 2013 to Geris following the conference call on April 22, 2014, which she distributed to the Coordinating Committees that same day.)*

The Coordinating Committees representatives present agreed to allow WDFW to conduct stock assessment and brood collection at both the east and west ladders at Wells Dam from August 1 to October 31, 2014, contingent that trapping at the east ladder is limited to one day per week, and also that WDFW provides a summary table that documents the hatchery and natural origin composition of steelhead trapped per ladder to help inform trapping decisions in future years.

B. Draft Douglas PUD 2013 Pikeminnow Program Annual Report (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said that Kristi Geris sent an email to the Coordinating Committees on April 21, 2014, notifying them that the draft Douglas PUD 2013 Pikeminnow Program Annual Report is out for a 60-day review period, with comments due to him by Friday, June 20, 2014.

III. Chelan PUD

A. RRJFB System Pre-Season Marked Fish Release Results (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller said that last month, pre-season testing of the RRJFB was conducted by releasing 400 marked fish, including 100 released in each entrance to the surface collector (SC), and 100 in each gatewell slot in Turbine Unit 1 (C1) and Turbine Unit 2 (C2). Keller said that 394 of the 400 fish released were recaptured, with no evidence of descaling

observed. He added that the missing 6 fish were from the entrance releases in the SC, and he presumed that those fish were probably released too close to the entrance and were able to avoid entrainment and escape.

Keller recalled a question that Bryan Nordlund asked during the last Coordinating Committees meeting on March 25, 2014, regarding how many pumps were operated during preseason testing, and Keller indicated that the SC was sampled in the normal configuration, which is 19 to 20 pumps depending on the current forebay elevation. Nordlund said that the purpose of his question was to gain a better sense of whether higher flow would cause problems, and added that these results suggest that this is not an issue.

Nordlund said that, regarding the missing 6 fish, in the past, pikeminnow have been observed on video near the SC entrance; he asked if that may have been an issue this year. Keller said that since the 2006 and 2007 Dual-frequency Identification Sonar (DIDSON) studies, fishway attendants conduct daily observations to monitor for pikeminnow. He added that typically, if pikeminnow are present, half-moon-shaped descaling is observed, which indicates an unsuccessful pikeminnow predation event. He said if that is observed, actions are taken to remove the pikeminnow. Nordlund asked if DIDSON technology is currently available for monitoring. Keller said that pikeminnow typically do not appear until June or July and then decrease over time. He added that the DIDSON cameras are run by summer interns that normally work from late April through August; however, in 2014, Chelan PUD does not plan to staff interns for DIDSON video analysis.

B. Wanapum Drawdown Update (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller recalled that on March 26, 2014, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued the order approving the Rock Island Interim Fish Passage Plan (IFPP), which addresses both adult and juvenile interim fish passage. Keller said that FERC also requires that Chelan PUD submit a monthly report starting May 1, 2014, including documentation of weekly and monthly calls, actions taken and needed changes, and any other documentation of consultation. He said that Chelan PUD must also provide copies of these monthly reports to the Coordinating Committees.

Keller said that modifications to the tailrace entrance (TRE) and left powerhouse entrance (LPE) on Powerhouse 2 are now underway. He recalled that during the Coordinating Committees conference call on April 14, 2014, Chelan PUD requested to temporarily move fish spill away from the center ladder to Powerhouse 1. He said that due to high winds on April 16 and 17, 2014, the crane could not operate; and therefore, the modified fish spill continued through April 18, 2014. Keller also noted that on April 21, 2014, about half of the water over Gate 24 was observed spilling onto the splat pad on Gate 23, which may be a concern for juvenile fish passage; therefore, Gate 24 was removed from the juvenile fish passage portion of the Rock Island IFPP. He added that during low tailwater, when the splat pad on Gate 23 is exposed, Gate 24 will not be used; however, if high tailwater is achieved for a long period of time, Gate 24 may be brought back into sequence.

Keller said that also during the Coordinating Committees conference call on April 14, 2014, Chelan PUD requested an extended ladder outage at the Rock Island left bank adult fishway from April 15 to April 22, 2014. He said that yesterday, April 21, 2014, re-watering of the left ladder began, and the ladder is expected to be brought back online today, as planned. He said that the slide gate is now in place, and the contractor is now mobilizing equipment to the left ladder. He added that until construction starts at the left ladder, both entrances will be open for fish passage.

Keller said that, lastly, Chelan PUD would like to make sure the level of communication regarding this matter is adequate for Coordinating Committees members. Bob Rose, Jim Craig, and Bryan Nordlund agreed that communication so far has been satisfactory. Kirk Truscott asked if Chelan PUD plans to report PIT-tag data as they become available, or if Grant PUD will provide that information. Keller said that PIT-tag data collected at Wanapum Dam do not auto-populate to the PIT-Tag Information System (PTAGIS)—those data need to be manually uploaded. He added, however, that PIT-tag data collected at Priest Rapids Dam and Rock Island Dam automatically upload every 3 hours. He said that Chelan PUD and Grant PUD are currently discussing how to evaluate those data (including visual counts), and also how to make those data available on a daily basis. He said that average travel times between Priest Rapids Dam and Wanapum Dam have been about 2 days, with an additional 2 days from Wanapum Dam to Rock Island Dam. Truscott asked that Chelan PUD

let the Coordinating Committees know where to find those data, once these details are sorted out. Keller said that Chelan PUD will provide periodic adult fish passage reports for Rock Island Dam to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Coordinating Committees. He added that, currently, 56 NOR steelhead and 26 HOR steelhead have been detected passing Rock Island Dam via the right ladder; and 10 NOR steelhead and 7 HOR steelhead have been detected passing via the center ladder. He also added that about 20 spring Chinook have also been observed passing Rock Island Dam.

IV. Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update (Mike Schiewe)

Mike Schiewe updated the Coordinating Committees on the following actions and discussions that occurred at the last HCP Tributary Committees meeting on April 10, 2014:

- *Small Projects Program Application: Remove Collapsed Bridge from Shingle Creek:* The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) requested funds to stabilize and reduce channel and bank erosion by removing a collapsed logging bridge that fell into Shingle Creek. The Tributary Committees requested additional information, which was provided by ONA. Subsequently, the Tributary Committees approved funding for this project (\$6,693).
 - *Small Projects Program Application: Silver Reach Mining Impacts Evaluation and Feasibility Study:* Trout Unlimited requested funds to evaluate the extent to which heavy metal contamination from local mining activities may be affecting nearby locations. The Tributary Committees requested additional information, and they are awaiting those data prior to making a decision.
 - *Silver Side Channel Concept Design:* The Rocky Reach Tributary Committee invited the Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (CCFEG) to their June meeting to further describe the concept design for the Silver Side Channel and results from their monitoring work.
 - *Time Extension: Methow/Chewuch Groundwater Monitoring Project:* The Wells Tributary Committee approved a no-cost budget amendment request from CCFEG to extend the contract to the end of 2014 so they could continue to monitor water levels at the Burns-Garrity and Silver Side Channel sites.
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- *ONA Monitoring Options:* The Tributary Committees asked ONA to submit proposals for two projects: 1) Penticton Channel Monitoring Spawning Platforms; and 2) Okanogan River Restoration Initiative Effectiveness Monitoring. If the Committees agree to fund one or both projects, the funds for monitoring would come from the Tributary Assessment Program, not the Plan Species Accounts.
- *Next Steps:* The next Tributary Committees meeting will be held on Thursday, May 8, 2014.

Schiewe updated the HCP Coordinating Committees on the following actions and discussions that occurred at the last HCP Hatchery Committees meeting on April 16, 2014:

- *Hatchery Evaluation Technical Team (HETT) Non-Target Taxa of Concern (NTTOC) Report Update:* Greg Mackey provided an update on the NTTOC effort. Mackey had pulled together all of the model runs that have been completed to date into a draft summary report that was first provided to the HETT for review; and now the draft report is with the Hatchery Committees for a 60-day review period. At the close of the review period, the Hatchery Committees will determine next steps regarding finalizing the report and a path forward for this Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) objective.
 - *Wells Hatchery Steelhead Broodstock Update:* The re-collection of Wells steelhead broodstock is now complete. Recall that on November 17, 2013, disinfectant was inadvertently discharged through a drain that led to the steelhead holding pond causing a loss of broodstock; the drain has since been welded shut. The CCT were able to obtain 58 steelhead from Omak Creek for the Okanogan program. Jeff Korth added that excess fish provided for broodstock by Ringold Hatchery will be returned.
 - *Methow Hatchery Spring Chinook Early Maturation Sampling:* Sampling of 300 Methow Hatchery spring Chinook juveniles for an evaluation of early maturation was completed; however, the results are not yet available. Greg Mackey plans to report the results to the Hatchery Committees when available.
 - *Draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols:* WDFW submitted the draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols to NMFS on April 15, 2014. Most comments received from the Hatchery Committees were incorporated into this draft.
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Submitting the draft protocols was somewhat rushed this year, and discussions are now ongoing to develop a system that avoids a similar situation in future years.

- *Hatchery Committees Approval of Annual Broodstock Protocols—Statement of Agreement*: Lynn Hatcher is discussing internally the possibility of developing a schedule and possible permit modification that will require Hatchery Committees approval of the annual protocols. There is still uncertainty with regards to collecting broodstock for the Nason Creek and Chiwawa spring Chinook programs; some of the uncertainties could have been avoided by better coordination between the HCP Hatchery Committees and the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub Committee.
- *Chelan PUD 2014 Rocky Reach Trap (RRT)/Methow Spring Chinook Broodstock Collection Proposal*: NMFS clarified that while they approved the RRT as a collection location for Chelan PUD's Methow spring Chinook program, they had concerns about the number of PIT-tagged fish that would be required if this was a long-term operation, and in particular the handling required to PIT-tag these fish.
- *Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) Update*: NMFS provided an update on permitting and the HGMP process. USFWS and NMFS have been holding joint permitting discussions every other month, with the next scheduled for early May 2014, and everyone who has interest can attend.

V. HCP Committees Administration

A. Next Meetings (Mike Schiewe)

Mike Schiewe said that the next Coordinating Committees meeting is scheduled for May 27, 2014, and will be held in-person at the Radisson Hotel in SeaTac, Washington. He said that the June 24, 2014 meeting will be held in-person in eastern Washington, at a location as is yet to be determined. He added that he would coordinate with Lance Keller and Tom Kahler regarding meeting logistics, and he noted that a site visit to Rock Island Dam has been discussed. The July 22, 2014 meeting will be held either by conference call or in person at the Radisson Hotel in SeaTac, Washington, as is yet to be determined

List of Attachments

Attachment A List of Attendees

Attachment B 2014 Trapping Schedule for Douglas PUD Trapping Facilities

Attachment A
List of Attendees

Name	Organization
Mike Schiewe	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Lance Keller*	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler*	Douglas PUD
Jim Craig*	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bryan Nordlund*	National Marine Fisheries Service
Jeff Korth*	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kirk Truscott*	Colville Confederated Tribes
Bob Rose*	Yakama Nation

Notes:

- * Denotes Coordinating Committees member or alternate