

Memorandum

To: Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCP
Coordinating Committees Date: January 25, 2022

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris, HCP Coordinating Committees Support

Re: **Final Minutes of the December 14, 2021, HCP Coordinating Committees Conference Call**

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Coordinating Committees met by conference call on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to these conference call minutes.

Action Item Summary

- Chelan PUD will continue providing Rocky Reach Dam and Rock Island Dam turbine unit maintenance updates as information becomes available (Item I-C).
- Chelan PUD will provide a summary of Wenatchee River spring Chinook salmon adult conversion rate results for the 2021 migration season, including a summary of the average arrival times at Rocky Reach Dam (Item IV-A). *(Note: Lance Keller provided these data to Kristi Geris on December 29, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.)*
- Chelan PUD will review with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) the Statement of Agreement (SOA) *Approval of the Results of the 2021 Rock Island Spring-Run Chinook Confirmation Survival Study*, as revised, and will request from NMFS a vote via email (Item IV-A). *(Note: NMFS approved the SOA, as revised, via email on December 16, 2021.)*
- Chelan PUD will provide the final fish rescue numbers from the fish salvages conducted to date (two upper portions of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway and one upper portion of the Rock Island Dam right bank adult fishway) and upcoming fish salvages (lower portion of the of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway, lower portion of the of the Rock Island Dam right bank fishway, and Rock Island Dam middle and left bank adult fishways) during the dewatering for annual winter maintenance at Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams (Item IV-C). *(Note: Lance Keller provided fish rescue numbers for the two upper portions of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway and the entire right bank adult fishway at Rock Island Dam to Kristi Geris on December 22, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.)*
- The HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., by conference call (Item V-C).

Decision Summary

- Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee representatives present approved the SOA *Approval of the Results of the 2021 Rock Island Spring-Run Chinook Confirmation Survival Study*, as revised (Item IV-A). (Note: NMFS approved the SOA, as revised, via email on December 16, 2021.)

Agreements

- The HCP Coordinating Committees agreed to add Rod O'Connor (Grant PUD) to the HCP Hatchery Committees and Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Subcommittee primary email distribution list, via email as follows: Chelan PUD, Douglas PUD, NMFS, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) approved on January 4, 2022; and the Yakama Nation (YN) approved on January 5, 2022.

Review Items

- The *2021 Biological Evaluation of the Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Draft Report* (draft 2021 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Report) was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on November 30, 2021, and is available for a 90-day review, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Monday, February 28, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of this report during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on March 22, 2022 (Item IV-B).
- The *2021 Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring Program and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Draft Report* (draft 2021 Rock Island Smolt and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Report) was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 10, 2021, and is available for a 90-day review with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of this report during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on March 22, 2022 (Item IV-B).
- The draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 13, 2021. A revised draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan* was distributed on December 14, 2021. This plan is available for a 30-day review with edits and comments due to Tom Kahler by Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Douglas PUD will request approval of this plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on January 25, 2022 (Item III-A).
- The draft *2022 Total Dissolved Gas Abatement Plan* and appended *Wells Bypass Operating Plan* (2022 GAP/BOP) was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on January 11, 2022. Douglas PUD will request approval of the draft plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022 (Item III-B).

Finalized Documents

- The final SOA *Approval of the Results of the 2021 Rock Island Spring-Run Chinook Confirmation Survival Study*, was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 16, 2021 (Item IV-A).
- Final Chelan PUD documents were distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 29, 2021, as follows: 1) *Northern Pikeminnow Predator Control Program Rocky Reach and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Final Summary Report 2019*; 2) *Northern Pikeminnow Predator Control Program Rocky Reach and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Final Summary Report 2020*; 3) *2020 Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring Program and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Final Report*; 4) *2020 Biological Evaluation of the Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Final Report*; 5) *2021 Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Action Plan*; 6) Final 2021 RRJFBS Operations Plan; 7) *Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Plan 2021*; 8) *Chelan PUD Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCPs Final 2021 Fish Spill Report*; and 9) the final SOA, *Deferment of the Rocky Reach Project Confirmation Survival Study from 2022 to 2023*.

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. No additions or changes were requested.

B. Meeting Minutes Approval (John Ferguson)

The HCP Coordinating Committees reviewed the revised draft November 16, 2021, conference call minutes. Kristi Geris said these revised minutes for approval were posted to the extranet site on December 7, 2021; however, an email notifying the HCP Coordinating Committees that the revised minutes were posted was not distributed until today, right before the conference call. All comments and revisions received from members of the Committees were incorporated into the revised minutes. Geris also closed out a couple of action items and added distribution of three documents under Review Items. John Ferguson suggested postponing approval of the minutes to next month, considering that the HCP Coordinating Committees are only seeing these revised minutes today.

C. Last Meeting Action Items (John Ferguson)

Action items from the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on November 16, 2021, and follow-up discussions were as follows. (*Note: Italicized text corresponds to agenda items from the meeting on November 16, 2021*):

- *Chelan PUD will continue providing Rocky Reach Dam and Rock Island Dam turbine unit maintenance updates as information becomes available (Item I-C).*

This will be discussed during today's conference call and will be carried forward.

- *Douglas PUD will revise the 2021 Wells Post-Season Bypass Report and Passage-Dates Analysis to include a description of start dates for the analysis of out-migration timing for HCP Plan Species and sample size information for fish included in Tables 2, 3, and 4 of the Passage-Dates Analysis and will distribute the document as final (Item III-A).*

Tom Kahler provided the final revised report, along with a document highlighting changes made, to Kristi Geris following the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on November 16, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.

- *Chelan PUD will distribute the tag list for the 106 adult spring Chinook salmon used in the adult conversion calculation for the 2021 Rock Island Dam Survival Confirmation Study (Item IV-A).* Lance Keller provided this list to Kristi Geris on December 7, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.
- *Chelan PUD will continue discussing internally the adult conversion component of the combined juvenile-adult project survival estimate calculation—consistent with the Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCPs—to discuss summer Chinook salmon in addition to passive integrated transponder (PIT)-tagged spring Chinook salmon that originated above Wells Dam (due to differences in run timing and environmental conditions experienced by the two runs of salmon), and also discuss spring Chinook salmon from the Wenatchee River Basin. This topic will be revisited during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on December 14, 2021 (Item IV-A).*

This will be discussed during today's conference call.

II. HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update

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

Tracy Hillman said the HCP Tributary Committees are not meeting this month. The Committees received a time extension request and budget amendment request, most of which has been resolved via email.

Hillman said the HCP Hatchery Committees convened a short conference call on December 6, 2021, to discuss recalculation and a sensitivity analysis. No decisions were made during this call.

The next meeting of the HCP Hatchery Committees will be on December 15, 2021. The next meeting of the HCP Tributary Committees will be on January 13, 2022.

B. Yakama Nation Letters on Upper Twisp Wood Project and Salmon Creek Project "No" Votes (Tracy Hillman)

Tracy Hillman said the letters, *Statement RE: YN Vote Against the Upper Twisp Wood Supplementation Project Funding Proposal* (Attachment B) and *Statement RE: YN Vote Against the Salmon Creek*

Channel Realignment Funding Proposal (Attachment C) were distributed to the HCP Policy Committees and HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 2, 2021.

Hillman said during the last HCP Tributary Committees meeting on November 18, 2021, the Committees discussed a Small Projects Program application from the CCT titled *Salmon Creek Channel Realignment Project*. The YN voted “no” on both this project and the General Salmon Habitat Program application from the CCT titled *Twisp River Large Wood Supplementation Project*¹. During the meeting, the YN HCP Tributary Committees Representative indicated that at this time, the YN will vote “no” on all CCT applications, provided that the application is for work conducted outside the CCT reservation and will abstain from voting on any CCT applications proposed within the CCT reservation. The reason for this is that the YN is identifying a flaw in the HCP Tributary Committees voting procedures where a Party can vote “no” on a proposal for purely political reasons regardless of advancing fish interests. The HCP Tributary Committees have a document titled *Policies and Procedures for Funding Projects*. In this document, *Section 5 Review Procedures* includes both general and specific criteria for evaluating applications and separate criteria for restoration, protection, design, and assessment projects. Unfortunately, this document does not specify that only these criteria can be used to evaluate projects, which leaves open a way to reject a project for other reasons—which is happening—and this is the point the YN is making.

Hillman said the HCP Tributary Committees will convene on January 13, 2022, to discuss the approval criteria and that only these criteria can be used to evaluate applications. Because this topic arose within the HCP Tributary Committees, the Committees will make a good faith effort to resolve this within the HCP Tributary Committees. If this cannot be resolved, the topic could end up in the HCP Coordinating Committees and perhaps the HCP Policy Committees.

John Ferguson said he wanted to keep the HCP Coordinating Committees updated on these discussions because the letters (Attachments B and C) came out after the last HCP Coordinating Committees meeting. Ferguson said since that time, he has had discussions with David Blodgett, III (YN HCP Policy Representative), who reiterated the YN’s position. Ferguson also spoke with Cody Desautel (CCT HCP Policy Representative) regarding the CCT’s thoughts on the topic. Ferguson called Ritchie Graves (NMFS HCP Policy Representative) last week and notified him of the letters that were in his inbox. Ferguson also spoke with Jim Craig and Alene Underwood (Chelan PUD HCP Policy Representative). Ferguson has not yet reached Brock Hoenes (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife HCP Policy Representative) or Shane Bickford (Douglas PUD HCP Policy Representative). He will continue to reach out to HCP Policy Committees representatives to keep everyone updated.

¹ This topic was presented under the HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on October 26, 2021 (see the final HCP Coordinating Committees October 26, 2021, conference call minutes for this discussion).

HCP Coordinating Committees representatives present had nothing further to add at this time.

III. Douglas PUD

A. 2022 Wells HCP Action Plan (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said the draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on December 13, 2021. Kahler said this is a routine document and is not an HCP requirement; rather, it is a practical exercise that helps outline what Douglas PUD and each HCP Committee needs to accomplish in the coming year. The other Wells HCP Committees have not yet seen this draft action plan, because Douglas PUD wanted to first provide the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee the opportunity to review and make edits before distributing it to the other Committees.

Geris shared the draft action plan on WebEx and Kahler reviewed each section of the action plan. Kahler noted an error in the fishway outage schedule. John Ferguson noted an error under the fishway ladder counts. Kirk Truscott requested that Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission's annual request to tag sockeye salmon be added to the action plan. Kahler said he will make these corrections and distribute a revised draft action plan for approval.

A revised draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan* was distributed on December 14, 2021. This plan is available for a 30-day review with edits and comments due to Kahler by Wednesday, January 12, 2022. Douglas PUD will request approval of this plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on January 25, 2022.

B. 2022 Total Dissolved Gas Abatement Plan and Appended Wells Bypass Operating Plan (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said the draft 2022 GAP/BOP is still in internal review and is not yet ready for distribution. To note, recall in the 2021 GAP/BOP, Spillway 7 was out of service, and involuntary spill was shifted to Spillway 5. The 2022 GAP/BOP will include the same configuration because repairs to Spillway 7 will not be complete before the start of, and possibly will not be complete during, the 2022 bypass season.

The draft 2022 GAP/BOP was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on January 11, 2022. Douglas PUD will request approval of the draft plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022.

C. Wells Dam Fish Ladder Maintenance Schedule (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said the east fishway at Wells Dam will be the shorter outage for this annual winter maintenance period and will be out of service January 10 to January 20, 2022. The west fishway will receive the major servicing and will be out of service January 24 to February 10, 2022.

IV. Chelan PUD

A. 2021 Rock Island Dam Survival Confirmation Study Results (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller recalled during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on October 26, 2021, Dr. John Skalski (University of Washington, Columbia Basin Research) presented results for the juvenile and adult components of the 2021 Rock Island Dam Survival Confirmation Study. Comments were received from the YN and the CCT, which Chelan PUD brought back for internal discussion. These internal discussions were not yet complete before the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on November 16, 2021. However, since then, Chelan PUD has reached resolution on these topics and reached out to both Keely Murdoch and Kirk Truscott regarding their respective comments.

Keller recalled Truscott's comment regarding including adult summer Chinook salmon (summers) in the estimate of adult spring Chinook salmon (springers) conversion rate, considering that yearling Chinook salmon included in the juvenile component is composed of both springers and summers. However, the Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee did approve using only spring Chinook salmon for the adult conversion, as described in the Agreement Statement of the *SOA Selection of Yearling Chinook and Adult Spring Chinook for Chelan PUD's 2021 Rock Island Confirmation Survival Study*, approved March 24, 2020 (distributed on March 31, 2020):

The Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee selects yearling Chinook and adult spring Chinook for Chelan PUD's 2021 confirmation survival study of Phase III (Standard Achieved) for spring migrating Plan Species at the Rock Island Project. Juvenile study fish will be sourced from the Rocky Reach Juvenile Bypass System as run-of-river yearling Chinook, and returning PIT tagged adult spring Chinook will serve as adult study fish.

Keller said he and Truscott discussed this language and agreed to move forward with including spring Chinook salmon only in the adult conversion rate estimates, as stated in the SOA. Should a point be reached where subyearling Chinook salmon can be evaluated, this might be the appropriate time to integrate an adult conversion rate for summers, if it can be done. Additionally, maintaining a springer-only adult conversion allows Chelan PUD to incorporate this 2021 estimate into the previous 3-year estimate from the other phase designation studies, which aligns with a goal of the study to evaluate and incorporate the results into the existing average for that Plan Species. Keller said, as requested by Truscott, a footnote was added to the draft SOA approving the 2021 study results that states, "...spring-run Chinook is defined as the combined adult and juvenile survival using yearling Chinook and spring Chinook adults." This note will also be included in the final study report by Skalski. Truscott agreed this is an accurate summary of their discussion.

Keller recalled Murdoch's comment regarding including Wenatchee River spring Chinook salmon in the adult conversion rate, considering this stock completes a portion of their migration through the

Rock Island Project. Chelan PUD believes it is not appropriate to include this stock in the adult conversion rate because Skalski uses fish returning above Rocky Reach Dam to evaluate adult spring Chinook salmon through the entire Rock Island Project. Using Wenatchee River springers would incorporate fish into the conversion rate estimates that do not pass through the entire Rock Island Reservoir and would not allow Chelan PUD to incorporate the 2021 estimate into the current average conversion rate based on the previous 3 years of studies calculating adult conversion to the top of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway. At the same time, Chelan PUD thought it would be a worthwhile exercise to look at the adult conversion rate for returning adult springers destined for the Wenatchee River Basin. Keller said he queried the PIT Tag Information System (PTAGIS) for all adult springers originating in the Wenatchee River Basin, marked as juveniles, that were detected in 2021 at the top of Priest Rapids Dam. This resulted in a total count of 199 PIT-tagged adult springers. Using these 199 adults as a tag list, he queried PTAGIS again to evaluate conversion into the Wenatchee River Basin. This query found that 190 of 199 fish converted into the Wenatchee River Basin. Interestingly, the Lower Wenatchee River PIT tag array (LWE) only detected 99 of these 190 fish. Detections at LWE are highly influenced by Wenatchee River discharge, so detection efficiency can vary. Conversion of the remaining 91 fish was based on detections upstream of LWE, mainly at Icicle Creek (ICL) and Tumwater Dam (TUF).

Results for the 9 adult springers that did not convert are as follows:

Number of Fish	PTAGIS Query Results
1	Not detected above Rock Island Dam and deemed a mini-jack
2	Detected ascending Rocky Reach and Wells dams, then fell back and entered the Entiat River
6	Detected at Priest Rapids and Rock Island dams and not detected beyond these points

Keller noted that per Skalski's approach, the one mini-jack was removed from the evaluation. Additionally, considering the suboptimal detection efficiency of LWE, there is a possibility that some number of the 6-fish group did migrate into the Wenatchee River undetected on LWE. If a correction factor of 2 fish is applied and taking the cubed root, as Skalski did, this results in a conversion rate of adult springer returns to the Wenatchee River Basin of 99.3%. This was positive to see and is very close to the 10-year results that Skalski presented. Keller believes this provides confidence that although the analysis excludes these fish from the adult conversion rate through the Rock Island Project, conversion of adult springers returning to the Wenatchee River appears to be good. Keller presented these results to Truscott, as well, and Truscott made a great comment that if Skalski calculated an additional correction factor on ICL detections, this conversion rate might increase even more.

Murdoch said she really appreciates Chelan PUD going through this exercise and she thinks Keller did a thorough job. It helps to see the Wenatchee River springer adult conversions. While she understands Skalski's methods with using the entire Rock Island reach, she does believe that adult survival under the HCPs should include all adults using a project—particularly the Wenatchee River ESA-listed stock—because these fish have a different run timing than other stocks and do not return at the same time and, therefore, could encounter different conditions. She suggested adding a footnote in the draft SOA approving the 2021 study results that this analysis of Wenatchee River spring Chinook salmon adult conversion rates was conducted. Keller said this is a great idea, consistent with providing a footnote to address Truscott's comments.

Keller said he will also email the summary of Wenatchee River spring Chinook salmon adult conversion rate results for the 2021 migration season, including a summary of the average arrival times at Rock Island and Rocky Reach Dams. He noted that Wenatchee River fish had slightly different arrival timing but not alarmingly so. Murdoch noted that if the Leavenworth population is included, this stock has an earlier run timing compared to the rest of the stocks, so this might diminish the differences. Keller said this is a good point and he will see about teasing out the Leavenworth fish. *(Note: Keller provided these data to Kristi Geris on December 29, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.)*

Keller shared on WebEx the draft SOA *Approval of the Results of the 2021 Rock Island Spring-Run Chinook Confirmation Survival Study*. His intention was to distribute this draft SOA before today's meeting; however, internal review of these issues was just completed, and he wanted to first talk with Truscott and Murdoch to make sure their respective comments were adequately addressed and the CCT and the YN were supportive of moving forward with Skalski's analysis. Chelan PUD hopes to obtain approval of this SOA before the end of 2021, so it may be included in this year's HCP annual report. Keller read the Statement and Background of the draft SOA. He added a footnote, per Murdoch's request, regarding how the adult conversion rate was calculated and that an additional analysis was performed to evaluate Wenatchee River springer adult conversion rates. Keller said Chelan PUD will review with NMFS this revised draft SOA and will request a vote via email.

Rock Island HCP Coordinating Committee representatives present approved the SOA *Approval of the Results of the 2021 Rock Island Spring-Run Chinook Confirmation Survival Study*, as revised. *(Note: NMFS approved the SOA, as revised, via email on December 16, 2021.)*

The final SOA was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Geris on December 16, 2021.

B. 2021 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Report and 2021 Rock Island Smolt and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Report (Lance Keller)

The draft 2021 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Report was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on November 30, 2021, and is available for a 90-day

review with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Monday, February 28, 2022. The draft 2021 Rock Island Smolt and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Report was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Geris on December 10, 2021, and is available for a 90-day review, with edits and comments due to Keller by Tuesday, March 8, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of these reports during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on March 22, 2022.

Keller said this agenda item is just a reminder that these reports are available for review. These reports were distributed earlier to provide a longer review period, per the updated timing of review and approval of HCP documents discussion. Everything in the reports is routine. He and Scott Hopkins (Chelan PUD Biologist) can address any questions or comments.

C. 2021/2022 Rocky Reach and Rock Island Adult Fishway Winter Maintenance (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller reviewed adult fishway maintenance updates at Rocky Reach Dam and Rock Island Dam, as follows:

Rocky Reach Dam

Keller said, per the Rocky Reach HCP Coordinating Committee agreement to begin the 2021/2022 ladder maintenance outage at Rocky Reach Dam 1 month earlier than usual, on December 1, 2021², the upper portion of the adult fishway at Rocky Reach Dam was taken out of service. He was on site when the headgates were installed, and the water level was dropped down to a safe level to enter the fishway. Two staff entered the fishway to follow the water as it receded through the upper weir section, ensuring no fish were stranded during the dewatering process. When the water level in the lower fishway was equal to the tailwater elevation, a fish rescue was performed. This included 14 adult Pacific Lamprey, 35 Mountain Whitefish, 21 adipose (ad)-present rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 2 ad-clipped rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 2 ad-present Chinook salmon (3- to 6-inch range), and 1 Mountain Whitefish mortality. There is also an upper portion of the upper fishway at Rocky Reach Dam from the count window to the fishway exit that is dewatered separately because a confined space permit and crane suspended man basket are needed to access the area. On December 3, 2021, this area was dewatered, and a fish rescue was performed. This included recovering 41 Mountain Whitefish, 21 ad-present rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 1 ad-clipped rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 13 ad-present Chinook salmon (less than 6 inches), 26 Redside Shiner, 1 Chiselmouth, and 1 ad-present coho salmon (less than 6 inches). All fish were rescued alive and returned to the river.

Keller said the lower portion of the adult fishway at Rocky Reach Dam is not yet fully dewatered because crews are experiencing difficulties getting the pumps to operate to dewater the fishway to a safe elevation in order to conduct a fish rescue. Crews are actively working on this and hope to be

² As agreed upon during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on October 26, 2021.

able to conduct a fish rescue this week. The left and middle entrance gates remain open, and the water elevation is equal to the tailwater elevation at Rocky Reach Dam, so fish are not trapped in the lower fishway and can move in and out as they choose to. Lastly, Keller recalled another driver for the early outage request was to address expansion joint repairs, and this section of the adult fishway at Rocky Reach Dam is now dewatered and the contractor can start sealing the joints even though the lower fishway is not fully dewatered. Again, this joint repair is estimated to be a multiyear activity.

Rock Island Dam

Keller said yesterday, on December 13, 2021, the upper portion of the right bank adult fishway at Rock Island Dam was taken out of service. Again, headgates were installed, and the water level was dropped down to a safe level for three staff to conduct a fish rescue. This included 1 rainbow trout triploid (greater than 20 inches), 16 ad-present rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 8 ad-present rainbow trout/steelhead (less than 6 inches), 1 ad-clipped rainbow trout/steelhead (6- to 12-inch range), 1 rainbow trout/steelhead fry, 38 ad-present Chinook salmon (less than 6 inches), 3 ad-clipped Chinook salmon (less than 6 inches), 2 Redside Shiner, and 9 Mountain Whitefish. All fish were removed from the fishway and returned to the river.

Keller said, today, crews are on site conducting a fish rescue in the lower portion of the right bank adult fishway. The middle adult fishway will be taken out of service and a fish rescue performed on December 20, 2021. Recall, the three adult fishways at Rock Island Dam allows for two fish ladders to be taken out of service at the same time while maintaining one fish ladder in operation. The left bank adult fishway will remain in service until the middle or right bank adult fishways are returned to service.

John Ferguson asked about the Pacific Lamprey rescued from the adult fishway at Rocky Reach Dam. Keller said he personally handled all 14 fish, which were lively and feisty. He noted as the water level dropped below the elevation of the weirs and fish could only pass via the orifices, Pacific Lamprey were using the installed aluminum plating to travel upstream into the next chamber when all the other fish were migrating downstream with the receding water. All Pacific Lamprey were released into the Rocky Reach Dam forebay.

Chelan PUD will provide the final fish rescue numbers from the fish salvages conducted to date (two upper portions of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway and one upper portion of the Rock Island Dam right bank adult fishway) and upcoming fish salvages (lower portion of the of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway, lower portion of the of the Rock Island Dam right bank fishway, and Rock Island Dam middle and left bank adult fishways) during the dewatering for annual winter maintenance at Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams (Item IV-C). *(Note: Keller provided fish rescue numbers for the two upper portions of the Rocky Reach Dam adult fishway and the entire right bank adult fishway at Rock Island Dam to Kristi Geris on December 22, 2021, which Geris distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees that same day.)*

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

Lance Keller said work is continuing to address trunnion bushing issues in Turbine Units C4 and C6. The return-to-service dates of April 2022 for Turbine Unit C4 and January 2022 for Turbine Unit C6, as reported last month, are still holding.

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

Lance Keller said work still has not yet started on Turbine Unit B3. He understands that crews are continuing to analyze data from testing conducted on Turbine Unit B4 to help inform the best approach and strategy for Turbine Unit B3.

V. HCP Administration

A. Corona Virus Disease 2019 Updates (John Ferguson)

John Ferguson asked if there are any updates HCP Coordinating Committees members would like to share regarding impacts of Corona Virus Disease 2019 on HCP activities. No new updates were shared.

B. 2021 HCP Annual Reports (Kristi Geris)

Kristi Geris notified the HCP Coordinating Committees that Anchor QEA, LLC, is currently drafting the 2021 HCP Annual Reports. The draft 2021 Wells HCP Annual Report will be distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees on Friday, February 4, 2022, for a 90-day review, due Thursday, May 5, 2022. The draft 2021 Rock Island HCP Annual Report and draft 2021 Rocky Reach HCP Annual Report will be distributed on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, for a 90-day review, due Monday, May 9, 2022.

C. Next Meetings (John Ferguson)

The next scheduled HCP Coordinating Committees meeting is on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., to be held by conference call.

The February 22 and March 22, 2022, meetings will be held by conference call or in person, as is yet to be determined.

VI. List of Attachments

Attachment A List of Attendees

Attachment B Letter – *Statement RE: YN Vote Against the Upper Twisp Wood Supplementation Project Funding Proposal*

Attachment C Letter – *Statement RE: YN Vote Against the Salmon Creek Channel Realignment Funding Proposal*

Attachment A

Name	Organization
John Ferguson	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Tracy Hillmant	BioAnalysts
Lance Keller*	Chelan PUD
Bill Towey*	Chelan PUD
Tom Kahler*	Douglas PUD
Andrew Gingerich*	Douglas PUD
Jim Craig*	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chad Jackson*	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Kirk Truscott*	Colville Confederated Tribes
Keely Murdoch*	Yakama Nation

Notes:

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