

Memorandum

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

Date: February 22, 2022

From: John Ferguson, HCP Coordinating Committees Chairman

cc: Kristi Geris, HCP Coordinating Committees Support

Re: **Final Minutes of the January 25, 2022, 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, January 25, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:15 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 the final fish rescue numbers from the fish salvage conducted in the Rock Island Dam middle 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 left bank adult fishway) during the dewatering for annual winter maintenance at Rocky Reach and Rock Island dams (Item I-C).
- The HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., by conference call (Item V-C).

Decision Summary

- Wells HCP Coordinating Committee representatives present approved the *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan*, as revised (Item III-A).

Agreements

- The HCP Coordinating Committees agreed to add Rod O'Connor (Grant PUD) to the HCP Hatchery Committees and Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) Hatchery Subcommittee primary email distribution list, via email as follows: Chelan PUD, Douglas PUD, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), 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* 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.
- The *2021 Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring Program and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Draft 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.
- 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-C).
- The draft *2022 Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Action Plan* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on January 25, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of the draft plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022 (Item IV-A).
- The draft *Rock Island Dam Smolt Monitoring and Gas Bubble Trauma Evaluation Plan 2022* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on January 28, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Monday, February 28, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of this plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on March 22, 2022.
- The draft *2022 Rocky Reach Juvenile Fish Bypass System Operations Plan* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on January 28, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Monday, February 28, 2022. Chelan PUD will request approval of this plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on March 22, 2022.
- The draft 2021 Wells HCP Annual Report was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on February 4, 2022, and is available for a 90-day review, with edits and comments due to Geris by Thursday, May 5, 2022.
- The draft 2021 Rock Island HCP Annual Report and draft 2021 Rocky Reach HCP Annual Report were distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on February 8, 2022, and are available for a 90-day review, with edits and comments due to Geris by Monday, May 9, 2022.
- The draft *2022 Fish Spill Plan, Rock Island and Rocky Reach Dams Public Utility District No. 1 of Chelan County* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris on

February 8, 2022, and is available for a 30-day review, with edits and comments due to Lance Keller by Thursday, March 10, 2022.

Finalized Documents

- The final *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan*, as revised, was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris after the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on January 25, 2022 (Item III-A).

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. Scott Carlon added an NMFS administrative update.

B. Meeting Minutes Approval (John Ferguson)

The HCP Coordinating Committees reviewed the revised draft November 16, 2021, conference call minutes. John Ferguson recalled that approval of these minutes was postponed to this month. Kristi Geris said 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 draft documents for review, which are shown in tracked changes. HCP Coordinating Committees members present approved the November 16, 2021, conference call minutes, as revised.

The HCP Coordinating Committees reviewed the revised draft December 14, 2021, conference call minutes. Geris said all comments and revisions received from members of the Committees were incorporated into the revised minutes. HCP Coordinating Committees members present approved the December 14, 2021, conference call minutes, as revised.

C. Last Meeting Action Items (John Ferguson)

Action items from the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting on December 14, 2021, and follow-up discussions were as follows. (*Note: Italicized text corresponds to agenda items from the meeting on December 14, 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 action item will be discussed during today's conference call and will also be carried forward.

- *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).*

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 NMFS the Statement of Agreement 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).*

NMFS approved the Statement of Agreement, 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).*

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. Keller will discuss the final fish rescue numbers for the Rock Island Dam middle adult fishway during today's conference call. The remaining portions of this action item will be carried forward.

II. HCP Hatchery and Tributary Committees Update

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

Tracy Hillman updated the HCP Coordinating Committees on the following actions and discussions that occurred during the HCP Hatchery Committees conference call on January 19, 2022 (*Note: Joint HCP Hatchery Committees/PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee items are noted by "Joint," Wells HCP Hatchery Committee items are noted by "Wells," and Rock Island and Rocky Reach HCP Hatchery Committees items are noted by "Rock Island/Rocky Reach":*

- *Hatchery Production Recalculation Data Sources and Methods (Joint):* The Committees continue to evaluate data that will be used in recalculation of production numbers. The Committees are very close to approving the datasets needed for recalculation. They are currently working on estimating steelhead harvest rates, which will be used to adjust steelhead smolt-to-adult survival rates. Once the datasets are approved, the Committees will then focus on conducting sensitivity analyses. The Committees are scheduling additional meetings in the hope of completing recalculation in time to update the 2022 Broodstock Collection Protocols.

- *2022 Broodstock Collection Protocols (Joint)*: The PUDs and WDFW are currently updating the sections of the 2022 Broodstock Collection Protocols that can be updated at this time. Most of the updates will occur after recalculation is complete and production numbers are known. The 2022 Broodstock Collection Protocols are due to NMFS on April 15, 2022.
- *Goat Wall Acclimation Site Review Preparation (Joint)*: The YN has been releasing Methow spring Chinook Salmon from the Goat Wall Acclimation Site under a 5-year study plan (release years 2019 to 2021). The YN would like to continue spring Chinook Salmon releases from the site but needs approval from the Committees. As such, during the HCP Hatchery Committees meeting on February 16, 2022, the YN will provide results on the success of acclimating spring Chinook Salmon at the Goat Wall Acclimation Site. At that time, the Committees will decide whether or not to continue spring Chinook Salmon acclimation at the site.
- *Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Monitoring and Evaluation Activities (Joint)*: Each member of the Committees discussed the effects of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on their respective monitoring and evaluation activities. There are no changes in COVID-19 protocols since last month.
- *Next Meeting*: The next meeting of the HCP Hatchery Committees will be on Thursday, February 3, 2022. (Note: this is not a regularly scheduled meeting, the next of which is on February 16, 2022. The HCP Hatchery Committees have been meeting more frequently in an attempt to catch up on workload.)

Hillman updated the HCP Coordinating Committees on the following actions and discussions that occurred during the HCP Tributary Committees conference call on January 13, 2022:

- *Review of 2022 Wells HCP Action Plan*: The Wells HCP Tributary Committee reviewed the tributary portion of the draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan*. The Committee approved the tributary portion with no edits or comments.
- *Review of HCP Tributary Committees' Policies and Procedures*: The HCP Tributary Committees are in the process of reviewing their Policies and Procedures. The Committees briefly discussed Section 5 (Review Procedures) of their Policies and Procedures and are deliberating whether there needs to be changes to this section to address decision-making concerns raised by the YN. Section 5 currently identifies criteria for evaluating the biological and technical merits, feasibility, durability, and cost-effectiveness of proposed projects, but it does not preclude the use of other criteria in making funding decisions. For example, based on a policy-level decision, the CCT vote "no" on all YN acquisition projects in the Methow River Subbasin because the CCT do not want the YN owning property in CCT territory. In response and also based on a policy-level decision, the YN votes "no" on all CCT restoration and protection projects that are outside the CCT Reservation. Thus, funding decisions are made with criteria outside those currently identified within Section 5 of the HCP Tributary

Committees Policies and Procedures. Because one member was unable to participate in the discussion, the HCP Tributary Committees will continue these deliberations during the HCP Tributary Committees meeting on February 10, 2022. Kirk Truscott clarified that initially the CCT voted "no" on a YN land acquisition proposal. However, based on the YN's response by voting "no" on all CCT proposals the CCT are now taking the same position by voting "no" on all YN proposals (not just acquisition proposals). John Ferguson asked if this decision happened after the last HCP Tributary Committees meeting. Truscott said Chris Fisher (CCT HCP Tributary Committees Representative) indicated this decision was made during a CCT Fisheries Committee meeting with the CCT Business Council shortly after the YN letters were distributed. Truscott said CCT Fish and Wildlife staff are working internally to figure out a work-around on this but have yet to present anything to the CCT Business Council.

- *Plan Species Account Deposits:* Both Chelan PUD and Douglas PUD deposited funds into the Plan Species Accounts in January 2022. Chelan PUD deposited \$855,132 into the Rock Island HCP Plan Species Account and \$405,007 into the Rocky Reach HCP Plan Species Account. Douglas PUD deposited \$310,501 into the Wells HCP Plan Species Account. The current unallocated balance within each account is \$4,696,831 within the Rock Island Plan Species Account, \$2,960,517 within the Rocky Reach HCP Plan Species Account, and \$1,976,692 within the Wells Plan Species Account. Thus, the unallocated balance summed across the three accounts is \$9,634,040.
- *Eagle Rocks Presentation:* The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation discussed the Eagle Rocks Project with the Committees. The Eagle Rocks Project is part of the larger Sugar Project on the Methow River. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Committees on recent updates to the project and to review recent monitoring results and design alternatives. The sponsor intends to move forward with designing large wood placements in the mainstem Methow River but will likely not move forward with the side channel and alcove components of the project. The groundwater pump test revealed a low yield of groundwater for the proposed side channel. In addition, monitoring results showed that the proposed side channel and alcove would have large effects on the existing wetland, requiring significant mitigation and 10 years of monitoring. The Committees provided feedback and the sponsor will prepare draft designs for the Committees to review. John Ferguson asked about the size of the mainstem reach that will be supplemented with large wood. Hillman said he cannot recall but guessed it is less than 0.5 mile. *(Note: the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation documents do not specifically identify the length of mainstem to be treated. Based on maps provided in 2020, the reach extends from approximately river mile (RM) 42.5 to approximately RM 44.2; however, restoration work identified during the HCP Tributary Committees meeting appears to focus between RM 42.75 and RM 43.50. Thus, just under 0.75 mile.)*
- *Peshastin River Mile 4.3 Project Presentation:* Chelan County Natural Resources Department presented an update on the Peshastin Creek RM 4.3 Project. Based on feedback from the Rock

Island HCP Tributary Committee and regulators, the sponsor prepared updated preliminary designs for reconnecting the floodplain and side channels, as well as designs for restoring instream structure within Peshastin Creek. The Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee is currently reviewing the designs and will provide feedback to the sponsor by the end of January 2022. Because the contract on this project is scheduled to end on January 31, 2022, the Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee agreed to extend the contract to January 31, 2023. The sponsor indicated they will request a budget amendment, which will allow them to complete the final designs by the end of this year. The Committee will review the budget amendment in February 2022. Kirk Truscott asked what the reason was for the delay in the development of design work that necessitated a contract extension. Tracy Hillman clarified the extension was not due to a delay in the design. Rather, the Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee provided funding to develop the preliminary design, but not the final design. The sponsor completed the preliminary design on time, but because more money is needed to prepare the final design, the Rock Island HCP Tributary Committee said in order to review a budget amendment, the Committee will need to extend the current contract. If the contract was not extended, the sponsor would need to submit a new application. Therefore, it made more sense to just extend the contract.

- *Peshastin Creek River Mile 2.5 Presentation (with PRCC Habitat Subcommittee):* Cascade Fisheries and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust described a potential protection and restoration project on Peshastin Creek with the HCP Tributary Committees and the PRCC Habitat Subcommittee. Conservation-minded landowners recently purchased 163 acres along lower Peshastin Creek. The property spans approximately 0.58 mile along Peshastin Creek (RM 2.5 to 3.0) and contains a large piece of floodplain (20.5 acres). The landowners are interested in conservation and stream restoration work on the property and asked Cascade Fisheries and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust to develop protection (easement) and restoration alternatives. In addition to the presentation, Cascade Fisheries submitted a General Salmon Habitat Program application asking for \$132,825.20 to conduct an appraisal of the 20.5-acre floodplain and develop conceptual restoration designs. The Committees declined the opportunity to fund the project at this time because they need more information about the proposed project. Once the sponsor responds to the Committees' questions, the Committees will reevaluate funding the project.
- *Next Meeting:* The next meeting of the HCP Tributary Committees will be on February 10, 2022. Tracy Hillman said Trout Unlimited and WDFW will present on the fish passage improvements at Boulder Field. This work is now mostly complete, and the HCP Tributary Committees are interested in hearing about the successes of this work. Hillman said if HCP Coordinating Committees representatives are interested in attending this presentation, he can open this meeting to them.

III. Douglas PUD

A. DECISION: 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 recalled that comments were received during the HCP Coordinating Committees meeting last month and a revised draft *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan* was distributed on December 14, 2021. Kahler said the draft action plan was reviewed by the other HCP Committees. The tributary portion was approved by the HCP Tributary Committees (and no comments were received on the hatchery portion of the action plan).

Wells HCP Coordinating Committee representatives present approved the *2022 Wells HCP Action Plan*, as revised.

The final action plan was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Geris after the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on January 25, 2022.

B. 2021/2022 Wells Dam Winter Maintenance (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said the Wells Dam east fishway was dewatered last week on January 18 and 19, 2022. Douglas PUD provided a fish salvage memorandum to NMFS (with copies to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee) on January 20, 2022. Salvage operations were straight forward. One Coho Salmon jack was encountered, which is unusual. Nothing else was remarkable. The Wells Dam west fishway will be dewatered next week on January 31 or February 1, 2022, and will be the lengthy outage. He is unsure of specific repairs other than routine servicing of fish pumps and cleaning.

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

Tom Kahler said the draft 2022 GAP/BOP was distributed to the Wells HCP Coordinating Committee by Kristi Geris on January 11, 2022.

Kahler said of note this year, Spillway 7 will likely still be undergoing repairs. He recalled that studies completed for relicensing indicated the best configuration for minimizing total dissolved gas (TDG) during involuntary spill was to concentrate spill through as few spillways as possible and over operating units so water coming out of the draft tube forces the spill water towards the surface to provide degassing. Additionally, centering spill towards the middle of the project avoids the attachment of saturated flow to the bank, which would form eddies that concentrate saturated water. In the past, the gas abatement plan and appended spill playbook have been written to concentrate spill though Spillway 7 during high river flow. Last year, a gate was damaged resulting in removing Spillway 7 from service and modifying the spill playbook to move spill from Spillway 7 to Spillway 5. This year, it is anticipated that repairs to Spillway 7 will not be complete before the start of, and

possibly will not be complete during, the 2022 bypass season. As with last year, concentrated spill would typically move to Spillway 5; however, this year, Turbine Unit 5 will be out-of-service for maintenance. Therefore, in 2022, concentrated spill will move to Spillway 9. If flow capacity is inadequate in Spillway 9, next in line for operations will be Spillway 8 and then Spillway 10. Spillway 10 (and Spillway 2) are not equipped with automatic gate hoists and must be adjusted manually using a crane. Using a crane, the spill gates are set and dogged-off at a specified opening. If spill operations move to Spillway 10, Spillways 9 and 8 will be used to modulate spill volumes while Spillway 10 is dogged-off. In a situation that requires spill greater than Spillways 9, 8, and 10 provide per the spill playbook, operators will move to a split-spill scenario using Spillway 4 and then Spillway 6. However, under normal water year conditions, Spillways 9, 8, and 10 should adequately handle involuntary spill, in that order.

Kahler said additionally, the Wells Dam Emergency Action Plan includes a requirement to maintain a certain number of available spillways with automatic gate hoists to handle a load rejection. With Spillway 7 out-of-service, similar to last year, the barrier removal thresholds for incoming flow volumes will be reduced by 25,000 cubic feet per second (25 kcfs). This reduction in the threshold managed river flow very well last year.

Andrew Gingerich recalled in past years Kirk Truscott has requested to highlight what changed in the new GAP/BOP. Under last year's 2021 GAP/BOP, the Wells Project had a good year in terms of TDG compliance. There were no exceedances of the TDG standards in the Wells Dam tailrace during both compliance time periods (April to June and July to August), there was only one exceedance of the 115% TDG standard in the Rocky Reach Dam forebay. This year, regarding shifting concentrated spill, he said the main tenants of the BOP and HCP conditions are still in place. For example, a turbine unit cannot be used or be operating without an adjacent bypass opened appropriately to provide a non-turbine passage route for fish. Barriers are in place throughout operations until high river flow requires the removal of a given set of barriers, which is consistent with the Wells Dam Emergency Action Plan and BOP, which are designed to provide high fish guidance efficiency. When bypass barriers are removed, Natural Resource staff require operators to spill a minimum of 15 kcfs through the gate that has the barrier removed. This does two things: 1) spilling 15 kcfs engages the lip on the tailrace side of the spillway ogee that is below the tailrace surface and forces spilled water towards the surface, therefore facilitating degassing; and 2) 15 kcfs is the minimum flow that is needed in a gate where the barrier is removed to maintain high fish guidance efficiency with the barrier out. Collectively, these measures are preserved in the 2022 GAP/BOP and therefore Douglas PUD expects to have great bypass efficiency and TDG performance in 2022 even though concentrated spill will be shifted to Turbine Units 9, 8, and 10. Truscott thanked Gingerich for this explanation and said this would have been his question—what do these shifts mean for fish?

Kahler also thanked Gingerich for noting these details about guidance efficiency. Kahler said lastly, the same bypass operations timing that was approved last year is being proposed this year, starting April 9 at 0000 hours and continuing to August 9 at 2400 hours.

John Ferguson asked if Douglas PUD will request approval of the draft plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022. Gingerich said the final approved document needs to be filed with Washington State Department of Ecology and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission by February 28, 2022. This document is being reviewed concurrently within the Aquatic Settlement Work Group, who will vote on the document on February 9, 2022. Douglas PUD would welcome Wells HCP Coordinating Committee comments early, if any, so a revised document can be distributed before voting during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022. The final action items documents can be used to build the consultation record showing that this plan was vetted and approved by the Aquatic Settlement Work Group and Wells HCP Coordinating Committee, per the license requirement.

IV. Chelan PUD

A. 2022 Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Action Plan (Lance Keller)

Lance Keller said the draft *2022 Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Action Plan* was distributed to the HCP Coordinating Committees by Kristi Geris before the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on January 25, 2022. Keller said the draft plan is the same format as in past years. The upper panel is the HCP Coordinating Committees portion. Key changes from last year include the *2023 Rocky Reach Confirmation Study - Draft Study Design* and the *2022 Rock Island Subyearling Chinook Behavior Study*. Keller acknowledged that Chelan PUD has not yet shared results from the 2021 behavior study but hopes to do so in the coming months. The study produced interesting results, Chelan PUD wants to continue building this dataset, and is planning to repeat the study in 2022. This year's study will begin earlier than the 2021 study to capture more of the month of June. Lastly, the filing deadline for the 2021 HCP annual reports is moved out to May 31, as previously discussed within the HCP Coordinating Committees.

John Ferguson asked if beginning discussions on the *2023 Rocky Reach Confirmation Study - Draft Study Design* in late November 2022 will provide enough time to order tags and make other preparations to begin the study in April 2023, and has Chelan PUD thought about starting these discussions earlier and perhaps in October 2022? Keller said this was discussed and it depends on what vendors are seeing in terms of delays. Regarding the *2022 Rock Island Subyearling Chinook Behavior Study*, vendors are anticipating supply chain delays. Chelan PUD is closely coordinating with vendors and will adjust timing, as needed. Chelan PUD also still needs to establish a contract with Blue Leaf Environmental. For the confirmation survival study, just sharing the sample size analysis would illustrate what sample size (number of tags) is needed to meet precision, per the HCP.

Chelan PUD will request approval of the draft action plan during the HCP Coordinating Committees conference call on February 22, 2022.

B. 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 the lower portion of the adult fishway at Rocky Reach Dam is still not dewatered, as challenges with the dewatering system continue. Initially, there was an issue with operating the large valve required to be opened to drain the fishway, and divers were deployed to repair the valve and return it to operation. Then there were dewatering pump issues. An initial investigation indicated that the pump was operational, but with a decreased discharge capacity. It turns out, the casing for the intake of the pump has deteriorated and divers were deployed again to perform underwater repairs, which were completed successfully. Crews were able to bump start the pump and it operated with no issues. Early the next day, fishway attendants started the pump, it started smoking, and then burnt out. Currently, there is a local vendor working on the pump. Mechanical crews hope to dewater the ladder the week of February 7, 2022. This will leave a short window to inspect the lower portion of the fishway, make necessary corrections, and conduct a visual inspection of the gratings and gates prior to the 2022 fish passage season beginning. Kirk Truscott asked if the dewatering pump motor and pump intake conveyance pipe will be replaced during this outage. Keller said yes, hopefully during the week of February 7, 2022.

Keller recalled that one of the main drivers for an early outage this year was to repair a sluice gate associated with the attraction water pump. The gate was damaged during the last fishway overhaul, mechanical crews installed a temporary seal, and restored the gate to a temporary operating configuration. The vendor for this gate is experiencing supply chain issues and the last update was that the gate will arrive in April 2022, which is well-outside the work window. Therefore, crews cannot repair the gate this year, but will plan to do this next year. Crews inspected the temporary repair and are confident the gate can operate in this temporary configuration for another year.

Keller recalled another driver for the early outage was to start addressing expansion joint repairs in the upper fishway, and this work is continuing.

Rock Island Dam

Keller said the right bank adult fishway at Rock Island Dam is still out-of-service; the fish rescue numbers for this ladder were provided in an email (on December 22, 2021). He anticipates the right ladder will remain out-of-service for the duration of the 2021/2022 maintenance period (through

February 28, 2022). Work is being conducted on the attraction water pump and is anticipated to require most of February to complete.

Keller said the middle adult fishway at Rock Island Dam was taken out-of-service on December 20, 2021, and a fish rescue was performed. Crews recovered 5 fish total, including 3 adipose (ad)-present Rainbow Trout/steelhead (approximately 6 inches in length), 1 ad-clipped Rainbow Trout/steelhead (approximately 11 inches in length), and 1 ad-present Chinook Salmon (approximately 3 inches in length). These low fish rescue numbers are typical of the middle ladder. There is little work to perform in the middle ladder, which is continuing, and the ladder is anticipated to be returned to service by February 3, 2022.

Keller said return of the middle ladder will allow the left ladder outage to begin, which is anticipated to begin on February 7, 2022. Fish and Wildlife staff will be on site to conduct a fish rescue and these numbers will be provided once available.

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

Lance Keller said crews are continuing to evaluate operation of Turbine Unit B4, in hopes to inform the approach to be used for Turbine Unit B3. This is a joint effort with the contractor, Chelan PUD, and a third-party evaluator, to make sure conclusions line up.

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. As reported last month, the return-to-service date for Turbine Unit C4 is April 2022, which is still holding. The return-to-service date for Turbine Unit C6 was January 2022 but is now the first week in March 2022. This date includes completing dry and wet commissioning to where the unit is deemed available for generation. Following the commissioning of Turbine Unit C6, crews can start disassembly of Turbine Unit C5, which is the final small unit to receive trunnion bushing repairs. Chelan PUD anticipates repairs to Turbine Unit C5 will be completed before the 2023 Rocky Reach Dam Confirmation Survival Study.

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 COVID-19 on HCP activities. No new updates were shared.

B. National Marine Fisheries Service Administrative Update (Scott Carlon)

Scott Carlon announced that Barry Thom is leaving his position as NMFS Regional Administrator in early March 2022 to become the new Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission Executive Director. Carlon said Scott Rumsey, NMFS Deputy Regional Administrator, will be the acting Director until this position is filled.

C. Next Meetings (John Ferguson)

The next scheduled HCP Coordinating Committees meeting is on Tuesday, February 22, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., to be held by conference call. Ferguson said this meeting will include the next quarterly subyearling Chinook Salmon studies check-in.

The March 22 and April 26, 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 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
Scott Carlon*	National Marine Fisheries Service
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