FINAL 2026 WELLS HCP ACTION PLAN

WELLS HCP COORDINATING COMMITTEE

1. **Juvenile Fish Bypass**
   a. Gas Abatement Plan (GAP) and Bypass Operating Plan (BOP) to CC ..... 20 January 2026
   b. CC comments on GAP/BOP to DCPUD ..... 9 February 2026
   c. CC approval of GAP/BOP ..... no later than 24 February 2026
   d. Submit final GAP/BOP to FERC for approval ..... 28 February 2026
   e. 2026 Bypass operations at Wells ..... ? April–July/August 2026

2. **Annual Monitoring of Juvenile Migration Run Timing**
   a. 2026 draft passage-dates analysis and post-season bypass report to CC .....October 2026
   b. CC approval of 2026 final report .....November 2026

3. **Fishway Outage Schedule for Fishway Inspection, Maintenance, and Fishway Projects**
   a. East Fishway ..... late-December 2026/January 2027
   b. West Fishway ..... December 2026
   c. Adult Fishway Trap Coordination Meeting ..... April 2026

4. **Fishway Ladder Counts**
   a. Routine 24-hour ladder counts ..... 1 May–15 November 2026
   b. Winter counts ..... 1 January 2026–30 April 2026; 16 November 2026–31 December 2026

5. **Review and Approval of 2026 Hatchery Broodstock Collection Protocol**
   a. Draft protocol to CC for review ..... no later than 15 March 2026
   b. CC approval of draft protocol ..... 24 March 2026
   c. Deadline for submission of protocol to NMFS ..... 15 April 2026

6. **Pikeminnow Control Program**
   a. Draft 2025 Pikeminnow report to CC ..... May 2026
   b. 2026 Pikeminnow removal – Wells Project..... March–November 2026

7. **Avian Protection Plan**
   a. Bird Hazing .....April–August 2026

8. **HCP Annual Report**
   a. Draft 2025 annual report to DCPUD for review ..... 15 January 2026
   b. Draft 2025 annual report to CC for 70-day review ..... 20 February 2026
   c. CC comments on draft 2025 annual report due to Anchor QEA ..... 5 May 2026
   d. Revised 2025 annual report to CC for final review ..... 12 May 2026
   e. Draft 2025 annual report considered final if no disapprovals received ..... 14 May 2026
   f. Final 2025 annual report to DCPUD ..... 20 May 2026
   g. Final 2025 annual report to FERC ..... 29 May 2026

9. Annual CRITFC Request for Sockeye Tagging at Wells Dam

a. CRITFC submits annual request for tagging sockeye at Wells Dam ..... March 2026
b. CC approval of CRITFC request ..... May 2026
c. Monitoring of thermal-barrier status at Mallot USGS gage ..... June 2026

10. Improve PIT-tag Detection for Juvenile Plan Species in the Wells Project

a. Complete installation of Methow Train Bridge system on piers 1 and 4 .....October 2026
b. Seek FERC approval of Spillway 2 flap-gate system..... April-May 2026
c. Fabricate and install Spillway 2 flap-gate system..... Winter 2026-2027

11. Subyearling Chinook Temperature and Tag-Retention Study

a. CC approval of study plan ..... April 2026
b. First treatment begins..... June 2026
c. Last treatment ends ..... September 2026
d. Report to the CC ..... December 2026

WELLS HCP HATCHERY COMMITTEE

1. **Implement 5-Year Hatchery Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan**
   a. Ongoing implementation ..... January-December 2026
   b. Draft annual report for 2025 to Douglas, Chelan, and Grant PUDs ..... July 2026
   c. Draft 2025 annual report to Hatchery Committee (HC) ..... September 2026
   d. Final 2025 annual report to HC ..... November 2026
   e. Draft 2026 implementation plan to HC ..... September 2026
   f. HC approval of final 2026 implementation plan ..... November 2026

2. **M&E 5-Year Statistical Report**
   a. Draft report to the HC/HSC ..... May 2026
   b. HC/HSC approves final report ..... September 2026

3. **Update 5-Year Hatchery M&E Plan**
   a. Wrap up HC deliberations on updates to the M&E Plan ..... January-May 2026
   b. HC finalizes updates to the M&E Plan ..... June 2026

4. **Assessment of Precocial Maturation or Residualism**
   c. Methow Hatchery spring Chinook sampling ..... March 2026
   d. Wells steelhead visual assessment ..... April 2026

5. **2026 Broodstock Collection Protocol**
   a. Draft to HC for review ..... February 2026
   b. HC approval of draft protocols ..... March 2026
   c. CC approval of Wells Dam trapping operations ..... March 2026
   d. Deadline for submission to NMFS ..... 15 April 2026

6. **Annual Implementation – Okanagan Sockeye Fish/Water Management Tools**
   a. Incubation protection and emergence monitoring ..... October 2025–May 2026
   b. Redd scour prevention activities ..... March–May 2026
   c. Optimization of limnetic rearing environment ..... July–September 2026
   d. Hydroacoustic and trawl surveys in Osoyoos Lake ..... March, June, November 2026
   e. Sockeye spawning surveys and protection levels ..... October–November 2026
   f. Okanagan Lake spawning surveys and protection levels ..... October–November 2026
   g. Water budget (Snowtel, river and lake gages, withdrawals) ..... January–December 2026

7. **Broodstock Collection for Hatchery Programs**
   a. BY2026 steelhead ..... February-April 2026
   b. BY2026 spring Chinook ..... May-June 2026
   c. BY2026 summer Chinook ..... June-August 2026
   d. BY2026 Coho (YN staff) ..... September-October 2026

8. Annual Steelhead Sampling/Tagging at PRD OLAFT

a. Trap, sample, and PIT tag adult steelhead 3-days/week ..... 1 July – 1 November 2026
b. Daily PIT-tag file upload to PTAGIS ..... July – November 2026
c. Weekly reporting each Monday ..... July – November 2026
d. Provide genetic samples to CRITFC ..... November 2026
e. Final deliverables ..... 31 December 2026
f. PBT/GSI results from CRITFC ..... June 2026

9. Hatchery Releases

a. BY2024 1+ Chinook & Coho; BY2025 steelhead & 0+ Chinook ..... April-May 2026

10. Methow (Twisp) Steelhead Relative Reproductive Success Study

a. Final report to the HC ..... June 2026

11. Chief Joseph Hatchery Production

a. Fund hatchery production (spring & summer Chinook) per cost-share agreement 2026
b. Fund monitoring and evaluation per cost-share agreement 2026

12. Annual Permits for Hatchery Operation

a. 2026 Scientific Collection Permit report for hatchery operation ..... December 2026
b. Renew Scientific Collection Permit for 2026 ..... December 2026
c. Obtain fish-stocking permits for hatchery releases ..... February 2026

13. Evaluation of the Steelhead Conservation Programs in the Methow, and the Methow and Wells Safety-Net Steelhead Releases

a. Define the objectives of the formal evaluation ..... July 2026
b. Develop evaluation process and methodology ..... September 2026
c. Perform evaluation ..... October–December 2026

WELLS HCP TRIBUTARY COMMITTEE

1. **Plan Species Account Annual Contribution**
   a. $176,178 in 1998 dollars ($380,341.72 in 2026 dollars) ..... January 2026

2. **Annual Report - Plan Species Account Status**
   a. Submittal of 2025 account-status report to Tributary Committee (TC): ..... January 2026
   b. Integration into 2025 HCP Annual Report: ..... January 2026

3. **Review Funding Policies and Operating Procedures**
   a. Annual review of Funding Policies and Operating Procedures ..... February 2026

4. **General Salmon Habitat Program**
   a. Project review and funding ..... January–December 2026

5. **SRFB/TRIB 2026 Funding Round**
   a. Kick-off meeting ..... 10 February 2026
   b. Sponsor presentations ..... 25 and 26 March 2026
   c. Project tours ..... 5-7 May 2026
   d. Review draft proposals ..... 14 May 2026
   e. Comments on draft proposals due to UCSRB ..... 21 May 2026
   f. Review final proposals ..... 11 June 2026
   g. Decisions on final proposals due to UCSRB ..... 18 June 2026

WELLS HCP POLICY COMMITTEE

1. **Meeting Schedule**
   a. Annual meeting – Location TBD.....Date TBD
   b. Other meetings? .....As needed