

## FINAL MEMORANDUM

---

**To:** Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCPs Hatchery Committees  
**Date:** June 18, 2014

**From:** Mike Schiewe, Chair

**Cc:** Kristi Geris

**Re:** Final Minutes of the April 16, 2014 HCP Hatchery Committees Meeting

---

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) Hatchery Committees' meeting was held at Chelan PUD headquarters in Wenatchee, Washington, on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to these meeting minutes.

### ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

- Alene Underwood will review the status of pending water recirculation pilot studies at Eastbank Fish Hatchery and Chiwawa Fish Acclimation Facility, and will report back to the Hatchery Committees at the May 21, 2014 meeting (Item I).
  - Chelan PUD will provide video from the Rocky Reach Trap 2013 Pilot Study to Kristi Geris to post on the HCP Hatchery Committees Extranet Site (Item I).
  - The Yakama Nation (YN) will coordinate with Chelan PUD to develop a list of questions for Karl Halupka (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS]) regarding how the USFWS assigns incidental take, for discussion at the next National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)/USFWS Biological Opinion Coordination Meeting tentatively scheduled for early May 2014 (Item I).
  - Hatchery Committees representatives will submit comments on the sample size section in the memo clarifying standardized methods for Hatchery Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan Objective 8.3 Fecundity at Size to Mike Tonseth (Item I).
  - The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will add a revised summary table to the draft 2014 Wenatchee Basin Steelhead Release Proposal, and will redistribute the final revised draft to the Hatchery Committees (Item I).
  - WDFW will incorporate outstanding edits and comments into the draft 2014 Broodstock Protocols, including USFWS's edits, sideboard language for tangle-netting
-

in the Chewuch to obtain Chelan PUD Methow spring Chinook broodstock, and other edits discussed during today's Hatchery Committee meeting; and he will redistribute the revised draft to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item III-A).

## **DECISION SUMMARY**

- The Hatchery Committees representatives approved via email the revised draft Rocky Reach Trap/Methow Spring Chinook Broodstock Collection Proposal for implementation in 2014, as follows: NMFS approved on April 4, 2014; WDFW approved on April 7, 2014; the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) and the YN approved on April 8, 2014; and USFWS approved on April 11, 2014.
- The Hatchery Committees representatives approved the Wells Modernization February 19, 2014 Workshop minutes via email on Friday, April 4, 2014 (Item I).

## **AGREEMENTS**

- There were no agreements discussed during today's meeting.

## **REVIEW ITEMS**

- Kristi Geris distributed a memo to the Hatchery Committees on February 24, 2014, that clarified standardized methods for Hatchery M&E Plan Objective 8.3 Fecundity at Size. Comments on this memo, with regards to sample size, are due to Mike Tonseth (Item I).
  - Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on April 16, 2014, notifying them that the draft Non-Target Taxa of Concern (NTTOC) Modeling Report is out for a 60-day review period, with comments due to Greg Mackey no later than Monday, June 16, 2013 (Item II-A).
  - Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on April 17, 2014, notifying them that the draft 2013 Hatchery M&E Report is out for review with comments due to Tracy Hillman no later than Friday, May 16, 2013.
-

## **FINALIZED DOCUMENTS**

- The Final 2013 Rocky Reach and Rock Island HCP Annual Reports were distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris on April 8, 2014.

### **I. Welcome, Agenda Review, Meeting Minutes, and Action Items**

Mike Schiewe welcomed the Hatchery Committees and asked for any additions or other changes to the agenda. The following revisions were requested:

- Greg Mackey added an update on Methow Hatchery spring Chinook early maturation sampling.
- Bill Gale added a brief update on Winthrop National Fish Hatchery (NFH) steelhead broodstock and research to Douglas PUD's Wells Hatchery steelhead broodstock update.
- Catherine Willard added a brief update on Rock Island Dam fish ladder modifications.

Following a review period that was extended to allow more time for the Hatchery Committees to review the revised draft February 19, 2014 Wells Modernization Workshop minutes, the Hatchery Committees representatives approved the revised minutes via email on Friday, April 4, 2014.

The Hatchery Committees reviewed the revised draft March 19, 2014 meeting minutes. Two revisions were discussed as follows:

- Regarding Chelan PUD's Wanapum update, Mike Tonseth clarified that if fish passage at Wanapum Dam is not available when the runs start, this could require trap and transport by truck of up to 27,000 salmon per day (not specific to sockeye salmon as previously reported).
- Regarding WDFW's 2014 Wenatchee Juvenile Steelhead Release Proposal, Tonseth clarified that several of the non-migrants that were transferred to Blackbird last year after the volitional release period at Chiwawa were detected at McNary Dam.

Kristi Geris said that all other comments and revisions received from members of the Committees were incorporated in the revised minutes. The Hatchery Committees members

---

present approved the draft March 19, 2014 meeting minutes, as revised. Geris will finalize the meeting minutes and distribute them to the Committees.

Action items from the last Hatchery Committees meeting on March 19, 2014, and follow-up discussions were as follows: (*Note: italicized item numbers below correspond to agenda items from the March 19, 2014 meeting.*)

- *Hatchery Committees representatives will submit comments and/or their approval of the revised draft February 19, 2014, Wells Modernization Workshop minutes to Kristi Geris no later than Friday, April 4, 2014. No comments received will be considered an approval (Item I).*

Geris indicated that no additional comments were received on the draft minutes, and the final minutes were distributed to the Hatchery Committees on April 4, 2014.

- *Alene Underwood will review the status of pending water recirculation pilot studies at Eastbank Fish Hatchery and Chiwawa Fish Acclimation Facility, and will report back to the Hatchery Committees at the April 16, 2014 meeting (Item I).*

Catherine Willard requested that this action item be carried forward.

- *Chelan PUD will provide video from the Rocky Reach Trap 2013 Pilot Study to Kristi Geris to post on the HCP Hatchery Committees Extranet Site (Item I).*

Catherine Willard requested that this action item be carried forward.

- *The Hatchery Evaluation Technical Team (HETT) will provide the draft NTTOC Report for a 60-day review to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committee prior to the April 16, 2014, meeting (Item I).*

Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on April 16, 2014, notifying them that the draft NTTOC Modeling Report is out for a 60-day review period, with comments due to Greg Mackey no later than Monday, June 16, 2013.

- *Chelan PUD will develop for review a list of questions for Karl Halupka (USFWS) regarding how incidental take is assigned (Item I).*

The YN will coordinate with Chelan PUD to develop a list of questions for Halupka regarding how the USFWS assigns incidental take, for discussion at the next NMFS/USFWS Biological Opinion Coordination Meeting tentatively scheduled for early May 2014.

---

- *Hatchery Committees representatives will submit an email vote on the revised draft Rocky Reach Trap/Methow Spring Chinook Broodstock Collection Proposal to Chelan PUD (with a copy to Kristi Geris) no later than Friday, April 4, 2014 (Item III-A).*

All votes were received by April 11, 2014, and the Rocky Reach Trap/Methow Spring Chinook Broodstock Collection Proposal was approved by the Hatchery Committees.

- *WDFW will distribute the draft 2014 Broodstock Protocols to the Hatchery Committees for review on March 25, 2014. Initial comments on the draft protocols will be due to WDFW on April 10, 2014, and discussions on the revised draft protocols will continue during the Hatchery Committees meeting on April 16, 2014 (Item III-B).*

This item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Lynn Hatcher will inquire internally about requiring Hatchery Committees approval of the annual Broodstock Protocols (Item IV-A).*

This item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Hatchery Committees representatives will submit comments on the sample size section in the memorandum clarifying standardized methods for Hatchery M&E Plan Objective 8.3, Fecundity at Size, to Mike Tonseth (Item IV-B).*

Tonseth said that comments were received from Douglas PUD, and also that additional data were recently compiled. He requested that this item remain open for review.

- *WDFW will add a summary table to the draft 2014 Wenatchee Basin Steelhead Release Proposal, and will redistribute the revised draft to the Hatchery Committees. Hatchery Committees representatives will provide comments to Tonseth no later than Friday, March 28, 2014. No comments received will be considered an approval (Item IV-C).*

Tonseth said that he will add a revised summary table to the draft 2014 Wenatchee Basin Steelhead Release Proposal, and will redistribute the final revised draft to the Hatchery Committees.

## **II. Douglas PUD**

### **A. HETT NTTOC Report Update (Greg Mackey)**

---

Greg Mackey said that the draft NTTOC Modeling Report was uploaded to the HCP Hatchery Committees Extranet site on April 16, 2014, prior to the meeting. Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees following the meeting on April 16, 2014, notifying them that the draft report is out for a 60-day review period, with comments due to Mackey no later than Monday, June 16, 2014. Mackey said that the draft report has already been distributed to the HETT for review, and comments were received from Todd Pearsons (Grant PUD) and Matt Cooper (USFWS). Mackey said that he also made additional edits to the draft for review. Bill Gale said that he will involve Matt Cooper in the review, and Mike Tonseth said that he will also involve Andrew Murdoch (WDFW) in the review.

*B. Wells Hatchery Steelhead Broodstock Update (Greg Mackey)*

Greg Mackey said that all steelhead broodstock have been collected to replace those lost at Wells Hatchery on November 17, 2013. He added that he does not have the specific numbers by broodstock source; however, he acknowledged Ringold Hatchery for providing broodstock for the Columbia Safety-Net Program and Winthrop NFH for their collection of natural-origin recruits (NORs) in their volunteer channel and by hook-and-line angling. He said that Douglas PUD also obtained broodstock in the Wells fish ladder and in the Wells Hatchery volunteer channel; and he added that Jayson Wahls indicated that additional females are still being collected as backup. Kirk Truscott said that the CCT collected the full 58 steelhead for the Okanogan program from Omak Creek, including 16 NORs. He added that Wild Horse Springs was dry and therefore unfishable. Lynn Hatcher asked what will happen with unneeded backup fish. Mackey said that excess hatchery-origin recruits (HORs) will go to the Ringold program; however, excess Okanogan-collected fish would go to Douglas PUD's Columbia River-release program. He added that NORs are still being collected for the Twisp program, and that the last he heard, 7 had been collected so far and about 19 additional broodstock are needed. He said that no NORs are needed for other Wells Project programs—only Omak Creek and Twisp.

Mackey said that during hook-and-line angling efforts, adipose (ad)-present (presumed natural origin) fish outnumbered ad-clipped fish that were encountered during hook-and-line collections. He said, however, that past percent hatchery-origin spawner (pHOS) data suggest 80% or more HORs in the system. He said that perhaps HORs are not entering the

---

system as believed, may not be as susceptible to angling, or may enter the Methow later as most of the hook-and-line collection efforts occurred in late winter. He said that Winthrop NFH also encountered more NORs earlier in the year, but observed a higher incidence of HORs later in the year.

#### **Winthrop Steelhead Broodstock and Research (Bill Gale)**

Bill Gale said that this year, angling by Winthrop NFH staff started earlier than ever before, mainly to help obtain steelhead broodstock for Wells Hatchery, and also because a Biologist and technician are now stationed at Winthrop NFH, which makes logistics easier. Gale said that angling started on February 20, 2014, and ended about one week ago. A total of 100 fish were collected, including 85 Winthrop, 9 Twisp, and 6 lower Methow fish. Also, 8 HORs volunteered to Winthrop NFH. He said that the ladder is still open; however, there are not many fish entering. He said that a total of 35 NOR pairs were retained for the Winthrop program, which will equal about 150,000 smolts; and about 12 HORs were also retained. He added that a total of 20 HORs were transferred to Wells Hatchery. He said that 15 females and 8 males were live-spawned, and 10 males were also lethal-spawned. He said that among the females live-spawned, two did not survive; and all other live-spawned fish were transferred to the YN for recovery and reconditioning.

Gale said that a pilot study was underway using an artificially constructed spawning channel at Winthrop NFH. He said that the channel has been stocked with 4 HOR pairs, which will be used to monitor the reproductive success of returning Winthrop NFH brood. Gale said that this year, the goal is to determine if the spawning channel will work; and if so, then the channel will be in full operation next year. He said that the spawning channel is part of a Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) project to evaluate the reproductive success of returning HOR from different smolt rearing regimes. This project will target the inclusion of only HOR adults (no wild adults), and therefore, Winthrop NFH will need more HORs than in the past to populate the study. He said the goal is to obtain enough crosses to evaluate differences between the two smolt-age release groups (1 and 2 year) and returning salt years.

#### ***C. Methow Hatchery Spring Chinook Early Maturation Sampling (Greg Mackey)***

Greg Mackey recalled that at the Hatchery Committees meeting on January 15, 2014, the Committees approved sacrificing 300 Methow Hatchery spring Chinook juveniles for an

---

evaluation of early maturation. Mackey said that the sampling has been completed, and preliminary observations included a relatively high proportion of early-maturing males; this finding was surprising because returning adults show a skewed sex ratio of 60:40 males to females when the opposite may have been expected (i.e., females representing the higher proportion because of the loss of male returns due to early maturation). Bill Gale suggested that this may indicate higher ocean survival of males. Catherine Willard asked what proportion of the males were showing signs of early maturation, and Mackey said he did not have a final estimate yet, but that it was quite substantial. He added that the testes were also weighed (testes of early-maturing males were about 10 times heavier than normally maturing); so these early observations are based both on visual and quantitative data. Kirk Truscott asked what the fish sizes were. Mackey said that fish lengths ranged from about 120 millimeters (mm) to about 170 mm, and Tom Kahler indicated that fish weights ranged from about 19 grams (g) up to about 40 to 50 g. A complete report will be prepared, but will require consultation with several experts on early maturation before it can proceed.

### **III. WDFW**

#### *A. Draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols (Mike Tonseth)*

Mike Tonseth said that the revised draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols was distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris yesterday, April 15, 2014. He said that almost all edits received were incorporated into the revised draft. He added, however, that sideboard language for tangle netting and a Wenatchee spring Chinook broodstock collection strategy still needed to be discussed. The Hatchery Committees reviewed and edited portions of the revised draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols, as depicted in Attachment B and as described in the following sections.

#### **Notable in This Year's Protocols**

##### *Coded-wire-tag Interrogation and Winthrop NFH (first bullet, page 2)*

Bill Gale requested removing mention of Winthrop NFH from this bullet because there has been no need for Winthrop NFH to participate in this activity in the past. Tonseth noted that USFWS' comments were not yet incorporated into the revised draft protocols, and Gale said that he would resend USFWS' edits to Tonseth for incorporation.

---

*Wells Hatchery Steelhead (eighth bullet, page 2)*

Greg Mackey requested deleting this bullet (adjustment to the 2013 Broodstock Protocol regarding the loss of Wells steelhead broodstock) because the loss of Wells steelhead broodstock has since been recovered.

**Table 1**

*Smolt-to-adult Ratio (SAR; page 5)*

Tonseth noted that, as shown in Table 1, the total SAR increased from 0.0066% to 0.0085%, and that the total target HORs increased as well (compared to the first draft). He also noted that in terms of the collection objective to limit extraction to no greater than 33%, only the percentage of age 4 and 5 returns were considered, as opposed to considering the total NOR return. He said that he could include 3-year-olds if the Hatchery Committees prefer, but the Committees agreed with Tonseth's approach.

**Table 3**

*Methow Spring Chinook (page 6)*

Tonseth said that the Methow spring Chinook numbers were updated by Charlie Snow (WDFW), which changed the overall numbers, as shown in Table 3.

**Transferring HORs to Winthrop NFH from Methow Fish Hatchery (FH)**

Gale asked if any discussion has taken place about the potential transfer of HORs to Winthrop NFH from Methow FH, and Tonseth said that there had been no discussion. Tonseth added that he believes the intent is to incorporate Methow HORs; however, this has not been included in the protocols in the past. He said that any excess HORs collected at Methow FH should be prioritized for Winthrop NFH to reduce the incidence of Carson ancestry fish in Winthrop fish and to improve the Winthrop program as a safety-net for the Methow program. He also noted that the protocols are specific to PUD programs, and this is somewhat of a gray area.

**Douglas PUD and Grant PUD Activities (page 6)**

Tonseth said that scoping of activities for Douglas PUD and Grant PUD are largely the same as last year.

---

## **Chelan PUD Activities**

Tonseth said that the big differences this year are with Chelan PUD programs.

### *Rocky Reach Trap (RRT; page 7)*

Tonseth said that the use of the RRT is well defined. He said that a total of 42 fish will be targeted, including 5 HORs and 37 NORs; and how many of those can be collected at the RRT will define how many fish need to be targeted via tangle netting in the Chewuch. Lynn Hatcher asked if few fish are collected at the RRT and a major effort is needed in the Chewuch, whether this effort would first be discussed with the Hatchery Committees. Tonseth explained that this question is what the sideboard language is intended to address.

### *Tributary-based Broodstock Collection (tangle netting; page 9)*

Tonseth said that sideboard language needs to be established that defines such things as when tangle netting will start, how long it will last, and what the fallback options are if not enough fish are collected (e.g., Winthrop NFH). Keely Murdoch noted that the YN does not want to shift to HORs as an immediate fallback position. Tonseth suggested that passive integrated transponder (PIT)-tagged HORs need to be targeted at the RRT in case not enough NORs can be collected. He added that collecting HORs may also help limit the duration of tangle netting. The Hatchery Committees established five sideboards for tangle netting efforts, as described below.

#### *Sideboard 1: Tangle netting activities not to exceed 10 days*

Keely Murdoch said that the YN does not support the use of tangle netting in the Chewuch for long periods of time. She said that tangle netting in Nason Creek was completed over a 2-week period, and the YN would be supportive of a similar time frame. She added that the language needs to specify number of days, rather than weeks. She also suggested that the days do not need to be consecutive; in cases where there are not a lot of fish in the system, tangle netting efforts could then stop and restart when more fish are present. Tonseth suggested that tangle netting activities should not exceed 10 days, regardless of when those days are used. He added that this will involve monitoring of PIT-tagged detections at in-stream arrays to optimize timing.

---

*Sideboard 2: Start and end dates to allow tangle netting activities to be determined based on existing data*

Keely Murdoch suggested establishing a sideboard for how late in the season tangle netting activities can occur. She added that activities should not be occurring when fish are staging to spawn. Kirk Truscott suggested reviewing historical PIT-tag data to determine the best time to sample, and Hatcher also suggested coupling those data with up-to-date observations. Tonseth added that historical spawning data can also be used to determine an end date.

*Sideboard 3: Location of tangle netting activities to be determined based on historical data*

Tonseth suggested that, in terms of location, rather than sampling the entire river, areas where fish tend to spawn should be identified because fish typically tend to stage in areas upstream and downstream of those areas. Truscott also suggested targeting areas with a higher proportion of NORs. Hatcher asked if snorkeling efforts are planned. Tonseth said that, initially, spawning ground data will be used to target an area, and then before deploying the nets, snorkeling crews will confirm that fish are present. Catherine Willard asked if snorkeling efforts would count towards the 10 days allotted for tangle netting, and Keely Murdoch replied that they should not.

*Sideboard 4: Retain fish collected*

Tonseth said that ad-present fish will be targeted, but that the number of HORs and NORs collected still needs to be tracked because one-third extraction cannot be exceeded. He added that all fish collected will be retained (no catch and release).

*Sideboard 5: Overcollection to be used for the Winthrop NFH program*

Truscott asked if the target amount of fish is obtained, but most of them are HORs, whether tangle netting efforts would continue with the excess HORs being used for the Winthrop NFH program. Tonseth agreed that this should happen and noted that as the number of HORs retained for the program increases, the overall brood needed to account for 15% cull for bacterial kidney disease management also increases. He also added that if tangle netting efforts continue to increase the number of NORs, HORs would not be transferred until the total number of NORs is known. Gale noted

---

that from a fish health perspective, USFWS may not support the transfer of fish that are held at Eastbank FH to Winthrop NFH.

Tonseth recalled that on Nason Creek, two tangle netting crews operated each day. Gale said that he discussed the overall RRT proposal with Karl Halupka (USFWS), and he appeared to be supportive of the direction in which it was heading, as well as of the bull trout aversion measures that have been discussed. Gale added that Halupka may have questions once dates are established. Tonseth said that, in terms of bull trout, a letter will be developed that is similar to last year's. Willard noted that historical data indicate that bull trout move up in May and are at spawning grounds by mid-July, which are located higher in the system than where spring Chinook spawn.

Mackey suggested that language should be considered that allows some flexibility in the amount of time allowed for tangle netting activities if, for example, the impact is low and more fish need to be collected. Tonseth said that language has already been added that provides latitude to potentially extend activities with concurrence from the Committees.

Keely Murdoch requested that tangle netting efforts be coordinated with the HCP parties so that staff have the opportunity to participate. She added that the YN is interested in sending someone out during these activities, and Willard said that Chelan PUD is also interested in participating. Tonseth said that once the details are worked out, he will send an email to Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees that outlines dates, times, and locations. Keely Murdoch requested that the email be sent with ample time to coordinate schedules, as needed.

*Winthrop NFH (page 10)*

Gale requested adding "and/or gametes" to what will be used from Winthrop NFH to help Chelan PUD meet their spring Chinook obligation in the event that the RRT and tangle netting fail to yield the needed broodstock. He also clarified that this option "may" be utilized (not "will").

**Table 5**

*Methow Safety-Net Steelhead and Winthrop NFH (page 12)*

---

Gale said that given the efficiency of Winthrop NFH, he was uncertain how realistic it was to report that Winthrop NFH will be able to transfer “up to 62 HORs” steelhead for the Methow Safety-Net Program. Tonseth said that 62 HORs will also be collected at Wells Dam to make up any shortfall at Winthrop NFH; and he added that he will insert a footnote indicating that collection methods may vary.

**Table 6**

*USFWS (page 13)*

Gale said that Winthrop NFH no longer requires steelhead broodstock progeny from Wells Dam, and requested removing their respective smolt and green egg values from the table.

**Summer/Fall Chinook**

*Wells Volunteer Channel (page 15)*

Tonseth noted reference to the HCP Hatchery Committees Statement of Agreement (SOA) dated June 20, 2012, which stated that summer Chinook collection at the Wells volunteer channel may be used to support the Entiat NFH summer Chinook program. Though, Gale noted that USFWS is not anticipating needing assistance in 2014 and is planning to collect broodstock using on-station returns.

*Chelan Falls Program (page 16)*

Willard requested removal of the statement indicating that surplus summer Chinook from the Wells volunteer channel will be used as backup for the Chelan Falls program. She said that Chelan PUD is confident that any backup fish will be obtained from Eastbank FH. Further, Mackey added that no agreement is in place for obtaining fish from Wells Hatchery, and including this statement sets an expectation. Schiewe suggested replacing the statement with “the Hatchery Committees will discuss options.”

**Wenatchee Spring Chinook**

*Table 10 and Table 11 (pages 17-18)*

Tonseth reviewed both tables. He said that Andrew Murdoch has been running additional models, which have produced higher confidence. He said that only 4- and 5-year-olds are being modeled because when 3-year-olds are added, model precision is greatly reduced.

---

*Draft 2014 Nason/Chiwawa Program Implementation Options (page 18)*

The Hatchery Committees discussed the three options, described as follows:

*Option 1: Parental Based Tagging (PBT) Approach*

Tonseth noted the red text on page 19, and explained that this option depends on how quickly samples can be processed and results made available. He explained that Mike Ford (NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center) has developed a new single nucleotide polymorphic loci (SNPs) approach that produces a higher assignment rate than the SNP panel used by the WDFW genetics lab, but Ford has not indicated if the NMFS lab is available to run these samples in a timely fashion. Tonseth said that Ford was able to analyze 1,400 progeny and assign 99.3% to a single parent and almost 80% to both parents, which is an exceptionally high assignment rate. He said that the limiting factor is the probability of determining where any given parent spawned. In addition, he said that Mike Hughes (WDFW) looked into this for Nason Creek, and he was able to determine that Nason Creek was the spawning location for 77% of the adults estimated to have spawned in Nason Creek. Keely Murdoch asked what data this estimate was based on, and Tonseth replied that it is based on spawning ground data, direct PIT-tag detections, both arrays in Nason Creek, and carcass recoveries. He added that these data will be collected for the Wenatchee Relative Reproductive Success Study through 2022; however, from 2018 to 2022, there will no longer be PIT-tagging of adults at Tumwater Dam, so numbers may drop slightly. He said to boost sample size, rafts may be outfitted with PIT-tag antennas to pick up detections of shed tags from post spawn adults throughout the river.

*Option 2: Produce the Nason and Chiwawa mitigation programs using returning hatchery adults and release from the Chiwawa Ponds facility*

Tonseth said that this option involves producing all hatchery-by-hatchery (Chiwawa hatchery returns) from brood collected at Tumwater Dam and producing the combined Grant PUD and Chelan PUD mitigation at Chiwawa. Willard said that Chelan PUD does not support this option because: 1) Chelan PUD's Chiwawa program is a conservation program and not a safety-net program; and 2) this option would limit proportionate natural influence (PNI) for one year, which would also impact Chelan PUD's ability to meet PNI goals for the program.

---

*Option 3: Tributary-based efforts to collect NORs for both Nason and Chiwawa programs*

Tonseth noted that with this option, there was uncertainty regarding use of the Chiwawa Weir because of permitting for bull trout. He said that the tangle netting portion for both Nason and Chewuch would be addressed in the same manner that tangle netting in Nason Creek was handled in the past. Gale noted that bull trout can be avoided with tangle netting in Nason Creek; however, numerous bull trout are encountered at the Chiwawa Weir each year. Tonseth said that sideboard language can be established that limits the days of trapping at the weir, or limits the number of bull trout that can be encountered. Gale said that USFWS's concern is the compounded effects of operating the Chiwawa Weir and Tumwater Dam. He added that USFWS's preference is to avoid using the weir. Willard asked how the Chiwawa conservation program's production target can be met if USFWS does not want the Chiwawa weir operated to collect broodstock and NMFS does not want tangle netting utilized to collect broodstock—there is no other tributary-based option. Truscott added that if hatchery programs are going to be utilized to aid in recovery of listed fish populations, that handling of the fish is a necessary component of a hatchery program.

Hatcher suggested implementing a combination of options 1 and 3, similar to last year. Hatcher asked if WDFW can run the PBT samples, so this option will not be contingent on NMFS' ability to run them. Tonseth explained that Ford ran all of the parent data and WDFW does not have the same SNPs panel. Willard asked if WDFW could use NMFS' panel. Tonseth said that he can ask; however, he was not sure if borrowing NMFS' panel would be possible. He added that if this is the case, and if Ford cannot process the data rapidly, option 1 will not be viable.

Gale noted that the Tumwater Dam Operating Plan will eventually need to be submitted to NMFS and USFWS, and he asked how development of this plan aligns with settling the details of the draft protocols. Tonseth said that the Tumwater Dam Operating Plan is being developed now along with site-based operating plans for all collection locations, and they will all be appended to the protocols. Gale noted the potential conflict with WDFW

---

submitting something that is not permitted. Tonseth said that WDFW will consult with USFWS, as needed. Gale recommended not including unpermitted activities in the Tumwater Dam Operating Plan because approving the plan would imply permit coverage for those activities.

Schiewe asked what the process should be to reach agreement on this, and Keely Murdoch acknowledged that approval needs to be obtained from both the Hatchery Committees and the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Sub-Committee (PRCC HSC). She added that how Grant PUD will meet the Nason Creek Conservation component production target has not yet been decided. She recalled that Chelan PUD has not been requested by Grant PUD to have Grant PUD's fish on station (additional Chiwawa fish to make up for Nason production shortfalls), and Grant PUD expressed initial reservations about raising fish at Chiwawa. She said that one possible option would be to raise the extra Chiwawa fish at Nason Creek; and Gale indicated that he was uncertain about this idea. Willard said that Grant PUD has not yet contacted Chelan PUD regarding this matter. Tonseth noted that the capacity exists, and it is more a matter of willingness to contract. Gale asked, regarding Chelan PUD's concern about additional strays, if Grant PUD would assume some of the responsibility. Tonseth agreed and said that he believes Grant PUD would have a proportional share of the impact.

Tonseth said that the draft protocols and today's comments will also be discussed during tomorrow's PRCC HSC meeting. Hatcher said that NMFS and WDFW will discuss Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance concerns regarding the broodstock protocols, and he will also contact Ford regarding the PBT approach.

Tonseth said that he will incorporate outstanding edits and comments into the draft 2014 Broodstock Protocols, including USFWS's edits, sideboard language for tangle netting in the Chewuch to obtain Chelan PUD Methow spring Chinook broodstock, and other edits discussed during today's Hatchery Committee meeting; and he will redistribute the revised draft to Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees.

---

#### **IV. NMFS**

##### *A. Hatchery Committees Approval of Annual Broodstock Protocols—SOA (Lynn Hatcher)*

Lynn Hatcher said that after internal NMFS discussions about the approval process for the annual broodstock protocols, it was decided to maintain the current process and leave development in the hands of the State of Washington. He said that NMFS wants to avoid a situation where the process is delayed because agreement cannot be reached on a particular program. He added that maintaining the current procedures for developing the protocols in coordination with committees will still give managers authority over details included in the protocols. Mike Schiewe noted that this is not just about ESA permitting—it is about HCP production. He said that when the HCPs were signed, agreement was reached that the Hatchery Committees would be the deciding body for HCP production; and it was written in the individual permits that the broodstock protocols would be prepared annually in consultation with the Hatchery Committees. He said that NMFS would need to remove that language from the permits because the Hatchery Committees are not in a position to overwrite the permit. He added that a SOA is not necessarily required; Hatchery Committees approval of the annual protocols can simply be memorialized in the meeting minutes. Hatcher said that NMFS' concern is obtaining approval from both the Hatchery Committees and the Joint Fisheries Parties. He added that at times, the two groups are not working together. Schiewe agreed that the two groups do not always work together, but that they should and that was the purpose of forming the Hatchery Committees. He added that this discussion is about both groups approving the protocols and about finalizing the protocols by a certain date so that a schedule can be established for review and approval by the Committees. He said that in order to accomplish this approval, NMFS may need to change the language in the permit.

Greg Mackey suggested rethinking the entire approach. He acknowledged that this year, with several programs new or in flux, is an exception; however, he said for most years, this process should be the same: broodstock collections goals should be very similar each year, and each program can operate within specific sideboards. He said that NMFS really needs to know basic information about broodstock collection, such as the number, stock, origin, and location(s) where the broodstock are proposed to be collected—this will allow NMFS to confirm that the annual proposed collections are consistent with the terms of the permits.

---

All the other details that the Hatchery Committees need to work out likely do not need to be included in the protocols, and can instead be developed for management of specific programs separately from the Broodstock Protocol document. Mike Tonseth agreed and added that because NMFS participates in the development of the protocols, issues are raised before the final version is drafted. Mackey also said that the Douglas PUD is the permit holder, along with WDFW, and that the Hatchery Committee is the venue under ESA where management of the PUD programs occurs; therefore, it is appropriate that the Hatchery Committee is responsible for development and approval of the broodstock protocols that are sent to NMFS. Bill Gale noted that USFWS also reviews and approves the annual broodstock protocols, so when developing a schedule for approving the annual protocols, USFWS review needs to be considered as well.

Hatcher said that he will take this feedback back to NMFS and continue this discussion at the Hatchery Committees meeting on May 21, 2014. Schiewe noted that NMFS is about to issue new permits, so this is a good time to figure this out. Tonseth also suggested that the different committees start thinking about what is important to include in the protocols, and what can be left out. Hatcher agreed and suggested discussing this at the next NMFS/USFWS Biological Opinion Coordination Meeting.

*B. Chelan PUD 2014 RRT/Methow Spring Chinook Broodstock Collection Proposal (Lynn Hatcher)*

Lynn Hatcher said that although NMFS agreed to this proposal this year, he wanted to emphasize that NMFS' preferred option is collection at Wells Dam. He said that collection at Wells Dam would eliminate tangle netting in the Methow Basin, and would also prevent potential problems that may occur at the RRT (i.e., inadequate numbers of PIT-tagged NORs). He said that NMFS has reservations about authorizing PIT-tagging additional NORs for future trapping needs at the RRT; and suggested thinking about how to use the RRT without needing to tag additional NORs in the Methow Basin. Bill Gale said that if there is no additional tagging, then there is reliance on collecting untagged NORs returning upstream of Rocky Reach Dam, which will potentially impact the natural origin population of spring Chinook stock bound for the Entiat. Kirk Truscott noted that the permits allow handling up to 20% of the population for juveniles, and currently, efforts are nowhere near that

---

threshold. Gale also noted that adults have a separate take level. Truscott said that handling more fish is inevitable when reforming programs. Gale asked if Chelan PUD and the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) have had any discussions about trapping. Catherine Willard said that Chelan PUD has been discussing options for their M&E component in the Methow; however, at this point, those options do not involve USGS.

*C. Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) Update (Lynn Hatcher)*

Lynn Hatcher said that the next NMFS/USFWS Biological Opinion Coordination Meeting will likely be held in early May 2014. He then reviewed HGMP updates, as described in the following sections.

**Mid-Columbia Coho**

Hatcher said that permitting should be completed by end of May.

**Okanogan Spring Chinook and Methow Spring Chinook**

Hatcher said that the draft Biological Opinion (BiOp) should be complete by mid-May 2014, and the Section 10 permit should be complete by mid-summer 2014. He also noted that the Section 10(j) Environmental Assessment (EA) is complete except for Washington D.C. review and approval.

**Wenatchee Steelhead**

Hatcher said that permitting will be complete by spring 2014, and he noted that the YN's concerns with the Wenatchee basin steelhead management plan have been addressed. NMFS now has to conduct an analysis of the fishery affects to complete the BiOp.

**Methow Steelhead**

Hatcher said that USFWS comments on the draft Methow Steelhead supplemental EA are due back this week.

**Wells Hatchery Steelhead**

Hatcher said that permitting will be complete by early fall 2014.

**Okanogan Steelhead**

---

Hatcher said that the HGMP sufficiency letter was distributed in February 2014, and public comment for the HGMP and draft EA will hopefully be in June 2014. He said that a letter indicating ESA coverage was sent to Grant PUD, and permitting will be complete by early fall 2014.

### **Leavenworth Spring Chinook**

Hatcher said that the Leavenworth Spring Chinook BiOp will be completed as soon as USFWS and NMFS discuss final revisions.

### **Summer Chinook**

Hatcher said that permitting will be complete by early fall 2014.

Kirk Truscott asked if the Fishery Management Plan for the Methow Basin is required for the Methow Steelhead BiOp, and Greg Mackey said that Amilee Wilson (NMFS) indicated that it is required. Hatcher asked if adult management will be performed on steelhead at Methow Hatchery. Tonseth said that there is not a plan currently in place to do so, but that the existing permit allows this activity. Tonseth also added that the Joint Fisheries Parties had not yet developed a Fishery Plan for the Methow basin, and he thought the BiOp would be reopened just for the fishery piece, if needed.

## **V. Chelan PUD**

### *A. Rock Island Dam Update (Catherine Willard)*

Catherine Willard said that three fish ladder extensions are being installed at Rock Island Dam. She said the two extensions at the two entrances of the right bank fish ladder are already in place, and are intended to help facilitate fish passage during low flow conditions. She said that fish have already been detected passing Rock Island Dam.

Mike Tonseth said that fish passage opened at Wanapum Dam on April 15, 2014. Bill Gale asked what monitoring is in place for juveniles, and Mike Schiewe replied that he understands that Grant PUD is planning acoustic releases for juvenile monitoring. Kirk Truscott added that some fish will also be double-tagged (acoustic and PIT) in the Rock Island and Wanapum tailraces. He said that there will also be the opportunity to monitor

---

PIT-tagged fish released above Rock Island Dam to evaluate survival probability to McNary Dam. Regarding adult passage, he said that a short video clip of a spring Chinook passing through the flume system at Wanapum Dam showed the fish passing through the system nose first. He added that preliminary testing was also conducted using hatchery steelhead, which went as planned. Schiewe said that the cause of the fracture is still unknown, and it needs to be determined prior to moving forward with a fix. Truscott noted that only 6 of 26 investigative holes have been drilled so far because of high winds inhibiting progress. Tonseth added that a platform has been constructed to help with the drilling effort. Truscott also added that a layer of neoprene is now covering the fracture to reduce the amount of water entering the crack.

## **VI. HCP Administration**

### *A. Next Meetings*

The next scheduled Hatchery Committees' meetings are on May 21, 2014 (Douglas PUD); June 18, 2014 (Chelan PUD); and July 16, 2014 (Douglas PUD).

## **List of Attachments**

Attachment A	List of Attendees
Attachment B	Revised Draft 2014 Broodstock Collection Protocols (edited)

**Attachment A**  
**List of Attendees**

---

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Mike Schiewe	Anchor QEA, LLC
Kristi Geris	Anchor QEA, LLC
Catherine Willard	Chelan PUD
Greg Mackey*	Douglas PUD
Tom Kahler*	Douglas PUD
Lynn Hatcher*	National Marine Fisheries Service
Bill Gale*	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Keely Murdoch*	Yakama Nation
Kirk Truscott*	Colville Confederated Tribes
Mike Tonseth*	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Notes:

- \* Denotes Hatchery Committees member or alternate