

## FINAL MEMORANDUM

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**To:** Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCPs Hatchery Committees  
**Date:** October 21, 2013

**From:** Mike Schiewe, Chair

**Cc:** Kristi Geris

**Re:** Final Minutes of the August 21, 2013 HCP Hatchery Committees Meeting

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The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) Hatchery Committees' meeting was held at Douglas PUD headquarters in East Wenatchee, Washington, on Wednesday, August 21, 2013, from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to these meeting minutes.

### ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

- Mike Tonseth will consult with Ken Warheit (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife [WDFW] geneticist) and provide the Wenatchee spring Chinook trapping and sampling protocols, including the criteria for genetic inclusion or exclusion, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees, by no later than the end of 2013 (action item carried forward from the Hatchery Committees meeting on June 19, 2013) (Item I).
  - Mike Tonseth will provide a summary of the genetic assignments of the spring Chinook broodstock that were collected at Tumwater Dam (TWD), to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (action item carried forward from the Hatchery Committees conference call on July 17, 2013) (Item I).
  - Keely Murdoch will provide a draft Implementation Plan for co-acclimation of Chelan PUD's spring Chinook Methow production and the Yakama Nation's (YN's) coho salmon production at the Chewuch Pond, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees prior to the September 18, 2013 meeting (Item I).
  - Greg Mackey will contact the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding consultations as they relate to coverage under Permit 1347, and will let Mike Schiewe know whether there is a need for him to also contact NMFS on behalf of the Hatchery Committees (Item II-A).
  - Greg Mackey will provide draft tables for inclusion in the Hatchery Monitoring and
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Evaluation (M&E) Plan Appendices, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item III-A).

- Keely Murdoch will contact WDFW fish health staff to confirm their support of the proposed approach for live spawning Twisp River steelhead broodstock at Methow Hatchery; and based on those discussions, she will determine a path forward to be discussed at the Hatchery Committees meeting on September 18, 2013 (Item V-A).
- **The Hatchery Committees' meeting on September 18, 2013 will be held at Douglas PUD (Item VIII-A).**

## **STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT DECISION SUMMARY**

- No Statements of Agreement (SOAs) were approved at today's meeting.

## **AGREEMENTS**

- Hatchery Committees representatives present agreed that Greg Mackey would develop draft tables for inclusion in the Hatchery M&E Plan Appendices, for Hatchery Committee review (Item III-A).

## **REVIEW ITEMS**

- There are no items that are currently out for review.

## **FINALIZED REPORTS**

- There are no reports that have been recently finalized.

## **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 two brief updates: 1) Draft Douglas PUD 2012 Hatchery M&E Report; and 2) Twisp River Reproductive Success Genetic Analysis.
  - Kirk Truscott added an update on Chief Joseph Hatchery (CJH) brood collection.
  - Bill Gale added a brief update on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) staffing.
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The Hatchery Committees reviewed the revised draft July 17, 2013 conference call minutes. Kristi Geris said there were two outstanding comments remaining to be discussed, as follows:

- Regarding review of the revised draft June 19, 2013 meeting minutes, Kirk Truscott confirmed that the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT) discussed Chief Joseph Wenatchee spring Chinook brood collection at Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (NFH) as it affected the CCT spring Chinook fishery on the Icicle River. Mike Tonseth noted that a recreational fishery was also affected; however, this issue was not specifically discussed at the June 19, 2013 meeting.
- Regarding the YN's discussion on potential acclimation locations for Chelan PUD Methow spring Chinook, Mike Tonseth clarified that spring Chinook have lower *bacterial kidney disease (BKD)* rearing density requirements than coho.

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 July 17, 2013 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 July 17, 2013, and follow-up discussions were as follows:

- *Mike Tonseth will consult with Ken Warheit (WDFW geneticist) and provide the Wenatchee spring Chinook trapping and sampling protocols, including the criteria for genetic inclusion or exclusion, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (action item carried forward from the Hatchery Committees meeting on June 19, 2013) (Item I).*

Tonseth said that he has the needed information, but still needs to amend the protocols. He said that he hopes to have this complete as early as the end of October, and no later than the end of 2013. Tonseth requested that this action item be carried forward.

- *Chelan PUD will provide a schedule and timeline outlining their Hatchery M&E Request for Proposal (RFP) and 2014 Hatchery M&E Implementation Plan processes, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item II-A).*  
Chelan PUD will address this today during their Hatchery M&E Update.
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- *Chelan PUD will provide an update regarding when their draft Spring Chinook Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) will be available for review, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item II-B).*

Chelan PUD will address this today during their Methow Spring Chinook HGMP Update.

- *Mike Tonseth will provide a summary of the genetic assignments of the spring Chinook broodstock that were collected at Tumwater Dam (TWD), to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item II-C).*

Tonseth requested that this action item be carried forward.

- *Keely Murdoch will update the Hatchery Committees on potential co-acclimation of Chelan PUD's Methow spring Chinook production and the Yakama Nation's (YN's) coho salmon production at the Chewuch Pond (Item III-A).*

Murdoch said that details are still being sorted between the YN and Douglas PUD for use of the Chewuch Pond for co-acclimation of the YN's coho salmon production and Chelan PUD's Methow spring Chinook production. She said that the YN plans to produce a more detailed proposal. Kirk Truscott requested that the YN also provide a draft Implementation Plan and SOA. Mike Tonseth said that a draft Implementation Plan should include more than just the number of spring Chinook that would be placed into Chewuch Pond—that it would also include how many coho, at what size, and what the ultimate flow and rearing density levels would be planned for fish placed in Chewuch Pond. He added that additional details would include timing of transfer (to Chewuch Pond), timing of release, and release strategy (i.e., forced versus volitional). Bill Gale asked how acclimation implementation ties in with consultation. He said that it seems like NMFS will eventually want to know how acclimation ties into spring Chinook objectives, such as escapement goals, etc. Mike Schiewe said that a good start would be for Murdoch to draft an Implementation Plan, highlighting the main features of the program. Greg Mackey said that Douglas PUD would also like a SOA on the use of the Chewuch Pond, in order to document formal approval by the Hatchery Committees. Alene Underwood said that Chelan PUD supports these suggestions. Gale asked if the draft Implementation Plan and SOA would only address the use of the Chewuch Pond, or if they would also include other possible Methow acclimation locations. Murdoch replied that, for Chelan PUD's production, the YN is mainly considering use of the Chewuch Pond; she

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added, however, that the YN is also considering other places in the Upper Methow for other programs. Mackey said that Douglas PUD has already provided Tom Scribner with financial information for using Chewuch Pond and Douglas and the YN would need to work out an agreement. Tonseth noted that there are two agreements: a facility sharing agreement, and an agreement for the use of the facility for Chelan PUD production. He requested that there be clear separation of these two agreements. Murdoch said that she will provide a draft Implementation Plan for co-acclimation of Chelan PUD's spring Chinook Methow production and the YN's coho salmon production at the Chewuch Pond, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees prior to the September 18, 2013 meeting.

- *The Hatchery Committees' meeting on August 21, 2013 will be held at Douglas PUD, with the Wells Hatchery Master Plan Workshop in the afternoon (Item IV-A).*

Noted.

## **II. NMFS**

### *A. HGMP Update (Lynn Hatcher)*

Lynn Hatcher said that NMFS is now primarily focusing on the Mid/Upper-Columbia. He said that Amilee Wilson has been working full time and that everyone has been very responsive to requests, which has all helped move things forward. He said that NMFS would like to have all Upper/Mid-Columbia permitting completed by mid-March 2014.

### Okanogan Programs

Hatcher said that NMFS is unable to complete the Biological Opinion (BiOp) and Section 10 permits for USFWS to transfer listed spring Chinook to the CCT by the October 2013 deadline. The new completion date is January 20, 2014. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 10(j) experimental population designation for the CCT's spring Chinook program is still on schedule for completion in March 2014. He added that NMFS and the CCT have been meeting monthly about the Section 10(j) designation and permitting process. Bill Gale said that, as a result, the Winthrop NFH will release 100,000 to 150,000 under-yearling spring Chinook smolts in the Methow this fall to get under capacity; and he added that total release in spring 2014 will be 650,000. Keely Murdoch asked whether, should the Section 10(j) come through in March, the smolts might then not be transferred to the Okanogan, and Mike Tonseth replied that they would not because the capacity problem arises in the fall.

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Mike Schiewe asked if the current permit allows pre-smolt release; and Gale replied that it does. Tonseth said that the release is intended to reduce rearing densities and address potential fish health concerns. Gale said that similar situations (excess production) have happened in the past, and that unless someone has space for 100,000 to 150,000 smolts in the Methow, releasing them is the only option. Hatcher said that with regards to the Okanogan steelhead HGMP, NMFS expects to receive a draft from the CCT by September 5, 2013. He said the revised Environmental Assessment (EA) is complete, and that Craig Busack plans to complete the BiOp and the Section 10 permits by January 20, 2014 (same date as for spring Chinook).

#### Methow Programs

Hatcher said that negotiations among *U.S. v. Oregon* parties are now complete regarding Methow steelhead and spring Chinook. He said that the existing EA was determined sufficient for the current programs, but that a supplemental EA will have to be completed for the Chelan PUD spring Chinook program. He said that the goal is to have one consultation for all Methow Basin steelhead and spring Chinook hatchery programs; however, if Chelan PUD's HGMP is not completed in time, there will have to be two consultations. The BiOp and Section 10 permit for Chelan PUD's spring Chinook program would be separated out, and not completed until an agreement is reached between Chelan PUD and NMFS. (*Note: Greg Mackey later indicated that steelhead and spring Chinook will be handled as separate BiOps and permits.*) Hatcher added that he was concerned that a Section 10 permit will not be approved if Chelan PUD proposes brood collection at Rocky Reach Trap (RRT). Alene Underwood said that she spoke with Busack, and as it stands now, Chelan PUD is including RRT as a potential collection location. She said that Chelan PUD is proposing that brood collection at RRT may also tie into Chiwawa spring Chinook stray management required under the new Section 10 permit. Hatcher said that NMFS is hoping to complete permitting for Methow steelhead and spring Chinook by January 20, 2014, including the Chelan PUD program. Greg Mackey noted that the current Methow steelhead Section 10 Permit 1395 expires October 2, 2013; and Hatcher replied that NMFS will not be able to complete the new permits by then. Tonseth said that USFWS is also covered under Permit 1395. Hatcher said that NMFS would like to publish in a Federal Register Notice (FRN) the Wells and Winthrop Steelhead HGMPs, and the Winthrop and Methow Spring Chinook HGMPs, all at the same time. Mackey said that this is a problem because the Wells Hatchery steelhead

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programs will not have ESA permit coverage for three months. Gale suggested that if formal consultation is already underway, the program is still covered under the existing permit so long as there are no changes in program activities. Mackey said that Douglas PUD would be requesting a letter from NMFS, acknowledging this lack of coverage between October 2, 2013 and January 20, 2014. As for summer and fall Chinook programs (i.e., Permit 1347), Hatcher said that it is unlikely that the extension of Permit 1347 will be completed by October 23, 2013. Underwood said that Chelan PUD would need a letter from NMFS indicating coverage for Chelan PUD programs from October 23, 2013 to when the extension of Permit 1347 is completed. Hatcher said that NMFS would not likely issue any letters in the interim because the extension of Permit 1347 would be close to being issued.

#### Wenatchee Programs

Hatcher said that the existing National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation was determined sufficient for Wenatchee steelhead. Hatcher said that Section 10 permits are being distributed, and that applicant comments are due on September 13, 2013. The draft BiOp has not yet been distributed. Wenatchee steelhead Section 10 permits should be completed before Permit 1395 expires on October 2, 2013. Hatcher said that the Leavenworth spring Chinook BiOp will be sent to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) General Counsel for review by August 26, 2013, and that a new permit will be issued in September 2013. Hatcher also said that Wilson and Karl Halupka (USFWS) have been meeting regularly and are in close coordination on bull trout coverage. Tonseth said that Section 7 consultations for bull trout are on the same completion schedule for Wenatchee programs.

Kirk Truscott said that he thinks a paper trail documenting continued coverage for any of the steelhead programs currently covered under the existing Permit 1395 is still necessary if a new permit is not already in place. Gale asked that everyone operating under that permit receive a copy of the letter if it is drafted. Mackey said that he will contact NMFS regarding consultations as they relate to coverage under Permits 1395 and 1347, and will let Schiewe know whether it would be helpful for him to contact NMFS on behalf of the Hatchery Committees.

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### **III. Douglas PUD**

#### *A. Hatchery M&E Appendices – Meeting of the PUDs (Greg Mackey)*

Greg Mackey said that a Hatchery M&E Workgroup meeting was scheduled on July 31, 2013, at Chelan PUD, as described in an email distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris on July 30, 2013. However, due to last-minute scheduling conflicts for key attendees, the meeting was cancelled. Mackey said that the original plan was to prioritize tasks to finalize the M&E Plan reference (appendix) tables and divvy remaining tasks at the workgroup meeting. Mike Schiewe suggested that, in order to move the process forward, Mackey distribute draft tables and request input. Mackey noted that he had already developed table schema for review and populated some tables with example data, which were distributed to the Hatchery Committee for the previously cancelled meeting. Hatchery Committees representatives present agreed that Mackey would further develop draft tables for inclusion in the Hatchery M&E Plan Appendices; and Mackey said that he will provide draft tables to Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees for review. Kirk Truscott suggested developing a schedule for review of the tables prior to convening another Hatchery M&E Workgroup meeting. Alene Underwood suggested reviewing the tables via email, and then setting up a more formal meeting during the first week of November 2013. Todd Pearsons agreed with this suggested approach, and said that Grant PUD is willing to help, as needed. Schiewe said that the need for an in-person Hatchery M&E Workgroup meeting can be gauged once the draft tables are distributed and reviewed, and added that these discussions could also be addressed during a regular Hatchery Committees meeting.

#### *B. Draft Douglas PUD 2012 Hatchery M&E Report (Greg Mackey)*

Greg Mackey said that the draft Douglas PUD 2012 Hatchery M&E Report is currently under review by WDFW, and that Douglas PUD hopes to have the draft report ready for a 60-day Hatchery Committees review by the next Hatchery Committees meeting on September 18, 2013.

#### *C. Twisp River Reproductive Success Genetic Sample Runs (Greg Mackey)*

Greg Mackey said that a preliminary report of the Twisp River Reproductive Success Sampling is expected by Douglas PUD by the end of August, and that the report should be available to the Hatchery Committees shortly thereafter. Mackey said that this report is an

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annual update documenting that genetic samples were collected, run, and basic genetic statistics were run on the data, and not for formal review.

#### **IV. Chelan PUD**

##### *A. Hatchery M&E Update (Alene Underwood)*

Alene Underwood said that after internal review, one of three proposals submitted in response to the Chelan PUD Hatchery M&E RFP was determined to be complete with all components. Therefore, she said that at this point, Chelan PUD is not planning to engage a technical review panel, as previously discussed. She said that follow-up questions were distributed to the complete proposer, with responses due by September 13, 2013; and tentative follow-up discussions are planned with the proposer on September 17, 2013. Bill Gale asked if Chelan PUD has any contracting requirements that would require going out for another RFP to solicit more than one complete proposal; and Underwood replied that they do not. Keely Murdoch asked if Chelan PUD expects the same timeline for a draft Implementation Plan as discussed during the Hatchery Committees' conference call on July 17, 2013; and Underwood replied that Chelan PUD still plans to provide their draft 2014 Hatchery M&E Implementation Plan for Hatchery Committees review no later than October 2013.

##### *B. Methow Spring Chinook HGMP Update (Alene Underwood)*

Alene Underwood said that Chelan PUD's draft Methow Spring Chinook HGMP will hopefully go to WDFW for review this week, and then it will be ready for Hatchery Committees' review. She thanked the Committees for their patience, and said that she plans to contact Craig Busack to update him on the progress of the draft document. Mike Tonseth said that he expects WDFW review of the draft HGMP will take about two days. Underwood said that the Chelan PUD draft Methow Spring Chinook HGMP contains largely the same background information as the Douglas PUD HGMP, with no unique or new information. She also said that everything in the addendum, which was already reviewed by the Hatchery Committees, was included in the full HGMP.

Bill Gale asked, regarding the 2013 broodstock collected at Winthrop, if the progeny were on schedule to go to Eastbank, and also if those releases were still scheduled to go to the Chewuch Acclimation Pond. Underwood replied that juveniles will be overwintered at

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Carlton in 2014, and would go to Chewuch in 2015. Gale asked if those fish will be marked differently, given that they are from Winthrop hatchery-origin broodstock. Tonseth replied that he believes that in accordance with the current *U.S. v. Oregon* agreement, fish will be marked adipose fin (ad)-present, with coded wire tag (CWT); and added that the CWT would be unique for those fish. Tonseth also noted that a broader discussion of marking schemes for the Upper Columbia hatchery programs needs to occur no later than March 2014. Gale asked if these fish should instead be marked more in line with the safety net program; and Underwood replied that this would be a Hatchery Committees decision. Kirk Truscott said that the balance of the Chelan PUD Methow program for release in 2015 will not include many progeny of natural origin fish; hence he sees no reason that Chelan PUD's 61,000 spring Chinook should be marked ad-present. Keely Murdoch said that in terms of developing new marking strategies, focus should be on a long-term strategy—not just a single year. Lynn Hatcher said that he believes that Busack is also thinking along those same lines. Gale said that if all goes as planned, Winthrop will also be releasing ad-clipped plus CWT fish that same year; and asked if marking schemes for these stocks should match. Truscott said that one of the main reasons to ad-clip fish is for adult management; and Gale added that ad-clipping fish also helps with brood collection identification. Tonseth said that, in the context of adult management, in run escapements where very few of the conservation program fish are needed to meet escapement and proportionate natural influence (PNI) objectives, if Wells Dam is the only location to adequately achieve hatchery-origin recruit (HOR) extraction, nearly 100% of the wild fish would need to be handled to remove nearly 100% of the non-ad-clipped hatchery steelhead (unless there was an alternate fin-clip available); Murdoch did not think that would necessarily be the case. Mike Schiewe said that long-term marking is something that has been discussed before, and suggested that the Hatchery Committees may want to address this issue soon.

*C. Okanagan Nations Alliance Sockeye Hatchery Construction Update (Alene Underwood)*

Alene Underwood announced that the Okanagan Nations Alliance (ONA) broke ground in late July on the new Kl cp'elk' stim Fish Hatchery in Penticton, British Columbia (BC). She said that the site was filled and graded, and that the foundation for two new buildings is already underway. She said that the facility is scheduled to be available to receive sockeye in fall 2014.

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## **V. Yakama Nation**

### *A. Live Spawning Twisp River Steelhead Broodstock (Keely Murdoch)*

Keely Murdoch recalled discussing live-spawning Twisp River steelhead broodstock at the Hatchery Committees' meeting on January 16, 2013. She said that the YN Steelhead Kelt Reconditioning Program has now been up and running at Winthrop NFH for the past two years, where the YN has been working with USFWS to live-spawn natural-origin steelhead (females). Murdoch said that the YN has been working with USFWS to determine if Twisp steelhead could be spawned and early-reared at Winthrop NFH for a kelt program, but use of space at Winthrop NFH is contingent on NMFS issuing the Section 10(j) for the Okanogan spring Chinook program. There will not be enough groundwater or space available until the Okanogan spring Chinook program can be moved off site, which, she added, may mean pushing the schedule back another year. Bill Gale agreed and added that in order for Winthrop NFH to have the space available for the YN program, the hatchery will need to move the Okanogan-bound fish as eyed eggs, and CJH would need to be fully online and with a Section 10(j) in order to transition the eyed eggs to CJH.

Murdoch summarized that in the past, the YN discussed with Douglas PUD incorporating an isoincubation-early rearing facility into their plans for the Wells Hatchery Modernization; however, this option was too expensive. She said that more recently the YN has been working with USFWS and WDFW fish health staff to develop fish health criteria for the program. She provided a quick overview of a plan for spawning, holding, and fish health testing that Joy Evered (USFWS) and Bob Rogers (WDFW) had developed (the "Kelt Plan"). She said that a key element of the plan for Hatchery Committees' consideration and approval is that if Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis Virus (IPNV) is detected among any adults or progeny, all fish would be need to be destroyed to avoid virus spreading. Murdoch said that she had thought this situation could be avoided by keeping fish in separate troughs, as described in the Kelt Plan. She said, however, that IPNV apparently spreads both vertically and horizontally; so if detected, the entire stock would need to be destroyed (parents and offspring). Murdoch said the YN thinks that this program can be a great opportunity. She said that IPNV was detected with regularity about 20 years ago in the stock above Wells Dam, but then has not been detected since. She said that if IPNV does start to show up again, the YN would discontinue live-spawning of Twisp broodstock. However, as long as IPNV is not detected, the YN would proceed.

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Greg Mackey said that Murdoch presented the same information to Douglas PUD a few weeks ago, and that Douglas PUD thought there was potential to carry this program forward at the Methow Hatchery—instead of at Winthrop. Mackey said that Douglas PUD staff met with WDFW fish health staff (Bob Rogers) and hatchery staff at the Methow Hatchery to discuss the possibility of operating the program there. He said that they discussed pooling progeny by spawn week, as found in the Kelt Plan, whereas originally WDFW fish health had required keeping each female's progeny in separate tanks. However, Bob Rogers said that the progeny should indeed be reared separately for each female parent. Mackey said that Murdoch was correct about IPNV: all fish would need to be destroyed if IPNV is detected. However, for other diseases, such infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV), only the families that were found to be infected would be destroyed, reducing the overall numbers of fish and families that would need to be destroyed. This is the critical advantage of keeping families separate. He said that Douglas PUD asked WDFW to write a letter stating that the level of risk imposed by the kelt program was acceptable to provide Douglas PUD and the Hatchery Committee assurance that, from a fish health perspective, the program did not create unacceptable levels of risk; and he said that his impression was that WDFW may not be willing to provide such a letter. Mackey said that considering Methow Hatchery itself, the current equipment and setup may not be ideal, but it still could work; and he added that the current infrastructure would need to be considered in more detail. Mackey said that the bigger question may be about the Hatchery Committees' comfort level with the fish health concern.

Murdoch said that she appreciates everyone's consideration on this issue, and she added that the YN plans to complete budgeting exercises in October 2013 and would like to have some idea about a path forward by then.

Tonseth said that the Hatchery Committees need to consider effective population size and what possible crosses will look like. Charlie Snow said that individually sampling females, but pooling males, also results in killing a lot of fish. Therefore, Snow recommended individually sampling males, too. He added that, in general, only a few females are spawned each week. Kirk Truscott said that if progeny were pooled by spawn week, one-third of the females could be spawned in a few takes, which could knock off one-third of the program if

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disease was detected. Tonseth said that at the time that IPNV was last detected, there was brood being collected at Priest Rapids; which Tonseth suggested could have been the cause. He added that with 39 individual families, individual isolation based on parental crosses cannot reasonably be done with three-by-three (3x3) crosses. Gale asked how spring spawning would affect the ability to obtain one-year smolts, and asked if emergence will be delayed. Murdoch said that the original fish health screening plan was to collect two samples: one at swim up and one at 30 days after swim up. She said that it takes an additional 30 days to obtain results, so there is a total of 60 days to transfer after swim-up. She said that, now, there are only 30 days to transfer. She also said that the main concern was developing a more sensitive virus testing protocol that WDFW could support to allow only a single screening. Gale asked if a June transfer matches up with growth at Wells Hatchery. Mackey replied that the temperature profile is in the low 50s at that time of year; and added that he is uncertain if it is different from the Methow. Tonseth said that if there is little temperature difference between Methow, Winthrop, and Wells, then the effect on growth is not likely biologically significant (i.e., size at release of fry transferred to Wells Dam 30 days post-swim up is not likely significantly different than eyed eggs transferred to Wells Dam). Gale noted that Wells fish are spawned earlier; and Tom Kahler said that if Twisp River fish are a bit smaller, they may better match natural fish.

Mackey said that Bob Rogers sees this program as something that would operate for a short period of time, perhaps four years at the most. If the program were to operate longer a dedicated facility should be constructed to house the program. Murdoch said that at this point, the YN is mainly interested in how the kelts will perform. She said that she is not entirely certain what long-term funding looks like; and added that the current funding ends in 2017. She said that she is hoping for continued funding, but that will likely depend on the success of the program. She said that in the interest of moving forward, she will contact WDFW fish health staff to confirm their support of the proposed approach for live spawning Twisp River steelhead broodstock at Methow Hatchery; and based on those discussions, she will determine a path forward to be discussed at the Hatchery Committees meeting on September 18, 2013.

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## VI. CCT

### A. Chief Joseph Hatchery Brood Collection (Kirk Truscott)

Kirk Truscott said that spring Chinook broodstock was successfully transferred from Leavenworth NFH to CJH. He said that the July report is not yet complete, but that fish were on station in June, and he reported no mortalities. He said that 35 pairs were spawned on August 19, 2013, and that eggs are now on station. He said that for summer Chinook, protocols have been met every week, and that collection will continue through next week. He said that the CCT is anticipating meeting full brood for natural and hatchery stocks—about 420 adults (i.e., 60 percent of 700,000). Truscott said that the CCT has not yet operated the weir for brood collection and that all brood collected to date has been by purse seine. Truscott noted that they have collected and successfully released many natural origin fish. Bill Gale recommended keeping open channels of communication with Travis Collier and Steve Croci, in case Leavenworth NFH has extra fish that could potentially be transferred to CJH.

Truscott said that a down side to brood collection is that there was a recent theft of 42 brood fish from CJH—mostly summer natural origin recruits (NORs). He said that based on evidence at the site, it seems that almost all of the fish came out of one pond. He said the up side is that the CCT made up the shortfall with brood collected on August 20, 2013. Mike Tonseth asked what CJH has for security, and Truscott replied that there are a few night-shift staff and real-time security cameras (no recordings). He explained that the ponds are fenced on three sides, and that the fourth side is a steep hill that is unfenced. The loss of broodstock occurred when individuals climbed the hill and came into the compound, snagged the fish and passed them under the gate of the perimeter fence and into a vehicle that was parked at the entrance to the compound. *(Note: The vehicle access to the broodstock compound has now been secured with a locked gate near Chief Joseph Dam [approximately one-half mile from the broodstock compound].)*

Regarding the Okanogan weir, Truscott said that staff completed installing the weir this morning. He said he is unsure whether or not fish have arrived; and added that water temperatures are currently reduced in the Okanogan. He said that pilot broodstock collection will begin immediately—collecting five fish per week—with processing and handling occurring at CJH. He said that six video cameras will be operational this year and

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that survival will be evaluated for brood collected at the weir versus the purse seine. He added that he believes most sockeye have already passed.

## **VII. USFWS**

### *A. USFWS Staff Update (Bill Gale)*

Bill Gale announced that Al Jensen will be retiring on September 30, 2013. He said he thinks that position will stay vacant, and he added that Travis Collier is now the main Leavenworth NFH contact.

## **VIII. HCP Administration**

### *A. Next Meetings*

Bill Gale said that there will not be USFWS representation at the Hatchery Committees' meeting on September 18, 2013. Mike Schiewe said that if any decision items are planned, USFWS will be contacted in advance, as necessary.

The next scheduled Hatchery Committees' meetings are on September 18, 2013 (Douglas PUD); October 16, 2013 (Chelan PUD); and November 20, 2013 (Douglas PUD).

## **List of Attachments**

Attachment A      List of Attendees

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

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

Notes:

- \* Denotes Hatchery Committees member or alternate
- † Joined by phone