

FINAL MEMORANDUM

To: Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island HCPs Hatchery Committees
Date: November 21, 2014

From: Mike Schiewe, HCP Hatchery Committees Chair

Cc: Kristi Geris

Re: Final Minutes of the October 15, 2014 HCP Hatchery Committees Meeting

The Wells, Rocky Reach, and Rock Island Hydroelectric Projects Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) Hatchery Committees meeting was held at the Chelan PUD Fish and Wildlife Building in Wenatchee, Washington, on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm. Attendees are listed in Attachment A to these meeting minutes.

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

- Chelan PUD will provide a final report on the water recirculation pilot studies at Eastbank Fish Hatchery and Chiwawa Fish Facility to the Hatchery Committees by December 2014 (Item I-A).
 - Mike Tonseth will provide a revised memo clarifying standardized methods for Hatchery Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan Objective 8.3, Fecundity at Size, to the Hatchery Committees for review by December 2014 (Item I-A).
 - 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 by December 2014 (Item I-A).
 - Douglas PUD will revise the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair Qualifications document to consistently identify and emphasize all duties of the position (Item II-B).
 - Hatchery Committees representatives will: 1) contact qualified HCP Hatchery Committees Chair candidates to gauge interest in the position; 2) have interested candidates contact Mike Schiewe to discuss the position, as needed; and 3) obtain a résumé or curriculum vitae (CV) from interested candidates, and provide those
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documents to Alene Underwood, Greg Mackey, and Tom Kahler by Friday, October 31, 2014 (Item II-B).

- The Yakama Nation (YN) will prepare a proposal for 2016 expanded acclimation in the Methow, including an explanation of pond operations, tagging, M&E, fisheries objectives, and adult management, to present during the Hatchery Committees meeting on November 19, 2014 (Item VI-A).

DECISION SUMMARY

- There were no decisions approved during today's meeting.

AGREEMENTS

- Hatchery Committees representatives present agreed to rely on Hatchery Manager judgment regarding any modification of fish release schedules that may be needed to avoid adverse impacts resulting from sediment load generated by the wild fires in the Methow basin this past summer, with the recommendation that WDFW conduct periodic fish health evaluations on fish held in potentially impacted holding ponds, and once available, review the Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) report on the effects of the Carlton Complex Fire (Item II-A).

REVIEW ITEMS

- Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on October 14, 2014, notifying them that the draft Broodstock Collection Protocols template is available for review. Comments on the draft template are due to Mike Tonseth by October 31, 2014 (Item III-A).
 - Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on September 4, 2014, notifying them that the draft Douglas PUD 2013 Hatchery M&E Annual Report is available for download from the HCP Hatchery Committees Extranet Site. This draft report is available for a 60-day review period with comments due to Greg Mackey no later than Monday, November 3, 2014.
 - Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on September 24, 2014, notifying them that the draft 2015 Douglas PUD Hatchery M&E Implementation Plan
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is available for download from the HCP Hatchery Committees Extranet Site. This draft report is available for a 60-day review period with comments due to Greg Mackey no later than November 24, 2014.

FINALIZED DOCUMENTS

- The final Non-Target Taxa of Concern (NTTOC) Statement of Agreement (SOA) that was approved by the Hatchery Committees on September 17, 2014, was distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris on October 14, 2014.
- Kristi Geris sent an email to the Hatchery Committees on November 14, 2014, notifying them that the Final Douglas PUD 2013 Hatchery M&E Report, which was finalized following a 60-day review period that ended on November 3, 2014, is now available for download from the Hatchery Committees Extranet Site. As noted in the email, no comments were received from Hatchery Committees members on the draft report.

I. Welcome

A. Review Agenda, Review Last Meeting Action Items, Approve the September 17, 2014 Meeting Minutes (Mike Schiewe)

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

- Bill Gale added: 1) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) consultation update; and 2) water pipe replacement at Winthrop National Fish Hatchery (NFH).
- Keely Murdoch added 2016 expanded acclimation in the Methow.
- Kirk Truscott added a transfer of surplus Carson Hatchery eggs to Chief Joseph Hatchery (CJH).
- Alene Underwood added a Chelan PUD M&E hatchery activities update.

The Hatchery Committees reviewed the revised draft September 17, 2014 meeting minutes.

Kristi Geris said that there are two comments to be discussed, as follows:

- Regarding Chelan PUD's revised draft 2015 Hatchery M&E Implementation Plan, Greg Mackey requested clarification on a comment that the YN made about release monitoring. Keely Murdoch clarified that she asked if a passive integrated
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transponder-tag detector was set up at the Chewuch Pond—not in the Chiwawa River.

- Regarding the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT)'s discussion on the Columnaris outbreak at CJH, Kirk Truscott clarified via email that chloramine-T drip treatments were attempted to reduce mortality—not formalin drip. Kristi Geris distributed Truscott's email to the Hatchery Committees on October 14, 2014.

Bill Gale also requested, regarding National Marine Fisheries Science (NMFS)' Broodstock Collection Protocols SOA discussion, that Tom Kahler's parenthetical statement be deleted since it was not discussed during the meeting. Kristi Geris said that she will incorporate the discussed edits into the revised minutes and that all other comments and revisions received from members of the Committees have been incorporated into the revised minutes. The Hatchery Committees members present approved the draft September 17, 2014 meeting minutes, as revised. (*Note: Kirk Truscott approved the draft September 17, 2014 meeting minutes via email on October 13, 2014, as Geris distributed to the Hatchery Committees the following day.*)

Action items from the Hatchery Committees meeting on September 17, 2014, and follow-up discussions were as follows (italicized item numbers below correspond to agenda items from the meeting on September 17, 2014):

- *Chelan PUD will provide a final report on the water recirculation pilot studies at Eastbank Fish Hatchery and Chiwawa Fish Facility to the Hatchery Committees by December 2014 (Item I).*
This action item will be carried forward.
 - *Mike Tonseth will provide a revised memo clarifying standardized methods for Hatchery M&E Plan Objective 8.3, Fecundity at Size, to the Hatchery Committees for review by December 2014 (Item I).*
This action item will be carried forward.
 - *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 by December 2014 (Item I).*
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This action item will be carried forward.

- *Mike Tonseth will coordinate with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to develop a list of key components that are required in the annual Broodstock Collection Protocols; he will also tentatively identify components that may be removed in order to streamline the annual review and approval process (Item I).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Chelan PUD will incorporate revisions to the 2015 Chelan PUD Hatchery M&E Implementation Plan, as discussed during today's meeting, and will provide the final plan, as approved by the Hatchery Committees, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item II-A).*

Chelan PUD provided the final plan to Geris on September 24, 2014, which Geris distributed to the Hatchery Committees that same day.

- *Chelan PUD will add NMFS to the background language of the Non-Target Taxa of Concern (NTTOC) Statement of Agreement (SOA), and will provide the final SOA, as approved by the Hatchery Committees, to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item II-B).*

Chelan PUD provided the final SOA to Geris on October 14, 2014, which Geris distributed to the Hatchery Committees that same day.

- *Lynn Hatcher will brief Scott Carlon (NMFS HCP Coordinating Committees Representative) on the Hatchery Committees' approval of the Broodstock Collection Protocol SOA (Item III-A).*

Hatcher said that he discussed this with Carlon and that Carlon plans to coordinate with Ritchie Graves (NMFS). Mike Schiewe also noted that this was discussed during the last HCP Coordinating Committees and that no major concerns were raised.

Schiewe added that the HCP Coordinating Committees plan to continue this discussion at their next meeting.

- *Kristi Geris will distribute to the Hatchery Committees the Hatchery Committees approved Broodstock Collection Protocols SOA, with revisions incorporated as discussed during today's meeting (Item III-A).*

Geris distributed the approved SOA to the Hatchery Committees following the meeting on September 17, 2014.

- *Greg Mackey and Catherine Willard will evaluate Methow River environmental conditions following the wild fires and landslides that occurred earlier this summer, and their potential impacts on natural production and implications for Hatchery Program Management for discussion at the Hatchery Committees meeting on October 15, 2014 (Item IV-C).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Chelan PUD will provide electronic copies of the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair position documents to Kristi Geris for distribution to the Hatchery Committees (Item VI-B).*

Chelan PUD provided these documents to Geris on September 18, 2014, which Geris distributed to the Hatchery Committees that same day.

- *Hatchery Committees representatives will review the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair position documents and will: 1) provide edits and comments on the documents to Alene Underwood, Greg Mackey, and Tom Kahler; 2) contact qualified candidates to gauge interest in the position; 3) inform interested candidates that they may contact Mike Schiewe to discuss the position; and 4) obtain a résumé or CV from interested candidates to discuss at the Hatchery Committees meeting on October 15, 2014 (Item VI-B).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Hatchery Committees representatives will provide recommendations on how to conduct interviews for the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair position (Item VI-B).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

- *Alene Underwood and Kristi Geris will distribute a Doodle Poll for a meeting in early November 2014 to develop the short list of candidates to interview for the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair position (Item VI-B).*

This action item will be discussed during today's meeting.

II. Douglas PUD

A. Methow River Conditions and Implications for Populations and Hatchery Program Management (Greg Mackey)

Greg Mackey said that a hyperlink to the BAER website was distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris on October 14, 2014. Mackey said that a report on the

effects of the Carlton Complex Fire will eventually be posted on the website and that a report on the much smaller Mills Canyon Fire is currently available at this website. He said that the latter report provides calculations regarding increases in debris per acre due to fire and probabilities of effects to wildlife. Mackey recommended reviewing this report and the Carlton Complex Fire report, once available, to review what types of information they provide.

Catherine Willard said that she contacted former co-workers at Idaho Fish and Game and asked if they have ever modified timing of hatchery releases due to fires and they indicated that they had not. Willard said that she also asked if they looked at survival data following fires and they indicated that they had not, but anecdotally, they did not believe there were any major impacts.

Willard said that she also reviewed the timing of peak river flow in the Methow and based on the past 5 years of data, she noted river flows begin to increase in mid- to late-April and peak around May to June. She said that for the Chiwawa River, fish are released around April 16 to 22. Mackey said that for the Methow and Twisp, the typical release date target for spring Chinook salmon is around April 15, and for Methow safety-net steelhead, the release date is closer to May 1, in order to provide a few more weeks of imprinting opportunity. Willard said that these data suggest an approximate length of time that hatchery managers would have to release fish prior to peak river flow.

Mackey said that he spoke with Dave Dinsmore (Methow Hatchery Assistant Manager) and Dinsmore indicated that he and Guy Weist (Methow Hatchery Manager) have been discussing this issue, both of which also expressed concern. Mackey said that given that the Hatchery Committees have now discussed and investigated this potential issue, he suggested that the Hatchery Committees agree to defer to Hatchery Manager discretion regarding appropriate actions for releasing fish based on “on-the-ground” conditions, as is standard practice. He said that, in discussing this issue with Dinsmore, deferring to the Hatchery Manager seems to be the most pragmatic thing to do. Mackey explained further that hatchery staff would hold fish in the ponds, watch the weather, river flow, and fish behavior, and release the fish, as appropriate.

Keely Murdoch asked if the concern was about river conditions or impacts to hatchery infrastructure (e.g., clogging pond intakes). Mackey replied, both; however, he noted that the first concern is the ponds, over which hatchery staff have some control. He added that when fish are in the river, they have the opportunity to behave in ways to help them survive. He said that he does not want to take Twisp stock out of the Twisp River, precluding consideration of a different release location, so the only other option is to be prepared to release them at the most opportune time.

Bill Gale suggested considering extending the volitional release period, perhaps starting it earlier. Mike Tonseth noted that the Mid-Columbia spill programs need to be up and running prior to releasing fish to insure good fish passage conditions. He said he believes that Rock Island Dam starts spill around April 15.

Murdoch said that she is less concerned about river conditions; she noted that high muddy water can actually enhance survival. She said that things like fires, lightning, and sediment loading have always been a part of the ecosystem. She said, however, if intake screens are clogged, that is another issue. Mackey said that he is not concerned with muddy water either; rather, he is concerned about debris flow and changes in water chemistry. Murdoch noted that high elevation runoff will be a diluting factor and Mackey said that this year, he believes the risk is still higher than normal. Tonseth noted that the Tripod Fire was more intense than this year's fires and suggested reviewing about 5 years of Chewuch data following that fire. He added that he also is not so much concerned with sediment loading in the river, but rather with high sediment loading in the ponds where the fish are held. Mackey said that the Methow Hatchery should be protected from potential direct impacts because no significant fires were located upstream. He asked the Hatchery Committees if they would be supportive of his previous suggestion (i.e., defer to Hatchery Manager discretion in release timing, per usual). He added that this approach is also consistent with what Kirk Truscott recommended via email, as distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Geris on October 14, 2014. Tonseth also suggested conducting periodic fish health evaluations on fish held in the ponds and Gale recommended reviewing the BAER report to see if it provided insight into expected conditions.

Hatchery Committees representatives present agreed, regarding Methow River conditions and implications for populations and hatchery program management, to defer to Hatchery Manager discretion regarding appropriate actions for releasing fish, with the recommendation to conduct periodic fish health evaluations on fish held in potentially impacted holding ponds, and once available, review of the BAER report on the effects of the Carlton Complex Fire.

Murdoch said that Hatchery Manager actions should be based on in-hatchery (or acclimation pond) conditions—not on river conditions, as previously discussed. Gale asked if fish can be forced or crowded out of the Twisp ponds. Mackey said that dam boards are removed and fish typically exit the ponds as the water level decreases. He added that steelhead seem to be more reluctant to leave, but spring Chinook salmon tend to readily exit. Tonseth said that he believes that steelhead are more tolerant of harsher conditions than spring Chinook salmon.

Gale asked if Chelan PUD is concerned with sediment loading affecting their operations this winter. Alene Underwood said that the in-river structure at the Carlton facility is already in place and she is not anticipating any issues. Gale said that Grant PUD plans to overwinter summer Chinook there and Underwood said that Chelan PUD would defer decisions, if needed, to Grant PUD. Tonseth said that the most significant burns in the Methow were below Carlton pond and any significant material out of the Chewuch or the Twisp would be diluted by the time it reached Carlton pond. Underwood encouraged Hatchery Committees members to continue this discussion with Grant PUD during tomorrow's Priest Rapids Coordinating Committees Hatchery Sub Committee (PRCC HSC) meeting.

B. HCP Hatchery Committees Chair Position (Tom Kahler)

Tom Kahler said that after review of the HCPs, it was clear that the HCP Policy Committees need to be involved in the process of selecting the new HCP committee Chairs. He recalled that when the HCPs were approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2004, and the first Chair was selected, the process was led by the Mid-Columbia Coordinating Committee, chaired by Denny Rohr (DRohr and Associates) and the HCP Policy Committee. Kahler said that the HCPs state that the "Parties" will select the Chair and in the interest of

also involving the Policy level, a meeting is currently being scheduled to convene signatory representatives in the HCP Policy Committee and/or HCP Coordinating Committees to discuss the process and timeline for appointing new HCP Chairs.

Keely Murdoch asked if the process will be different than what was outlined during the last Hatchery Committees meeting. Kahler said that the process may be the same and that this is what will be discussed during the joint HCP Policy and Coordinating Committees meeting. Bill Gale asked about the identity of the HCP Policy and HCP Coordinating Committees members. Kahler listed the respective members, as follows:

	HCP Coordinating Committees	HCP Policy Committee
<u>Signatory</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Representative</u>
Douglas PUD	Tom Kahler	Shane Bickford
Chelan PUD	Lance Keller	Keith Truscott
USFWS	Jim Craig	Jessi Gonzales
WDFW	Jeff Korth	Jim Brown
CCT	Kirk Truscott	Randy Friedlander
YN	Bob Rose	Steve Parker
NMFS	Scott Carlon	Ritchie Graves

Mike Tonseth asked when the joint meeting will take place. Kahler said that scheduling of that meeting is in progress and if adequate participation is not achievable, then the HCP Coordinating Committees will likely take the lead. Gale asked if the HCP Policy Committee could assign responsibility to the HCP Coordinating Committees and Kahler replied that they could. Tonseth asked if the HCP Coordinating Committees preferred to take lead responsibility. Kahler said that HCP Coordinating Committees members preferred HCP Policy Committee participation.

Kahler said that he hopes to stick to the original timeline, to have an interview list by sometime in November 2014 and schedule interviews in December 2014 or January 2015 at the latest. He recalled that Hatchery Committees representatives were asked to review the HCP Hatchery Committees Chair position documents and provide edits and comments on the documents to him, Greg Mackey, and Alene Underwood. Kahler said that those documents were used during the selection process for Mike Schiewe. Kahler noted that the

Qualifications document was slightly modified from the original document. Murdoch asked how it was modified. Underwood said that the document was updated based on the last 10 years of HCP work.

Gale noted that several of the Chair responsibilities are embedded in the first paragraph of the Qualifications document, while the bullets are more administrative tasks. He said that as currently written, it seems that some of the Chair qualifications may be hidden in the paragraph and he suggested reformatting the document to consistently identify and emphasize all duties of the position. Kahler said that he would revise the document as requested.

Gale asked about the purpose of the Qualifications document. Underwood said that the document serves as a guide to help identify potential candidates. Gale asked if a candidate needs to be submitted by a HCP Committee member or if the position is open for anyone to apply. He questioned if the current approach is limiting and asked if the position should be open for broader competition. Kahler said that during the first Chair selection process, the position was advertised along the entire west coast and no one of particular interest applied. He said that ultimately, the list of candidates comprised those individuals brought forward by HCP members. Underwood also noted that at this particular juncture, there may not be enough time to implement a broad-scale search. She added that if the HCP Policy members feel strongly about advertising, it can be done, but with a limited response period. Murdoch suggested putting out a Request for Qualifications. Underwood said that could be done if the Parties prefer that approach. Kahler recommended that Hatchery Committees members discuss their preferences with their respective HCP Policy Committee representatives.

Tonseth said that he has heard interest in combining the PRCC HSC and Hatchery Committees meetings. Murdoch added, perhaps not combining the meetings, but using the same facilitator. Lynn Hatcher said that he prefers a strong technical person for the Hatchery Committees Chair. Kahler noted that the HCP Tributary Committees and PRCC Habitat Sub Committee are somewhat combined, where the HCP Tributary Committees meet in the morning with Tracy Hillman (BioAnalysts, Inc.) and then there is a joint portion with the PRCC Habitat Sub Committee with Rohr and then the

PRCC Habitat Sub Committee convenes their separate meeting in the afternoon. Mackey noted that the Chair selection process for the Hatchery Committees and PRCC HSC need to stay separate because of contracting requirements, regardless of whether the same Chair is selected.

Gale and Murdoch both suggested considering Elizabeth McManus (PRCC HSC Facilitator) for the Hatchery Committees Chair position. Underwood recalled, as discussed during last month's Hatchery Committees meeting, that to bring a candidate forward for consideration, a Hatchery Committees member will need to: 1) contact the qualified candidate to gauge interest in the position; 2) inform the interested candidate that they may contact Schiewe to discuss the duties of the position; and 3) obtain a résumé or CV from interested candidates. Kahler noted that Douglas PUD prefers a strong technical person for the Hatchery Committees Chair and McManus does not have that background. Gale agreed with Kahler that a technical background is important, but he noted that it is also important to have a strong facilitation background as well. Gale said that he believes that McManus does a great job at facilitating the PRCC HSC and that he thinks there needs to be a broader pool of candidates for the Hatchery Committees Chair position.

Underwood said that in the interest of maintaining momentum, she recommended establishing a deadline for bringing forward candidates. Gale asked why Hatchery Committees members were being asked to find candidates when the HCP Policy Committee has not yet convened to establish a process. Underwood explained that this is a way to continue to make progress and provide an opportunity for Hatchery Committees input for the HCP Policy Committee to consider. Kahler assured Gale that the HCP Policy Committee is aware that the Hatchery Committees are searching for candidates.

Gale suggested briefly discussing the candidates who have already been contacted so that the same people are not approached again. The Hatchery Committees agreed and discussed the following:

Not Interested

Mr. Tim Roth

Gale contacted Mr. Tim Roth (retired USFWS), who has long been involved with *U.S. v Oregon*; however, Roth indicated that he was not interested in the position.

Mr. Brian Cates

Gale contacted Mr. Brian Cates (retired USFWS); however, no response was received.

Dr. Steve Schroeder

Kahler contacted Dr. Steve Schroeder (retired WDFW); however, Schroeder indicated that he was not interested in the position.

Dr. Pete Bisson

Kahler contacted Dr. Pete Bisson (Bisson Aquatic Consulting, LLC); however, Bisson indicated that he was not interested in the position.

Dr. Tracy Hillman

Tonseth asked about Dr. Tracy Hillman (BioAnalysts, Inc.). Underwood said that Hillman indicated that he likely would not have enough time to fill the position. Kahler noted that Hillman was also nominated for the Aquatic Settlement Workgroup Chair position and Kahler added that he is uncertain if there would be a conflict of interest for Hillman to chair the Hatchery Committees due to his involvement with M&E work.

Mr. Bill Muir

Kahler said that Mr. Bill Muir (retired NMFS) indicated that he was not interested in the position (but is a candidate for the HCP Coordinating Committees chair). Kahler also noted that if the Parties prefer to have the same Chair for both HCP Coordinating Committees and Hatchery Committees, this would eliminate Muir from the pool.

Dr. Chris Caudill

Kahler contacted Dr. Caudill (University of Idaho), who works with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) on fish-passage studies in the Federal Columbia River Power System and on the Willamette River; however, Caudill indicated that he was not interested in the position.

Interested Candidates

Dr. John Ferguson

Kahler said that his direct experience working with Dr. John Ferguson is somewhat limited. Ferguson has participated in the Rocky Reach Fish Forum (RRFF) and HCP Coordinating Committees meetings and also facilitated and presented at a Subyearling Workshop in November 2009. Kahler indicated that he was quite impressed with the way that Ferguson organized the presentations and with Ferguson's overall skills. Kahler said that phone conversations with Ferguson have been positive, as well, and that Ferguson also comes with Anchor QEA and their support services.

Kahler requested additional information about Ferguson, and Schiewe added that Ferguson was the Director of the Fish Ecology Division of NMFS' Northwest Fisheries Science Center, prior to joining Anchor QEA. Schiewe said that Ferguson has a broad fisheries background, having previously worked for the U.S. Forest Service, Bonneville Power Administration, and USACE; in the latter position he managed the Fish Passage Program for the USACE Portland District. After retiring from NMFS, Ferguson joined Anchor QEA and has worked on projects in several areas, including work on the Chehalis River in Washington, the Trinity in northern California, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Underwood said that her experience with Ferguson is also somewhat limited. Underwood said that he worked with an expert panel to synthesize reviews of several technical proposals and presented the findings to the RRFF. Underwood indicated that Ferguson was articulate and did a good job of synthesizing the information.

Mr. Geoff McMichael

Kahler said that Mr. Geoff McMichael has had a long career in hydropower passage research, including development and testing of, and implementation of passage studies with the Juvenile Salmon Acoustic Telemetry System (JSATS) tags. McMichael has also conducted research in the Columbia River estuary and also has worked with Hanford Reach issues for many years, which is how Kahler met McMichael (through Grant PUD's Fall Chinook Workgroup). McMichael worked for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) and

was regularly reporting study results to the Workgroup. Prior to PNNL, McMichael worked for WDFW in the Ellensburg, Washington office, working on the Yakima Species Interactions study.

Murdoch said that McMichael lacks facilitation experience. Kahler said that McMichael may not have facilitation background, per se; however, he does have a lot of experience working with Grant PUD's Fall Chinook Workgroup, where issues have been somewhat contentious, and he handled it well.

Mr. Bryan Nordlund

Kahler said that Mr. Bryan Nordlund has a strong background in fish passage and that he has played a significant role in the HCP Coordinating Committees. Kahler said that Nordlund is generally well-prepared and is a very even-tempered person who maintains his composure under all conditions. Nordlund has teaching experience, however, Kahler indicated that he is uncertain about Nordlund's facilitation experience.

Other Possible Candidates

Mr. Tom Schadt

Underwood said that Chelan PUD has contacted Mr. Tom Schadt, who is a founding employee of Anchor QEA. Schadt has a Master of Science in Fisheries, although, he has been a bit removed over the last few years from fisheries work. Schadt facilitates extremely contentious, multi-million dollar projects and he indicated that he is reaching the time when he would like to be less involved in such big stakes negotiating. Schadt lives part-time in Leavenworth, Washington. Underwood said that Chelan PUD is planning to follow up with Schadt.

Underwood said that based on the current Doodle Poll, the first possible date for the joint HCP Policy and Coordinating Committees meeting is November 6, 2014, so she suggested an October 31, 2014 deadline to submit candidates for the Hatchery Committees Chair position. She noted that the deadline is not concrete if the HCP Policy Committee decides to change the process. Hatchery Committees representatives agreed to: 1) contact qualified HCP Hatchery Committees Chair candidates to gauge interest in the position; 2) have interested

candidates contact Schiewe to discuss the position duties, as needed; and 3) obtain a résumé or CV from interested candidates, and provide those documents to Underwood, Mackey, and Kahler by Friday, October 31, 2014.

III. WDFW

A. Annual Broodstock Collection Protocols Layout (Mike Tonseth)

Mike Tonseth said that a draft Broodstock Collection Protocols template (Attachment B) was distributed to the Hatchery Committees by Kristi Geris on October 14, 2014. Tonseth said that the draft template was developed jointly between WDFW, NMFS, and USFWS, and includes all the information required in “Broodstock Collection Protocols” for inclusion in the new Biological Opinions (BiOps) and Section 7 consultations for bull trout. He said that this draft template is intended to show the basic layout and content of the new proposed structure of the annual Broodstock Collection Protocols. He said that the draft template focuses on ten elements, some of which have already been included in different programs, but have not been explicitly outlined. He also noted that most elements will be outlined in the appendices of the annual protocols. He explained the ten elements, as follows:

1. Number of Fish to be Collected: Collection numbers are outlined by program and origin.
 2. Capture Methods and Locations
 3. Program-specific Mating Protocols
 4. Current Brood Year Juvenile Production Targets and Release Locations: Outlined in Appendix A of Attachment B.
 5. Marking and Tagging: Outlined in Appendix A of Attachment B. This is intended to serve as a tool for Hatchery Staff.
 6. Return-year Adult Management Plans: Outlined in Appendix B of Attachment B. These plans are specific to spring Chinook salmon and steelhead, and will include information such as what tools will be used in the event that there are surplus fish. Some programs will have more detailed plans than others. For instance, adult management plans may be more generalized descriptions for steelhead and more specific for spring Chinook salmon.
 7. Site-specific Trapping Operations Plans: Outlined in Appendix C of Attachment B.
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8. Columbia River Technical Advisory Committee Forecast: Outlined in Appendix D of Attachment B. This is a forecast of adult returns that is published annually to provide Hatchery Managers with an estimate of what to expect for a given year.
9. Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation (RME) Activities: Outlined in Appendix E of Attachment B. This includes appending respective annual implementation plans.
10. In-hatchery Production Management: This element has been included in the annual protocols for the past 4 years and addresses activities such as the application of ultrasound technology, length-fecundity relationships, and preventing over-collecting while also collecting adequate brood. A lot of this language is taken directly from the hatchery descriptions in the respective Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs).

Alene Underwood asked about the benefit of appending the annual implementation plans to the protocols. Tonseth said that this was requested by USFWS so that they could review broodstock activities in concert with proposed RME activities. Bill Gale said that this is important for understanding potential impact to bull trout, which is why he thinks Karl Halupka (USFWS) requested this.

Tonseth reviewed Attachment B, noting that the beginning of the document will largely have the same key information as in previous years, including an introduction and key changes. He said that there will also be a section that identifies any outstanding issues that may not be resolved prior to submitting the protocols to NMFS. He said that program return projections will then follow in a similar format as in the past, only with less detail. He said that each program will include a table that outlines the number of broodstock needed. He noted that the assumptions behind the calculations will no longer be included in the table, but will be available in a separate table. He said that each program will also include a weekly collection plan; Tonseth noted that WDFW has already been preparing these plans, but that they were not previously included in the annual protocols. He said that at the end of section for each program, there will be placeholder for additional information that may be outside of the norm, but worthy to note for that year.

Tonseth said that this new template may take a few years to fully develop and that he would like Hatchery Committees' feedback, including suggestions on any other information to include. Underwood suggested including a list of appendices and Greg Mackey suggested including a full table of contents.

Gale asked about the M&E activities that will be included in the annual protocols. He asked, for example, if details of the Wenatchee Steelhead Reproductive Success Study will be included. Tonseth said that no, in this case, a reference would be added rather than including the entire study.

Lynn Hatcher said that this new template addresses what NMFS wanted. Tonseth noted that the ten elements in the protocols are also outlined in the Broodstock Collection Protocols section of the Section 10 BiOps.

Mackey said that this is a good start, but he would also like the document to the likelihood of meeting broodstock collection targets, with probabilities of over- or under-collecting brood. Different programs have different risk averse sensitivities and such information will allow managers to make more informed decisions on broodstock collection. Mike Schiewe asked if Mackey was suggesting appending to the protocols his estimation of broodstock numbers calculations that he presented to the Hatchery Committees in February 2013. Mackey said that is an option. Tonseth said that he is concerned with including that type of information in the protocols, because with fish runs, assumptions could be off in any given year and hatchery staff may interpret those data incorrectly. Mackey said that is why a more probabilistic approach should be used—it explicitly addresses the uncertainty in the broodstock collection targets.

Tonseth asked that Hatchery Committees members submit comments on the draft template to him by October 31, 2014.

IV. NMFS

A. HGMP Update (Lynn Hatcher)

Lynn Hatcher said that Amilee Wilson (NMFS) and Craig Busack discussed broodstock collection for 2015 during a conference call that was held yesterday, October 14, 2014; however, Hatcher said that he was unable to attend the call. Hatcher said that a NMFS/USFWS BiOp Coordination Meeting was held on September 25, 2014. He then reviewed HGMP updates, as described in the following sections.

Wenatchee Spring Chinook Salmon

NMFS is reinitiating the existing BiOp with a target completion date of December 31, 2014. Discussions during yesterday's conference call regarding how the status of USFWS' review of the three alternatives may have impacted this target completion date.

Leavenworth Spring Chinook Salmon

This target completion date is December 31, 2014. The Wild Fish Conservancy litigation may influence that date.

Wenatchee Steelhead

Wilson was waiting on the final Annual Broodstock Collection Protocols SOA to complete the BiOp and permit. The process seems to be on track to meet the target completion date of October 31, 2014. *(Note: the Hatchery Committees approved the SOA on September 17, and the HCP Coordinating Committees approved the SOA on October 28, 2014.)*

Okanogan Spring Chinook Salmon

Busack has finished drafting this BiOp, but additional review is still required. Busack is planning to meet the target completion date of October 31, 2014, in the interest of transferring the Section 10(j) fish to the Okanogan River.

Winthrop Safety-Net and Methow Conservation Spring Chinook Salmon

Chelan PUD's spring Chinook salmon conservation program will be combined with the Methow Hatchery and Winthrop NFH consultation. The target completion date is March 31, 2015. Mike Tonseth asked if a sufficiency letter was sent to Chelan PUD for their HGMP and he asked if the HGMP was published in the Federal Register. Hatcher said that he is uncertain; Busack just indicated that the BiOps would be combined. Alene Underwood said that she does not believe Busack has taken action yet. Hatcher said that he will verify this

with Busack. Keely Murdoch asked if acclimation is covered under the 1196 extension and Underwood replied that it is.

Methow Steelhead

A Fishery and Adult Management Plan is still needed. The target completion date is December 31, 2014. Hatcher added, however, that he is uncertain how this deadline will be met considering that an Environmental Assessment (EA) would need to be completed by October 31, 2014, and then public review, edits, and a final BiOp would need to be completed by the end of December.

Okanogan Safety-net

The target completion date is December 31, 2014. A reduced production alternative is being added to the draft EA, as requested by NMFS attorneys, which is requiring additional time to complete. Kirk Truscott noted that this program is an expansion of a locally adapted program and is included in the CCT's Hatchery Management document.

Summer and Fall Programs

These programs are the lowest priorities, with target completion dates in spring 2015.

Hatcher said that NMFS has received inquiries regarding how NMFS will handle differences in authorization. He said that NMFS is working to define this better, for example, possibly adding more permit holders and making them an authorized agent, or issuing additional permits.

Truscott said that, with regard to permit timing and the transfer of Section 10(j) fish, the CCT's cost share partners may want to consider what their position might be if the CCT need to transfer fish before the permit is issued. He asked if NMFS can provide a concurrence letter to let the CCT know that NMFS has authorized the transfer. Hatcher said that NMFS understands the CCT's position and that is why Busack is targeting the October 31, 2014 deadline. Truscott said that he appreciates that, but he noted that October 31, 2014 is soon approaching. Hatcher said that Busack has finished the BiOp, and NMFS is just waiting to hear back from legal review.

V. USFWS

A. USFWS Bull Trout Consultation Update (Bill Gale)

Bill Gale said that he spoke with Karl Halupka this morning and Halupka indicated that he received some sections of the Wenatchee BiOp and that he also sent some information to NMFS regarding broodstock alternatives. Gale said that Halupka also sent a list of questions to Amilee Wilson outlining what types of information he needs to fully evaluate and understand the BiOp. Gale said that Halupka indicated that he prepared a response to NMFS, however, the response is still under internal review. Gale said that Halupka also provided him with terms and conditions language relating to process and how the Broodstock Collection Protocols will be approved and how they fit in with consultation, which Gale indicated he will review today. Gale said that once the language is in final draft form, he will have a discussion with Wilson. Gale said that he plans to provide a USFWS consultation update at future Hatchery Committees meetings.

B. Winthrop NFH Water Pipe Replacement (Bill Gale)

Bill Gale said that about a week ago, Bob Gerwig (Winthrop NFH Fish Biologist) was acting Hatchery Manager at Winthrop NFH when he noticed cracks in the asphalt and observed what appeared to be a significant water line leak below. Gale said that the leak was narrowed down to a 21-inch pipe that provides water to C-bank. He said that over the weekend, all fish in C-bank were transferred to another rearing space, including 270,000 coho salmon, 75,000 steelhead, and 157,000 spring Chinook salmon. He said that the transfer was successful and that the fish are doing well. He added that no fish were released.

Gale said that a contractor arrived onsite on the Monday following the emergency fish transfer and excavated an area where the leaking pipe was located. He said that the pipe was originally installed in the 1940s and was leaking in four different locations. He said that the contractor plans to replace the entire line between two valve junctions (about 20 to 30 yards), which should be complete in the next 2 weeks.

VI. YN

A. 2016 Expanded Acclimation in the Methow (Keely Murdoch)

Keely Murdoch said that the YN and WDFW determined that the Goat Wall acclimation site (one of two sites in the Methow, located downstream of the mouth of the Lost River) is potentially available for use in 2016 to acclimate brood year 2014 Methow spring Chinook salmon. Accordingly, Murdoch said that the YN would like to request 25,000 Methow spring Chinook salmon for the Goat Wall site. She said that this site is more consistent with long term goals than the Mid-Valley Pond site and she added that based on the pond size, 25,000 is a reasonable request. Mike Tonseth confirmed that the site will accommodate 25,000 fish. He said that during a recent PRCC HSC conference call, Grant PUD and Douglas PUD identified some issues that need to be resolved; however, no records are available regarding those issues at this time. Tonseth said that, at this point, he would like to know what the Hatchery Committees need from the YN and WDFW to make a decision.

Lynn Hatcher said that from NMFS' perspective, if any of the proposed actions are outside of the current permit, Hatchery Committees approval will need to be obtained and possibly additional paperwork if the action is brand new. Mike Schiewe asked if there is a timeline. Tonseth said Hatchery Committees approval should be obtained by December 2014 and that would be sufficient time to arrange for marking. Murdoch asked what information needs to be included in a SOA. Tom Kahler asked about the concerns from the PRCC HSC conference call. Murdoch said that NMFS had a concern regarding percent hatchery-origin spawner (pHOS) responsibilities. Kahler said that he thinks that concerns over accounting for pHOS responsibility will be addressed by marking. Mackey said that marking will not allow adult management actions in real-time to control pHOS specific to certain release groups; rather, marking would only allow estimation of pHOS and contribution to pHOS of various release groups retrospectively. Tonseth noted that at this point, homing fidelity to the hatchery is unknown because Methow Hatchery has never attempted to capture all fish that may home to the volunteer trap, and he added that program changes can be made following a retrospective analysis. Mackey said that he would like this one-year effort to be a longer-term commitment, such as 5-year, that is consistent over time with proper assessment so that parameters and objectives can be uniformly evaluated, as opposed to changing annually. Murdoch agreed. Tonseth said that he believes there should be caution because this is an untested area and added that options need to be available in case there are

complications (e.g., disease). Mackey noted that there are really two separate objectives that need to be evaluated: 1) pond operations including survival in the pond; and 2) fish performance once they leave the pond, including smolt-to-adult ratios, homing, and escapement to the target spawning reach(es).

Bill Gale asked how this acclimation proposal folds into existing consultation and he noted how Craig Busack indicated that this effort is not covered in the current HGMP. Murdoch said that she was surprised by Busack's comments because acclimation program placeholder language was included in the draft permits. Kahler said that the language was to cover Douglas PUD, since Douglas PUD assumed that the YN would have their own permits for rearing fish in their own ponds. Murdoch disagreed and said that the intent of that language was to cover the fish portion of Douglas PUD's program. She added, for example, for Chelan PUD's programs, the YN would be authorized agents at Rolfings Pond because the YN are not releasing more fish, rather, they are releasing the same fish that already have coverage. Kahler said that Douglas PUD has custodial responsibility and permit coverage for fish at their facility; however, at release, Douglas PUD no longer has custodial or permit responsibility for those fish. He said that likewise responsibility ends at the point of relinquishing fish to another party. In the case of relinquishing fish to the YN, the custodial and permit-coverage responsibilities become the YN's. Tonseth proposed using the same approach that was used for the Wenatchee spring Chinook salmon permits relative to adult management, where roles and responsibilities were defined for a remote location, but were still covered within the same permit. Murdoch said that, somehow, this effort needs to be connected to the Bonneville Power Administration's EA for this site. Alene Underwood recalled that this was mentioned before and that this is the coho salmon EA. Gale asked if Busack needs additional information so that consultation is not delayed.

Murdoch said that the YN will prepare a proposal for expanded acclimation to begin in 2016 in the Methow to present during the Hatchery Committees meeting on November 19, 2014. Kirk Truscott requested that the proposal include an explanation of pond operations, tagging, M&E, fisheries objectives, and adult management. Murdoch agreed.

VII. CCT

A. Transfer of Surplus Carson Hatchery Eggs to CJH (Kirk Truscott)

Kirk Truscott recalled the recent Columnaris outbreak at CJH, which affected a large portion of the Leavenworth spring Chinook salmon broodstock, leaving only about 250,000 spring Chinook salmon eggs on station. Truscott said that there are 350,000 surplus eyed eggs at Carson that could substantially help compensate for the recent broodstock loss. He said that the CCT have discussed this internally with NMFS and have determined that this would be consistent with their BiOp. He said that the CCT are checking on a few more things, but are leaning towards accepting those eggs. Bill Gale asked if the CCT have coordinated with USFWS Fish Health. Truscott said that he plans to contact them today and that he does not anticipate any issues. He added that these eggs would be used in the 700,000 segregated harvest program. Gale asked if the fish would be adipose (ad)-clipped and coded as normal production and Truscott replied that they would be.

VIII. Chelan PUD

A. Chelan PUD M&E Hatchery Activities Update (Catherine Willard)

Catherine Willard said that Chelan PUD finished spring Chinook salmon surveys in the Wenatchee subbasin. She said that the surveys went well and that 915 redds were identified, which is greater than the 10-year average, but below last year's redd count. She suggested that this year's lower redd count (compared to last year's) is indicative of spring Chinook salmon adult management. She said that redd life will be documented until October 31, 2014. She also noted that Chelan PUD was unable to use a hexacopter during the summer surveys as originally planned, because the legislature placed a moratorium on the use of hexacopters until the Federal Aviation Administration can determine how to manage small unmanned aircraft. She said that WDFW (contractors for Chelan PUD) is also still collecting data for the observer efficiency model twice per week. Greg Mackey asked if summer Chinook salmon have been observed spawning in muddy reaches of the Methow and Willard said that she did not know, because she has not talked to BioAnalysts, who is conducting the surveys for Grant PUD this year.

IX. HCP Administration

A. Next Meetings

The next scheduled Hatchery Committees meetings are on November 19, 2014 (Douglas PUD); December 17, 2014 (Chelan PUD); and January 21, 2015 (Douglas PUD).

List of Attachments

Attachment A	List of Attendees
Attachment B	Draft Broodstock Collection Protocols Template

Attachment A
List of Attendees

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

Notes:

* Denotes Hatchery Committees member or alternate

† Joined by phone
