



Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Meeting

FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

1:00 pm

Wenatchee Office

PRCC Representatives

Scott Carlon, Justin Yeager (Alt), NMFS
Keely Murdoch, Brandon Rogers (Alt), YN
Chad Jackson, P. Verhey (Alt) WDFW
Curt Dotson, Peter Graf (Alt), GCPUD
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator

Jim Craig, USFWS
Kirk Truscott, Casey Baldwin (alt), CCT
Tom Skiles, CTUIR
Erin Harris, Admin Ass't, GPUD

PRCC Meeting Attendees

Curt Dotson, GPUD
Keely Murdoch, YN (Via Phone)
Scott Carlon, NMFS (Via Phone)
Tom Skiles, CTUIR (Absent)
Chad Jackson, WDFW

Peter Graf, GPUD
Denny Rohr, D. Rohr & Assoc, Facilitator
Erin Harris, GPUD
Jim Craig, USFWS
Kirk Truscott, CCT

Decisions made during February 25, 2020 meeting

1. Approved discontinuing discussion and consideration of an RFP approach and to follow the normal NNI process wherein a proposal is brought to the committee for consideration of NNI Funding for Lake Wenatchee activities regarding White River Spring Chinook Juvenile Migration.
2. Approved, starting February 25, 2020, 1:00 pm at the Grant Wenatchee office, PRCC will meet the fourth Tuesday of every month for a 1 – 4 pm meeting with consideration of locations rotating between the Wenatchee office, the HOB at Wanapum, and a location TBD on the west side.

MEETING AGENDA

- I. **Safety Briefing** – Completed

II. Welcome and Introductions -

III. Agenda Review (D. Rohr) – Add Draft P&I Report from Deb Firestone, GCPUD.

IV. Meeting Minutes (D. Rohr)

- A. November 19, 2019 Meeting – Remaining approvals will be handled by email
- B. December 17, 2019 Meeting – Will be handled by email
- C. January 29, 2020 Meeting – Will be handled by email

V. Review of Actions Items from January 29, 2020 Conference Call/Meeting (D. Rohr)

1. Rohr will let PRCC know when Ecology shares their decision on funding \$400,000 on Barkley Irrigation Co. Permanent Point of Diversion Project. **-Completed.**
2. Rohr will ask Tracy Hillman for the written responses from Craig Busack's Lake Wenatchee/White River Spring Chinook Juvenile Migration presentation. **-Completed.**
3. Graf will contact Jeff Jorgenson about carrying capacity for Wenatchee Spring Chinook and the hatchery modeling simulations run for Greer Maier/UCSRB. **-Completed.**
4. Carlon will do follow-up regarding additional genetic work being done in the Wenatchee Basin by NMFS Science Center staff Kristin Nichol and Mike Ford. **-Completed.**
5. Rohr will contact John Ferguson to discuss moving future PRCC meetings to the fourth Tuesday of every month, starting February 24, 2020, 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the Grant Wenatchee office, and rotating between Wanapum HOB, the Grant PUD Wenatchee office, and the Westside. **-Completed.**
6. Rohr will add a Review of 2013 PRCC NNI Funding Guidance Document to a future PRCC meeting agenda. **-Completed.**
7. Harris will request Q4 NNI/HFA Funds Report from Patti Dietmeyer, Grant PUD Accounting Supervisor. **-Completed.**

VI. Review and Activities Update - Barkley Irrigation Co. Permanent Point of Diversion Project (D. Rohr) – Review of status of \$400,000 request to Washington Department of Ecology. – A Habitat SC conference call was held yesterday, and information received that NMFS as project liaison is trying to help find funding because WDOEcology has declined the funding request. The PRCC HabSC will continue to track this subject.

VII. Review and Discussion of Lake Wenatchee Activities Regarding White River Spring Chinook Juvenile Migration (D. Rohr)

- A. **Update of WDFW activities** – C. Jackson shared with committee members that WDFW does not have a proposal to present today. Moreover, C. Jackson shared his opinion that PRCC needs to decide if we'll work on a committee generated proposal or wait for an external proposal to be brought to the PRCC for consideration. He also suggested it would be of value to refamiliarize everyone with the processes and methodology to be followed when a proposal is brought to the committee for consideration, and he suggested doing this during the March meeting. K. Murdoch further suggested that the committee needed to decide on whether to discontinue the PRCC's consideration of an RFP and instead move forward with consideration of any proposals that might be presented to the committee. D. Rohr asked where currently we are on discussion of an RFP? C. Jackson commented the committee previously agreed to discuss an RFP approach, but agreement could not be reached regarding what an RFP should include. J. Craig shared we need a solid goal. C. Jackson shared that he would be in favor of discontinuing committee discussion of an RFP and instead consider any external proposals that might be brought to the PRCC for consideration. P. Graf shared he prefers a more typical NNI process wherein a proposal is brought to the committee for NNI Funding consideration. K. Truscott commented that each committee member has appeared to have a different idea of what was needed in an RFP. C. Dotson agreed with J. Craig on the value of establishing a goal as he felt that could be something that bogged down the process, and he agreed with the comments of discontinuing PRCC's discussion of an RFP. K. Murdoch said the landscape has changed enough and there is enough new data to warrant ending the RFP process and instead allow project proposals to be brought to the committee for consideration. **APPROVED: Accordingly, all committee members present approved discontinuing discussion and consideration of an RFP approach, and to follow the normal NNI process wherein a proposal is brought to the committee for consideration of NNI Funding. Rohr will discuss this action with T. Skiles who was absent from today's meeting. (NOTE: Rohr discussed the committee decision with T. Skiles after the meeting, and he concurred with the decision).**
- B. **Review of questions to Jeff Jorgenson regarding carrying capacity for Wenatchee Spring Chinook, and the hatchery modeling simulations run for Greer Maier of UCSRB** – P. Graf discussed following up with Jeff Jorgenson on his responses to written questions submitted to him by the PRCC. Specifically, P. Graf followed up on estimates of carrying capacity for the Wenatchee basin and hatchery scenarios run using the LCM for Greer Maier at the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. The question of carrying capacity was passed on to Morgan Bond of NOAA. Morgan shared a publication on habitat capacity based on par expansion from habitat modeling. P. Graf also received capacity estimate from Kevin See (Biomark) who used data from

the ISEMP work. Jeff Jorgenson sent P. Graf a summary document describing the hatchery scenario modeling and results for the Wenatchee Spring Chinook population. **ACTION: P. Graf will send this to D. Rohr for distribution to PRCC members.**

- C. **Update of additional genetic work being done in the Wenatchee Basin by NMFS Science Center staff Kristin Nichol and Mike Ford** – S. Carlon informed committee members he is conferencing with NOAA staff members Craig Busack, Brett Farman, and Dale Bambrick at 9 am tomorrow morning for discussion of this subject. **Carlon will keep PRCC advised of that discussion.**

VIII. “Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – (Phase 1 Project)

- A. Change Order Update -- Request for No-Cost Time Extension with Additional Scope - “Non-native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase 1” – C. Dotson – Dotson informed the committee that the change order has been completed.
- B. PRCC 2019 Draft Report - “Non-native Predator Recruitment Reduction–Phase1” – K. Murdoch shared the final report was submitted in February 2020 and Rohr distributed to committee members.

- IX. CCT 2019 Northern Pike Suppression and Monitoring Project – Update to PRCC (K. Truscott)** – Rohr distributed the report to committee members and Truscott had no further updates. Jackson added there has been a ‘Northern Pike hoax’ spread around on the internet that a Northern Pike was caught in the Crescent Bar area. Jackson stated that WDFW investigated and determined it was a hoax.

- X. Review of 2020 Meeting Logistics and Changes (D. Rohr)** – D. Rohr sent a summary to all committee members for review. This change will be on a trial basis, for review in July. Members expressed some concern about not having enough time to complete both meetings in one day. **APPROVED: After discussion committee members approved that PRCC will meet the fourth Tuesday of every month, 1 – 4 pm, at the Grant PUD Wenatchee office with agreement of meetings rotating between the Wenatchee office, HOB at Wanapum, and a location TBD on the west side.**

- XI. Review of 2013 PRCC NNI Funding Guidance Document (D. Rohr)** – D. Rohr will keep this on the PRCC Agenda for discussion at a future meeting.

- XII. CRITFC Avian Predation Activities (T. Skiles, D. Rohr)** – D. Rohr shared that a PowerPoint presentation on avian predation in the Columbia Basin was given to the NWPCC at their February meeting by Jaime Pinkham, Executive Director of CRITFC. T. Skiles had planned to talk on this topic but is absent

from today's meeting. D. Rohr will distribute the presentation to committee members for review and keep on the agenda for further discussion during the March meeting. Truscott also commented he had received information from the BOR that they will be conducting active avian predation, including dissuasion and monitoring, 2020 through 2024. Truscott agreed to additional follow up and clarification regarding this information. Dotson stated that his main concern for the 2020 nesting season was the frequency (i.e. days/week) that BOR was going to be in the Goose Island/Potholes areas conducting dissuasion and monitoring for new colonies in the area.

- XIII. Potpourri (D. Rohr)** – Committee members that also sit on the HCP-HC brought to the attention of the PRCC that in the HCP-HC there was a request from CRITFC to use the adult trap at the Wells Dam fish ladder to PIT-tag adult sockeye salmon. This request is likely to be turned down by the CCT. If this were the case the adult trap at Priest Rapids Dam (OLAFT) may be sought by CRITFC as an alternate location. P. Graf thanked the committee members for the notification and stated that all parties that would like to use the OLAFT will need to submit a request to Grant PUD, sign waivers, and pay a trap utilization fee

GENERAL UPDATES

- XIV. Avian Predation Activities** (C. Dotson) – C. Dotson shared that the RTR 2019 report just came out.
- XV. FCRPS BiOp – Corps/BOR Avian Predation Management in Columbia Plateau Region** (C. Dotson) – Nothing to report.
- XVI. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects**
- A. Continued Support for UC Fish Screen Program (C. Jackson) – C. Jackson shared it's time for a quarterly report from Danny Didricksen. D. Rohr will set up time for Danny and Jenny Novak to come in for a quarterly report.
 - B. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II (C. Jackson, D. Rohr) - No new information.
 - C. "Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase I" (K. Murdoch) - No new information.
 - D. "Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt" (K. Truscott) – Nothing additional from discussion above.
 - E. 2020 Quincy Valley Tourism Association Northern Pikeminnow Fishing (C. Dotson) – scheduled for May 2000.
 - F. Avian Predation on ESA-listed Juvenile Salmonids on the Mid-Columbia River, 2020, Real Time Research (C. Dotson) – No new information.

- XVII. Committee Reports (D. Rohr) –** Rohr distributed to committee members by email
- XVIII. NNI and Habitat Funds Report (D. Rohr) –**
- A. End of Year 2019 Report –
No Net Impact (NNI) Fund 601 - \$4,408,732
Habitat Supplemental Fund 602 - \$4,906,917
Habitat Fund - \$1,437,634 **Total - \$10,753,284**
- B. Annual Deposits of February 15, 2020 –
No Net Impact (NNI) Fund 601 - \$588,757
Habitat Supplemental Fund 602 - \$1,158,089
Habitat Fund 603 - \$413,695 **Total - \$2,160,542**
- XIX. Next Meeting –** Tuesday, March 24, 2020, 1:00 pm, Grant PUD Wenatchee Office

Action Items from February 25, 2020 meeting

1. Rohr will contact T. Skiles regarding committee decision to discontinuing discussion and consideration of an RFP approach and to follow the normal NNI Funding Process for Lake Wenatchee activities regarding White River Spring Chinook Juvenile Migration.
2. P. Graf will send additional Jeff Jorgenson information to Rohr for distribution to committee members.
3. S. Carlon will keep committee members advised of additional NOAA genetic work.
4. Rohr will keep 2013 PRCC NNI Funding Guidance Document on agenda for future review and discussion.
5. Rohr will keep CRITFC avian predation activities on agenda for discussion when T. Skiles returns.
6. Rohr will contact Danny Didricksen, WDFW, regarding attending the next meeting for a quarterly report on UC Fish Screen activities.

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