



## Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Meeting

### FINAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

10:00 am

Conference Call

#### **PRCC Representatives**

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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**

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

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

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#### **Decisions made during January 29, 2020 meeting**

1. Committee members voted to approve the G. McMichael Request for No-cost Time Extension with Additional Scope (for "Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase 1 project).
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.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed everyone on the call.
- II. **Agenda Review (D. Rohr)** – No additions.

### III. Meeting Minutes (D. Rohr)

- A. Affirm Approval of October 23, 2019 Meeting/Conference Call - **Approved**
- B. November 19, 2019 Meeting – distributed, please review and let Rohr know of edits and approvals.
- C. December 17, 2019 Meeting – distributed, please review and let Rohr know of edits and approvals.

### IV. Review of Actions Items from December 17, 2019 Meeting (D. Rohr)

- 1. Rohr will follow up with PRCC Habitat Subcommittee of PRCC discussion of Barkley Irrigation Company Activities. - **Completed**
- 2. Rohr will distribute Lake Wenatchee / White River questions to Jeff Jorgenson. - **Completed**
- 3. Murdoch and Rohr will communicate with G. McMichael regarding status of Request for No-Cost Time Extension. - **Completed**
- 4. Rohr will follow up with Graf and with Dotson regarding NNI Funding details. - **Completed**
- 5. Dotson will distribute copy of NNI Funding guidance Document dated 2013. - **Completed**

### V. Review and Activities Update - Barkley Irrigation Co. Permanent Point of

**Diversion Project (D. Rohr)** – Rohr shared with the PRCC-HabSC at their January 9, 2020 meeting the PRCC December 17<sup>th</sup> decision to not provide the \$500,000 request for NNI funding for this project. Accordingly, PRCC-HabSC approved the \$500,000 Trout Unlimited request for funding from Habitat Fund 603. PRCC-HabSC is waiting to hear from Trout Unlimited to determine if Ecology has approved funding the additional \$400,000 requested by Trout Unlimited. If Ecology doesn't approve it, PRCC-HabSC has decided they will fund the additional \$400,000. **Action:** Rohr will keep PRCC advised of the Ecology decision on funding the \$400,000 requested by Trout Unlimited.

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

- A. Review of Questions and Answers Sent to Jeff Jorgenson - Murdoch shared some brief comments and discussion regarding Jorgenson's answers to the questions sent to him after the December 17, 2019 PRCC meeting. Additionally, Murdoch commented on the discussion the PRCC Hatchery SC had a couple of weeks ago with Craig Busack/NMFS wherein he addressed questions regarding White River activities. Busack agreed to provide written answers to the questions and **Rohr will follow up with Hillman to get a copy for distribution to PRCC members. Graf commented that he will also follow up with Jorgenson** and seek the additional information described in Jorgenson's response to carrying capacity for Wenatchee Spring Chinook and information regarding hatchery modeling simulations Jorgenson has run for Greer Maier/UCSRB.

- B. Discussion of Path Forward - Rohr has talked with all committee members on the topic of path forward. In talking with Chad Jackson/WDFW, he learned Jackson is putting together a proposal that will be ready for presentation and discussion at the February meeting. Therefore, Rohr suggested detailed discussion of this subject would best be held until the February meeting. All agreed. Murdoch commented that she sees 3 potential options moving forward of (1) do nothing, (2) move forward with an RFP as has been discussed, or (3) develop a defined proposal. **Carlton commented as an ACTION item he will do some follow up investigation** of information he received from Tom Skiles regarding additional genetic work being done in the Wenatchee Basin by Kristin Nichol/NMFS Science Center, and possibly also by Mike Ford/NMFS Science Center that would relate to the White River discussions.

**VII. (DECISION ITEM) - Request for No-cost Time Extension with Additional Scope of Work (for “Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase 1) (K. Murdoch, D. Rohr)**

- A. Request for No-Cost Time Extension with Additional Scope of Work - “Non-native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase 1” – The co-funding Wasco/McNary Mitigation Fund has approved the extension request to the end of 2020. Between the PRCC NNI Fund & the McNary Mitigation Fund, McMichael is expecting to use only a portion of the remaining funds in the contract. Tom Skiles shared he feels extending this contract takes us further away from NNI funding purposes. Committee members present voted to **APPROVE the Request for No-cost Time Extension and additional Scope of Work**. Rohr also stated he has received verbal approvals from Jackson, Craig, and Truscott who were absent from today’s meeting. **ACTION:** Murdoch will let Geoff McMichael know of the committee approval and instruct McMichael to work with Dotson on the change order.
- B. PRCC Review and Comments of 2019 Draft Report - “Non-native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase 1” – Dotson sent edits/comments to McMichael.

**VIII. CCT 2019 Northern Pike Suppression and Monitoring Project – Update to PRCC (K. Truscott) – Rohr distributed the report by email to committee members, but Truscott was not available for today’s conference call to discuss results.**

- IX. 2020 Meeting Logistics (D. Rohr) - Rohr stated that he has spoken with all committee members individually about the December 17, 2019 meeting discussion and comments regarding consideration of moving to one day meetings with the HCP CC. Accordingly, today Rohr discussed consideration of holding the PRCC meetings in the afternoon on the same day as the morning HCP CC meetings. After committee discussion, starting in February, the PRCC committee agreed to have meetings on the same day as the HCP**

CC on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month with the option to move meetings between the Wenatchee office, the HOB at Wanapum, and the West Side. At Curt Dotson's request, all agreed to revisit this decision in July to discuss how it is working out for everyone. Curt also shared that holding afternoon meetings can cause the meetings to get rushed and he hoped that would not be the case here. Curt went on to share that if/when meetings are held at Wanapum HOB, which would also include the HCP CC meeting, the HCP CC doesn't have a Grant PUD staff member attending their meetings and, since the meeting is to be held in a secure area, this would need to be cleared through Wanapum Dam Hydro Security. Agreement was reached to hold the next meeting at the Grant PUD Wenatchee office on Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 1-4:00 pm. Rohr commented he also has received verbal approval from those absent from today's meeting. **ACTION:** Rohr will contact John Ferguson, HCP CC chair, to explain the new meeting details and confirm this will work for the HCP CC meetings as well.

- X. Review of 2013 PRCC NNI Funding Guidance Document (D. Rohr)** Rohr provided a high-level review of this document with the committee. Moreover, as three members were absent from today's meeting, Rohr suggested members spend time reviewing the document and plan for having an in-depth review at a future meeting. All agreed. Graf asked if the PRCC Habitat SC should also review this document and Rohr stated that he would discuss it with them at their next meeting on February 13<sup>th</sup>. **ACTION:** Rohr will add this to a future PRCC meeting agenda for review and he will also discuss it with the Habitat SC at their next meeting.

**XI. Potpourri (D. Rohr)**

- A. Review of January UCSRB Science Conference** – Committee members that attended the conference stated it was a successful conference that shared a lot of good content.

**XII. GENERAL UPDATES**

- A. Avian Predation Activities (C. Dotson)** – Dotson shared activities are in their early stages of prep work for the 2020 season. Dotson also shared Chelan PUD is starting a facility-use fee in 2020. Because RTR is using their smolt station they'll have to pay Chelan a fee. RTR was not aware of this expense when they presented their 2020 NNI-funding request to the PRCC in November, so there may be a request to the PRCC/NNI from RTR for additional funding to cover this expense. Two meetings ago, at the November meeting Truscott brought up the idea of co-funding with BOR to place woody debris on the Island. Dotson presented this idea to the BOR and the BOR was not in favor. They were not overly receptive to the idea, but Dotson felt the door is not closed. Dotson shared Lisa Stark of the BOR Boise office is retiring in March. BOR does have \$150,000 for avian predation management in their 2020 budget. Dotson got the impression that the BOR regional office in Boise feels this work is completed and no longer needs funding. Dotson will be monitoring them to ensure that they use their \$150,000 budget this year. Murdoch asked if BOR shared their concerns of the woody debris idea, and Dotson stated

they did not, and they said their two days a week monitoring plan would be adequate.

**B. FCRPS BiOp – Corps/BOR Avian Predation Management in Columbia Plateau Region (C. Dotson) – no additional information**

**C. Review of Outstanding NNI Funded Projects:**

1. Continued Support for UC Fish Screen Program (C. Jackson) - Ongoing
2. Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Project Phase II (C. Jackson, D. Rohr) - No updates
3. “Non-Native Predator Recruitment Reduction – Phase I” (K. Murdoch) - No updates
4. “Northern Pike Removal in Lake Roosevelt” (K. Truscott) – Covered in agenda item VIII above.
5. 2020 Quincy Valley Tourism Association Northern Pikeminnow Fishing Derby - Dotson shared that this contract is being processed, and the agreement is currently with the QVTA for their signature. Dotson believes the fishing derby is scheduled to be held in May.
6. Avian Predation on ESA-listed Juvenile Salmonids on the Mid-Columbia River, 2020, Real Time Research (C. Dotson) – no update

**XIII. Committee Reports (D. Rohr) – no meetings in January**

**XIV. NNI and Habitat Funds Report for Q3 (D. Rohr) – End of Year Report Forthcoming. ACTION:** Harris will contact the Grant PUD Accounting Department for the planned schedule to receive copies of NNI and Habitat Funds’ End of Year Reports. Dotson shared the annual Grant PUD deposits to 5 different funds will happen on February 15, 2020, including,

No Net Impact (NNI) Fund 601 - \$583,757.28  
Habitat Supplemental Fund 602 - \$1,158,089.95  
Habitat BiOp Fund 603 - \$413,695.71

Total - \$2,160,542.94

**XV. Next Meeting: [To Be Discussed / Agenda IX Above] - All agreed to change the meeting logistics as described in agenda item IX above. Therefore, the next meeting will be Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 1 pm at the Grant PUD Wenatchee Office.**

**Action Items from January 29, 2020 meeting**

1. Rohr will let PRCC know when Ecology shares their decision on funding \$400,000 on Barkley Irrigation Co. Permanent Point of Diversion Project.

2. Rohr will ask Tracy Hillman for the written answers from Craig Busack's Lake Wenatchee/White River Spring Chinook Juvenile Migration presentation.
3. Graf will contact Jeff Jorgenson about carrying capacity for Wenatchee Spring Chinook and the hatchery modeling simulations run for Greer Maier/UCSRB.
4. Rohr will contact John Ferguson to discuss moving future PRCC meetings to the fourth Tuesday of every month, starting February 25, 2020, 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the Grant Wenatchee office, and also giving consideration to alternating between HOB, the Grant PUD Wenatchee office, and the Westside.
5. Rohr will add a Review of 2013 PRCC NNI Funding Guidance Document to a future PRCC meeting agenda.
6. Harris will request Q4 NNI/HFA Funds Report from Patti Dietmeyer, Grant PUD Accounting Supervisor.

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