



**FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee**  
**Tuesday, January 23, 2007**  
**1:00 – 5:00**  
**@Chelan PUD Main Office**  
**Wenatchee**

PRCC Committee Members

Scott Carlon/Bryan Nordlund, NMFS	Brian Cates, USFWS
Jerry Marco, CCT	Tom Dresser, GCPUD
Steve Parker/Bob Rose, YN	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

**ATTENDEES ( \* denotes committee members or alternates):**

* Carmen Andonaegui, WDFW	* Brian Cates, USFWS
* Scott Carlon, NMFS (by phone)	* Tom Dresser, Grant PUD
* Curt Dotson, Grant PUD	* Bryan Nordlund, NMFS (by phone)
* Jerry Marco, CCT	* Bob Rose, Yakama Nation
Russell Langshaw, Grant PUD	Denny Rohr, Facilitator

**Decision summary:**

- Committee approved Grant PUD request to use survival estimates from 2007, 2008 and 2009 (invalidating the 2006 results) to determine Grant PUD's performance standard for steelhead in the Priest Rapids Project (Steelhead Survival Study).
- Committee approved, subject to review and approval by Cates, SOA 2007-1, Summer Chinook HGMP Development Time Extension.

**Action items:**

- Rohr - Distribute November 29, 2006 meeting minutes.
- Dresser - Northern Pikeminnow Program and Avian Predation Program: Dresser will distribute comments that have been received from committee members regarding the 2006 Study Reports and 2007 Study Plans for each Program.
- Rohr - Northern Pikeminnow Program and Avian Predation Program: Action was postponed to next meeting on February 28, 2007 for the 2006 Study Reports and the 2007 Study Plans for each Program.
- Rohr - Regarding Spring Chinook Scientific Review, distribute NOAA Meeting Notes of November 30, 2006 meeting and comments received.
- Rohr – Regarding SOA 2007-1, Summer Chinook HGMP Development Time Extension, send copy to Cates for his review and consideration of

concurrence with committee members decision to approve. Rohr will advise committee of final action.

## **FINAL MEETING MINUTES**

- I. Welcome and Introductions – Rohr welcomed meeting participants.
- II. Agenda Review – Rohr reviewed with committee members and no changes were made to the agenda.
- III. Approval/Finalize Meeting Minutes: November 6, 2006 conference call minutes were affirmed as approved after Marco email approval. November 29, 2006 meeting minutes were approved.
- IV. Updates
  - A. 2006 Steelhead Survival Study – discussion was held regarding the Draft 2006 Study results. Dotson reviewed the discussion that took place at the November 29<sup>th</sup> PRCC meeting regarding committee consideration of not using the results of the 2006 steelhead survival study due to faulty methodology. Additionally, in light of these circumstances regarding the 2006 study results, at the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting Grant PUD requested to use survival estimates from 2007, 2008 and 2009 (invalidating the 2006 results) to determine Grant PUD's performance standard for steelhead in the Priest Rapids Project. While Grant PUD and others felt that the committee was in agreement with the PUD's request at the November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, Rohr asked the committee to take official action at this time to clarify the committee's position. Accordingly, the committee agreed with Grant PUD's request to invalidate the 2006 results and to use survival estimates from 2007, 2008, and 2009. Rohr will follow up with a Statement of Agreement (SOR) regarding this action, and will present it to the committee members. Additional comments from Dotson and discussion with committee members focused on further investigation into the faulty methodology, including a review of all testing protocol. Grant PUD will provide more information at the next PRCC meeting on February 28<sup>th</sup>.
  - B. 2006 PR Top Spill Behavior Study – Dresser and Dotson commented that they had just received a draft report of the study and had not yet had time to review it. Further discussion will take place at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dotson stated that Grant PUD would like to repeat the 2006 study in 2007.
  - C. Wanapum Future Unit Bypass – Dotson distributed pictures of the construction area and updated the committee on the project. April 20<sup>th</sup> is the expected completion date, but Dotson stated the schedule was very tight. Dotson commented that if the expected

- schedule is not achieved, Grant's proposed back up plan is to run top spill. More to follow at February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- D. PR OLAF – Dotson distributed pictures of the construction area and provided an update of the project. Construction is on schedule for completion in the spring of 2007.
  - E. Video Fish Counting – Dresser stated that everything is now in place regarding the revamped Video Fish Count system and training is underway. The system should be up and running for Spring of 2007. More discussion will follow at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - F. Northern Pikeminnow Program – Dresser requested postponing a decision on the 2006 Report and the 2007 Plan until the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The request primarily is to allow time for reconsideration of some of the actions outlined in the 2007 Plan. Additionally, comments have been received by Grant PUD from committee members regarding the 2006 Report and the 2007 Plan, and committee members asked to have these comments distributed to them for their review. Accordingly, committee action will be deferred to the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - G. Avian Predation Program – this subject received the same request and discussion as stated above for the Northern Pikeminnow Program. Accordingly, committee action deferred to the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- V. Discussion of Spring Chinook Scientific Review – Rohr referenced the discussion at the November 29, 2006 PRCC meeting regarding a meeting scheduled by NOAA on November 30, 2006 to discuss this subject. Rohr noted that meeting notes of the NOAA meeting are available, and the committee asked Rohr to distribute copies. It was noted that the conclusion of the NOAA meeting was that a scientific review was not warranted at this time.
- VI. Decision: Statement of Agreement (SOA) re Summer Chinook HGMP Development Time Extension – Rohr commented that this SOA had received approval by the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee on December 21, 2006, but that PRCC committee approval is needed also. Cates noted that due to computer problems, he had not seen this SOA. After committee discussion, there was agreement to approve the SOA subject to Cates receiving a copy for review and notifying Rohr of his position on this SOA. Rohr will notify committee members of Cates action.
- VII. Lake Wenatchee Net Pens Permitting Discussion – Langshaw updated the committee on the status of the permit. Discussions are ongoing and WDFW involvement is taking place to determine the status of using WDFW permits currently in place. Additional information will be provided at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- VIII. PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Update (Russell) – Langshaw updated the committee on hatchery subcommittee activities, including Priest Rapids Hatchery, Summer Chinook Program, Steelhead Program, Coho Program, Bull Trout Permitting discussion, Nason Creek, and White River.
- IX. PRCC Habitat Subcommittee Update (Ben) – Dresser updated the committee on habitat subcommittee activities. Four projects have been approved, including the Skookumchuck Land Acquisition, Fulton Diversion Dam, Omak Creek Culvert Replacement, and LiDAR flights.
- X. Update on PR BiOp – Carlon updated the committee and commented the timeline for the BiOp is probably in late February or March.
- XI. Update on PR 401 Certification Process – Dresser updated the committee.
- XII. Update on PR Final EIS Schedule – Dresser updated the committee.
- XIII. Update on Hanford Reach - Dresser updated the committee.
- XIV. Future Meeting Schedule – next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, Grant PUD SeaTac office. Rohr also commented that at the next meeting he wants to discuss a joint meeting in May of all PRCC committees like was done in May of 2006.