



Meeting Minutes

PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee

Thursday, December 18, 2008

9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Douglas PUD Auditorium
 Wenatchee, WA

PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Members

Kris Petersen, NMFS	David Carie, USFWS
Jerry Marco, CCT	Russ Langshaw, GCPUD
Tom Scribner, Keely Murdoch, YN	Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Kirk Truscott, WDFW	

ATTENDEES: (*Denotes PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Member)

Kris Petersen, NMFS*	Bill Gale, USFWS*
Keely Murdoch, YN*	Tom Scribner, YN* (by phone)
Jerry Marco, CCT* (by phone)	Kirk Truscott/Bob Pfeifer, WDFW*
Andy Appleby, WDFW (by phone)	Russell Langshaw, GCPUD*
Todd Pearsons, GCPUD	Curt Dotson, GCPUD
Alyssa Buck, GCPUD	Debbie Williams, GCPUD
Denny Rohr, Facilitator	

HSC Approval Note:

The HSC acted on this meeting summary on December 17, 2009. The Committee approved the summary as the note taker's summary of the December 2008 meeting. An attached redline/strikeout draft shows comments from HSC members on the draft meeting summary. These comments were incorporated into the final summary. Due to the time elapsed between the meeting and action on the summary, the HSC did not attempt to further resolve any discrepancies in individual's recollections of the meeting.

Action Items:

1. Rohr will schedule a meeting prior to the next hatchery meeting to discuss goals, objectives and differences of the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee (HSC). Williams will send a doodle to determine the meeting date for the HSC internal discussion.

2. Langshaw will contact Petersen to discuss what U.S. Corps needs from NMFS for the ESA review.
3. Murdoch will email documentation explaining how the JFP reached consensus of their summer Chinook 1/3 split to Rohr for distribution to the committee.
4. Priest Rapids Hatchery M&E working draft will be distributed to the HSC. Pearsons will revise his HGMP status report to reflect outstanding sections.
5. Williams will email the HGMP status report to Scribner and Marco.
6. Pearsons will add a footnote to the Quantitative Objectives defining how the Non Target Taxa of Concern process will be structured.
7. Pearsons will delete the word "Supplementation" from the title page, and state the document was drafted solely by the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee.
8. Pearsons will provide the revised Quantitative Objectives document in track changes as well as final draft.
9. Gale will provide the adult management section of the USFWS spring Chinook HGMP document to Pfeifer.
10. Action Item: Keep steelhead HGMP on agenda in January.
11. Grant PUD will provide monthly summer Chinook acclimation updates for sites currently being investigated, next steps for site evaluation, and update an existing Gant chart that explains when milestones need to be reached for program implementation.
12. YN will draft a preemptive letter to NMFS regarding take at the White River rotary screw trap. YN will provide a letter defining clarification of take, and describe correction methods with written documentation to NMFS. (UPDATE: after the meeting YN consulted with NMFS and it was determined that no letter was needed, so this action item was not carried forward.)
13. Murdoch will revise SOA-2008-05 language to reflect take issues associated with PIT-tagging.
14. Truscott will discuss the Skaha Lake SOA with Tweit regarding the check in date of 2013 versus 2017.

Decision Summary:

- PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee members agreed to the following fish per pound determination – Steelhead - 5 to 8 fish per pound as stated in Table 5, page 40 of the BiOp, Permit 1395. Spring Chinook - 10 to 15 fish per pound. Summer Chinook - 13 to 17 fish per pound. Fall Chinook - 50 fish per pound.

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Rohr welcomed attendees.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Rohr reviewed the agenda and requested additions or edits. All PRCC members agreed to meet prior to the next hatchery meeting to discuss goals, objectives, and differences amongst members in an effort to create a more efficient committee, and to develop a path forward. **Rohr will schedule a meeting prior to the next hatchery meeting to discuss goals, objectives and differences of the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee (HSC).**

Williams will send a doodle to determine the meeting date for the HSC internal discussion. Meeting minutes will not be taken.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes –

- September 22, 2008 conference calls (2) – Approved by Yakama Nation so all members have now approved them
- September 23, 2008 conference call – Approved by Yakama Nation so all members have now approved them
- October 16, 2008 meeting – Approved by Scribner with corrections. NOAA requested additional time to review.
- November 20, 2008 meeting – Minutes will be discussed at a meeting to be scheduled prior to the next hatchery meeting.

IV. Action Items Review – #1 – Langshaw explained that Grant PUD needs letters from NMFS and USFWS. The U.S. Corps requires the letters to complete their ESA review as part of the JARPA process. **Langshaw will contact Petersen to request a confirmation letter from NMFS confirming that short-term acclimation activities are consistent with existing permits.** Grant PUD will reapply for the JARPA permit after receipt of the letter. **#5** – JFP members felt they hadn't committed to drafting a white paper explaining how they reached their summer Chinook decision regarding the 1/3 split between the Wenatchee, Methow, and Okanogan Basins. Murdoch was able to find the data used to develop the 1/3 split decision. **Murdoch will email documentation explaining how the JFP reached consensus of their summer Chinook 1/3 split to Rohr for distribution to the committee.** **#6** – Marco will send the Colville's steelhead HGMP to Williams so it can be downloaded to the HSC website.

V. HGMP/M&E

- A JFP Meeting** – Quantitative Objectives were discussed by JFP members, their comments were sent to Grant PUD.
- B Distribute HGMP Status Report** – The HGMP status report was distributed and reviewed. Objectives had been revised to reflect the December 03, 2008 JFP meeting. **Priest Rapids Hatchery M&E working draft will be distributed to the Priest Rapids Hatchery Technical Work Group and the HSC. Pearsons will revise future HGMP status reports to reflect outstanding sections. Williams will email the HGMP status report to Scribner and Marco.**
- C (Action Item – Vote) Quantitative Objectives** – The committee discussed SOA 2008-03/Quantitative Objectives. Concerns and resolutions are:
- Grant PUD accepted most JFP edits to the Quantitative Objectives (QO) document. Segregated programs will be removed from the document, as it will focus on supplementation programs. The JFP stated that they believe all of Grant PUD programs should be integrated programs in the Wenatchee, Methow, and Okanogan

basins. They further indicated that they do not believe that a segregated program in Crab Creek meets the in place and in kind mitigation called for in the Settlement Agreement. However, Grant PUD will likely re-visit a segregated program for summer Chinook in the future. There continues to be disagreement between Grant PUD and the JFP about whether a segregated program for summer Chinook is appropriate and consistent with the Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSA). Grant PUD continues to pursue integrated hatchery locations in the Wenatchee Basin.

- Some members thought that Non Target Taxa of Concern (NTTOC) should not be included in the QO. . They requested process clarification and questioned how assessing risk would be monitored. NTTOC will be left in the QO, with a footnote defining how the risk assessment and monitoring process will be structured. **Pearsons will add a footnote to the Quantitative Objectives defining how the Non Target Taxa of Concern process will be structured.** Members agreed the QO document is a living document, and that it could be changed with member consensus at any time.
- **PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee members agreed to the following fish per pound determination – Steelhead - 5 to 8 fish per pound as stated in Table 5, page 40 of the BiOp, Permit 1395. Spring Chinook - 10 to 15 fish per pound. Summer Chinook - 13 to 17 fish per pound. Fall Chinook - 50 fish per pound.**
- After discussion, members agreed to remove the word “Supplementation” from the title page. **Pearsons will delete the word “Supplementation” from the title page, and state the document was initially written by Grant PUD and edited by the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee.**
- PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee members agreed to an email vote of the Quantitative Objectives SOA 2008-03 after revisions agreed upon by the committee are complete. **Pearsons will provide the revised Quantitative Objectives document in track changes as well as final draft.**

D (Action Item – Vote) GCPUD Summer Chinook Conservation & Production Plan – Discussion and request for a vote was withdrawn by Grant PUD to be brought up at a future date.

E Spring Chinook management in Wenatchee Basin white paper (Yakama Nation-WDFW) – Pfeifer and Murdoch are progressing with the document outline and hope to have concepts developed by the end of January for committee discussion. Pfeifer described the document as an implementation plan rather than a white paper. He hopes to have the implementation plan fully drafted by January 12, 2009 except for parts Murdoch is working on.

- Issues that need to be resolved before distribution occurs. Nature in scope of compositing, detailed protocols for broodstock, relative importance of PNI concepts in designing protocols. **Gale will provide the adult management section of the USFWS spring Chinook HGMP document to Pfeifer.**

F Steelhead HGMP

- Cassimere Bar Master Plan was submitted to the Power Council, NOAA, and ISRP at the end of November '08.
- Grant's participation relative to mitigation responsibility – The Funding Partners section of the Colville's Steelhead HGMP identifies that Grant PUD may be a funding partner. NMFS questioned the roles and responsibilities of the HSC in directing how a program will be developed when there are multiple funding parties on an HGMP. The committee needs to decide how this issue will be addressed as they would want some say in the M&E of each program.
- An Artificial Propagation Plan (APP) that defines how Grant PUD will meet their steelhead mitigation by participating in two different steelhead programs was agreed upon by the committee. Grant PUD will develop an APP that references the Okanagan and Wells HGMPs; as opposed to generating two additional HGMPs. Grant PUD's steelhead APP should identify the transition, the portion of fish reared under the CCT HGMP, reference the 20,000 smolts in the CCT HGMP, and explain program operations for the balance of the 80%. The JFP noted that the oversight role of the HSC in the programs that Grant PUD will fund as part of other programs will need to be defined. **Action Item: Keep steelhead HGMP on agenda in January.**

VI. Fall Chinook

A Discuss dispute resolution letter from WDFW regarding marking

- Appleby explained that WDFW initiated dispute resolution because they feel mass marking has been discussed at length by the PRCC HSC and an ad hoc committee (WDFW, Grant PUD, and YN) that was convened to develop the M&E plan for the Priest Rapids Hatchery, but Grant PUD has not complied with their WDFW's directive. WDFW stated their policy defines mass marking as, 100% adipose clipping with a sub component of coded wire tags (CWT), and it doesn't matter what the technical committee decides as long as 100% adipose clipping is part of the marking strategy. Grant PUD believes decisions about marking cannot be made unilaterally by WDFW and belong in the PRCC decision making forums. Furthermore, the strategy should be based on operational and M&E objectives. Once the objectives are completed and a marking strategy to meet those objectives is developed, it can be elevated to the policy

group for final determination, stated Langshaw. The PRH HGMP, including operational and M&E objectives, is currently undergoing internal review and will be distributed soon. Grant PUD is drafting a document that describes a protocol that could be used to increase PNI with the current marking program. Management of the PRH program would be integrated by default. YN stated that mass marking is WDFW's policy, not theirs. The HSRG believes being able to mark in real time is needed to manage broodstock and that visible marking allows for this. Grant PUD staff explained that previous meeting minutes do not show that the PRCC HSC discussed mass marking in depth and that mass marking is unresolved due to policy issues, not technical issues. Appleby explained that this issue is holding up hatchery contracts and M&E issues.

PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee members were questioned if they agreed to 100% mass marking with an adipose clip at the Priest Rapids Hatchery.

Grant PUD – No, the decision is premature

USFWS – Yes, stating the USFWS utilizes mass marking at all of their facilities.

Marco – Yes, to be consistent with mass marking of their programs

Yakama Nation – No, stating the tribes have made a policy decision against mass marking.

WDFW – Yes, it is WDFW policy

NMFS – not present for vote

PRCC HSC members agree that mass marking is a policy issue that won't be resolved in their forum and should be elevated to the policy level.

B Priest Rapids Hatchery broodstock management

- Grant PUD explained the concepts that will be outlined in their broodstock management proposal. The current marking strategy is to adipose clip all U.S. Corps fish and CWT marked fish and results in approximately 28% of the production with adipose clips. By excluding adipose clipped fish from broodstock, unless necessary, PNI would be increased by approximately 0.07 (~20%) and the pNOB (after this was discussed at the January meeting it was clarified that pNOB should have been proportion of natural origin fish collected at the trap) required to meet PNI goals would be reduced by 0.05- 0.10 (~30%). The proposal is undergoing internal review and will be distributed soon.

C Fry for smolt exchange

- There was general censuses by the ad hoc committee (WDFW, Grant PUD, and YN) that was convened to develop the M&E plan for the Priest Rapids Hatchery that it will be difficult to monitor the fry, and questions the contribution they will make to adult returns. Although WDFW initially supported the proposed converting the fry to smolts, they now recommend that Grant PUD abide by the Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement that states Grant PUD shall implement a program to produce and release up to 1 million fall Chinook fry annually into the Wanapum and Priest Rapids reservoirs. Grant PUD will consider WDFW's position and may bring a fry to smolt proposal to the PRCC HSC. USFWS conducted fry otolith marking at Spring Creek, Gale wasn't aware if the data has been compiled yet but will check.
- D Fall Chinook Work Group update – Next meeting is January 06, 2009. The committee is currently working through prioritizing studies to evaluate operational impacts to Hanford Reach fall Chinook.

VII. Summer Chinook

Site Exploration Update – Grant PUD initially indicated that there was not much to report. The JFP clarified that a brief summary of sites being investigated in each basin was all they were asking for, not an extensive presentation. WDFW asked what sites specifically in the Wenatchee basin between Monitor and the mouth of the Wenatchee were being considered for an acclimation site. Grant PUD then provided the following update.

Carlton Pond – A data collection sensor was taken out by an unknown individual during the summer, and was not discovered and replaced by Grant PUD until last month. Capacity and water flow are issues at this location.

Wenatchee Basin: Dryden Right and Left Bank – Over winter acclimation remains a question. Well logs are being looked at. The Yakama Nation is interested in cost sharing at the Dryden Right Bank site for the purposes of adult coho holding and possibly some juvenile rearing. It will be two years before funds are appropriated for WDFW purchase of the WDOT site at this location. No other sites have been sought or considered at this time.

Gloyd Springs – Grant PUD is discussing water rights with USBR. Water capacity is an issue at this location. Bob Montgomery has completed a preliminary water evaluation assessment at the site. This location has access easement issues.

Grant PUD will provide monthly summer Chinook acclimation updates for sites currently being investigated,

next steps for site evaluation, and update an existing Gant chart that explains when milestones need to be reached for program implementation.
Spring Chinook

- A Rotary Screw Trap – White River/Nason Creek** – Members were sent monthly rotary screw trap updates. Mild weather allowed operation of the trap beyond normal operating times.
- The committee supports ISEMP PIT-tagging at the White River trap. Concerns were raised about the potential for exceeding authorized take levels. YN suggested watching take and reporting it with the monthly rotary screw trap reports, but didn't believe PIT-tagging should be discontinued if it isn't the cause of the mortality. Members agreed that a report should be sent to NMFS explaining the cause of any exceedences. YN suggested that a letter be written to NMFS requesting the take levels be increased. Petersen thought that was a possibility. **YN will draft a preemptive letter to NMFS regarding take at the White River rotary screw trap. YN will provide a letter defining clarification of take, and describe correction methods with written documentation to NMFS.**
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Vote to determine acceptance of SOA 2008-05 regarding ISEMP tagging at White River trap – **Murdoch will revise SOA-2008-05 language to reflect take issues associated with PIT-tagging.**
- B White River –**
- **Update on permitting for short-term temporary acclimation**
The JARPA permit will need to be reapplied for. Because sand bags are considered fill, the U.S. Corp requires a 404 permit. An ESA review will need to be conducted as part of the 404 process. Langshaw will contact Petersen to discuss what U.S. Corps needs from NMFS for the ESA review. Gale agreed to follow up with Krupka, USFWS after Grant PUD provides information regarding short-term acclimation to him. The intent is to install the nets one week prior to putting fish in them.
 - **Update of low mortality for BY06 & 07 transfer and next steps to begin BY05 transfer** – Fish health recommends using salt treatment to relieve stress prior to handling and it was included as a condition of the transport permit. Currently, there are 234 fish on station at Aquaseed. 10% (23 fish) will be moved in the pilot transfer when the weather clears. Fish are in similar condition as they were the first time they were transferred. BY06 and 07 are doing well at Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery, with less than 1% mortality.
- C Nason Creek** – No discussion took place.

VIII. Sockeye –

- A Revisit check-in date for approved SOA – Truscott will discuss the Skaha Lake SOA with Tweit regarding the check in date of 2013 versus 2017.**

IX. Next Meeting: Thursday, January 22, 2009, Wenatchee, WA, location TBD.