



## Meeting Minutes

### Fall Chinook Work Group

Tuesday, January 06, 2009  
10:00 – 3:00

Grant PUD Natural Resources Division  
Conference Room - C

#### Technical Members

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Paul Wagner, NMFS  
Robert Heinith, CRITFC  
Roger Schiewe, BPA  
Keith Truscott, CPUD  
Bill Tweit, WDFW  
Marcie Mangold, WDOE  
Russell Langshaw, GCPUD  
Steve Hemstrom, CPUD

Joe Skalicky/Dan Diggs, USFWS  
Paul Ward/Bob Rose, YN  
Brett Swift, American Rivers  
Bob Clubb/Tom Kahler, DPUD  
Paul Hoffarth, WDFW  
John Clark, ADFG  
Todd Pearsons, GCPUD

#### ATTENDEES:

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John Clark, ADFG  
Robert Heinith, CRITFC (on phone)  
Bob Clubb /Tom Kahler, DPUD  
Joe Skalicky, USFWS (on phone)  
Scott Bettin, BPA (on phone)  
Bob Muller, Battelle (on phone)  
Todd Pearsons, GCPUD  
Alyssa Buck, GCPUD  
Tracy Hillman, Facilitator

Marci Mangold, WDOE (on phone)  
Geoff McMichael, Battelle  
Bob Rose, YN (on phone)  
Paul Wagner, NMFS (on phone)  
Steve Hays/Mike Bradshaw, CPUD  
Russell Langshaw, GCPUD  
David Duvall, GCPUD (on phone)  
Debbie Williams, GCPUD

#### Action Items:

- 1. Williams will upload all FCWG data to the website.**
- 2. Mangold will define the new Flow Fluctuation Report deadline after meeting with Grant PUD on January 08, 2009. She will send that information to Williams for distribution to the committee.**
- 3. Williams will send USFWS Flow Fluctuation Report comments to members. Members will send Flow Fluctuation Report comments to Hillman and Williams for distribution.**

4. **USFWS will redistribute a PowerPoint that summarizes the 2007 season and the associated study plan.**
5. **Langshaw will provide a new template for study prioritization.**

## Final Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Attendees introduced themselves around the table and on the conference line.
- II. **Agenda Review** - Hillman explained the addition of timeframes associated with agenda items. Because of scheduling and weather issues, a meeting between Grant PUD and Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) will not be held until January 08, 2009. Please contact Hillman or Williams if you won't be able to make deadlines and are in need of an extension. **Williams will upload all FCWG data to the website.**
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**
  - November 21, 2008 – Approved with changes
- IV. **Action Items Review** – Action items were reviewed.
- V. **Flow Fluctuation Report**

Members reviewed United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) comments to the Flow Fluctuation Report. Grant PUD believes that comments received from USFWS will improve the overall report. The USFWS will perform additional analyst of the MASS1 output. USFWS recommends that the output data be considered by Grant PUD prior to finalization of the report. An analysis of the output data should be completed by January 20, 2009. Tony Wiley, WDOE will also analyze data of the MASS1. **Mangold will define the new Flow Fluctuation Report deadline after meeting with Grant PUD on January 08, 2009. She will send that information to Williams for distribution to the committee.**

Members discussed use of the hourly coordination model to model flow fluctuations. Langshaw reminded members that the hourly coordination model is for real time use, and is not set up to model hypothetical scenarios. A new model would have to be built that includes all system constraints and load. Bob Clubb explained that when the Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Protection Program was written, the general belief was that Grant PUD controlled flows at Vernita Bar, and that other dams didn't make substantial contributions there. The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) would like a broader look taken at how Grant PUD's operations affect the Hanford Reach. **Williams will send USFWS Flow Fluctuation Report**

**comments to members. Members will send Flow Fluctuation Report comments to Hillman and Williams for distribution.** In general, Grant PUD thinks comments will be incorporated with the exception of conducting additional analysis beyond what is required in the 401 Certification.

Steve Hays, Chelan PUD noted that it would be helpful to have predictive capabilities of the MASS1 model.

Don Anglin is still working on finalizing the 2007 Entrapment Report. Because of other commitments, he has not sent the final report out. **USFWS will redistribute the Draft 2007 Entrapment Report.**

## VI. Study Plan

**A Discuss questions for WDOE** - WDOE will meet with Grant PUD on January 08, 2009 to define Grant PUD's contribution to flow fluctuations (either positively or negatively) in the Hanford Reach for purposes of adaptive management, in order for FCWG members to prioritize studies. WDOE will email their definition of Grant PUD's contribution to FCWG members. The prioritization ranking comment period will be defined by WDOE. Mangold will send that information to Williams for distribution to the committee.

**B Presentations to provide more information about individual studies** - Members discussed proposed study plans. If questions arise regarding individual study plans, members were advised to contact the plan proponent. After discussion, members agreed that the following studies will be combined:

- Study 3.1 and 3.2
- Study 4.1 and 4.2
- Study 6.1 and 7.1

Langshaw will provide a new template for study prioritization.

## VII. Fall 2008 Studies –

**A Eggs per Redd** – McMichael explained that the objective was to come up with a method to determine the number of eggs in redds. Manual and hydraulic methods were used to excavate redds. See McMichael's attached excavation summary for details. The manual excavation method is quicker and appears to more accurately identify the number of eggs in redds. Of the eight redds that were expected to contain eggs, two were test digs. Clubb suggested that empty redds should be considered during productivity studies or other studies that include redd estimates. Annual estimates of redds that are being protected

under the protection program, are probably conservative because some test digs are likely counted as redds. The purpose of the study was to identify the best method to help estimate early life stage survival rates and the relationship of the number of eggs to the number of egg pockets.

**B Aerial Photos** – Robert Mueller, Battelle, explained that because of calm conditions on November 15, 2008 he was able to take some good aerial images of the Hanford Reach. Rectified images should be complete by the end of this week. Another flight was made on November 23, 2008. Due to poor weather conditions over the Vernita Bar and Wanapum tailrace, no further processing will be conducted from this flight. **Upon receipt, Williams will post Hanford Reach photos on the FCWG website.**

**VIII. Operations Update – Post Hatch Period** – Because of the post hatch period, Grant PUD is constrained to a minimum critical elevation of 60 kcfs that will probably continue into February.

**IX. Next Meeting:** February 03, 2009 at the Grant PUD Natural Resources Office, Ephrata, WA.