



MEETING

PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee

Thursday, April 16, 2009

8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Cedars Inn

Wenatchee, WA

PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee Members

Kris Petersen, NMFS

Jerry Marco, CCT

Tom Scribner, Keely Murdoch, YN

Kirk Truscott, WDFW

Bill Gale, USFWS

Russ Langshaw, GCPUD

Carl Merkle, CTUIR

Attendees: (*Denotes PRCC member)

Kris Petersen, NMFS

Dave Carie, USFWS

Tom Scribner, YN

Jerry Marco, CCT (on phone until 10:30)

Todd Pearsons, GCPUD

Curt Dotson, GCPUD

Julie Pyper, Chelan PUD

Rob Walton, NMFS

Kirk Truscott WDFW

Keely Murdoch, YN

Bob Pfeifer, WDFW

Russell Langshaw, GCPUD

Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Elizabeth McManus, Facilitator

Action Items:

1. Review and be prepared to comment on HSC protocols drafted by Nordlund at the May meeting.
2. Grant PUD will send an official letter to the HSC documenting Pearsons' new position as Grant PUD HSC representative.
3. McManus will speak to Rohr regarding Policy Committee meeting dates, and keep the HSC updated on mass marking issues and resolution.
4. McManus will contact Gerry O'Keefe regarding the process of the Policy Committee. McManus will distribute a list of Policy Committee members to the HSC.
5. McManus will develop a governance flow chart after discussion with Rohr.
6. Marco will include the following sentence in SOA 2009-05; Acclimation in the Okanagan Basin will occur prior to release.
7. Marco and McManus will work on a revised SOA 2009-05 draft prior to the summer Chinook Summit.
8. Marco and Truscott will meet at the summer Chinook Summit next week to discuss changes to SOA-2009-05.

9. Marco will determine which NMFS approvals are required for the steelhead program.
10. Marco will provide a revised draft of SOA-2009-05 ten days prior to the next meeting with the intent of a vote being asked for.
11. HGMP Status Report format change – Pearsons will place the most recent data at the front of the document, and add an expected completion date column.
12. McManus will notify Rohr of inconsistent hatchery and acclimation implementation dates.
13. Dresser, Grant PUD FWWQ Manager will schedule a meeting between FERC, the PRCC and HSC.
14. Williams will send clean double sided hard copies of the White River spring Chinook HGMP, Nason Creek spring Chinook HGMP, Fall Chinook HGMP and M&E, Methow spring Chinook APP, and the umbrella M&E to Scribner and Petersen (include CD to Kris).
15. HGMP and APP completeness review due Wednesday, May 6, 2009.
16. Substantive HGMP, APP comments due to McManus by Wednesday, May 13, 2009, please provide suggested text for each comment.
17. McManus will discuss Douglas PUD HGMP development schedules with Mike Schiewe.
18. McManus will schedule a JFP meeting prior to the HSC meeting in May.
19. McManus will have a Ross & Assoc. staff person send out a schedule matrix for HSC member's availability.
20. McManus will adjust HSC meeting dates to coordinate with HCP HGMP due dates and provide that information to Williams.
21. Dotson will find out if an approved HGMP and Section 10 Permit is required prior to construction of the Gloyd Springs Hatchery.
22. Dotson will present a PowerPoint at the May meeting on necessary alterations to retro-fit Dryden Pond for over-winter acclimation.
23. Grant PUD will look at a summer Chinook acclimation site mentioned by Dave Carie.
24. Murdoch will remind Matt Collins, YN to document steelhead in the White River.
25. Murdoch will have Matt Collins provide an updated Rotary Summary for upload to the website.
26. Murdoch will send the draft Rotary Screw Trap Annual Report to members upon completion.
27. HSC members will develop protocols to deal with fish that return to LWSNFH.
28. Grant PUD will determine if a draft water report has been completed for the proposed Nason Creek acclimation site.
29. Consultants will provide a 15 min. presentation on available ground water at Nason Creek.
30. Williams will send February 19, 2009 minutes out for review. Current drafts will be redistributed to members. Send comments to Elizabeth.

Decisions:

1. PRCC members agreed that LWSNFH staff should be allowed to make general decisions regarding fish health and care without approval from the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee. If an extreme issue arises, the HSC should be notified.

Draft Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

- A. Introduction of the new facilitator Elizabeth McManus -** Pearsons introduced the new Hatchery Subcommittee (HSC) facilitator, Elizabeth McManus of Ross and Associates. She explained that she is a neutral third party facilitator, and gave a brief description of her background.

Rob Walton, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) introduced himself to the committee.

- B. Goals for facilitation support and Subcommittee operations; meeting protocols -** Elizabeth's focus is to help the HSC set up a process to work through issues in a timely manner. She acknowledged that the process she was selected under is an issue with the committee because of the unilateral decision made by Grant PUD to hire her. Her contract goes to the end of 2009. HSC members support a six month facilitator review period. Elizabeth was comfortable with that decision.

Bryan Nordlund, a Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) member drafted HSC meeting protocols and distributed them electronically to HSC members. **Review and be prepared to comment on HSC protocols drafted by Nordlund at the May meeting.**

- C. Change in Grant PUD HSC representative -** Todd Pearsons has been selected to replace Russell Langshaw as the Grant PUD HSC representative. Russell will continue to be involved in White River Program, but will focus the majority of his attention on the Hanford Reach program. **Grant PUD will send an official letter to the HSC documenting Pearsons' new position as Grant PUD HSC representative.**

- II. Agenda Review:** Scribner would like to discuss increasing the flexibility and authority of staff at the Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery (LWSNFH) regarding fish health, as it relates to White River (WR) fish being raised there. See further discussion below under VIII(B).

HSC members discussed the PRCC Policy Committee meeting to be held on April 17, 2009. They felt they should have been included because the mass marking dispute originated in their committee. Dotson explained that mass marking had been removed from the agenda in order to allow Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Yakama Nation (YN) time to work through their differences on the subject. **McManus will speak to Rohr regarding Policy Committee meeting dates, and keep the HSC updated on**

mass marking issues and resolution. McManus will contact Gerry O’Keefe regarding the process of the Policy Committee. McManus will distribute a list of Policy Committee members to the HSC.

Members discussed the roles of the various PRCC committees, and suggested that protocols outline and describe the relationship between committees. **McManus will develop a governance flow chart after discussion with Rohr.**

- III. **Action Items Review** – Action items were not reviewed.
- IV. **Steelhead SOA** – Marco distributed SOA-2009-05, Grant PUD’s Upper Columbia River (UCR) Steelhead Mitigation Requirement electronically to the HSC on April 02, 2009. He explained over winter acclimation will take place at Omak Creek, and at Salmon Creek where a new facility will be developed. Marco stated that fish will not be released from Cassimer Bar. **Include the following sentence in SOA 2009-05; Acclimation in the Okanagan Basin will occur prior to release.**

Acclimation site and M&E funding hasn’t been addressed at this time, but will be during cost sharing discussions. Concern that the HSC would lose oversight because of how this program will be funded was discussed. It was suggested the SOA state that if funding is provided for the program, an annual review, either written or a PowerPoint presentation be given to the HSC. The review would allow the HSC input to any changes they felt were needed. Transition to meet Grant PUD’s full steelhead mitigation responsibility should be based on some level of evaluation. It was suggested the HSC develop performance based milestones for the steelhead program. **Marco and McManus will work on a revised draft prior to the summer Chinook Summit. Marco and Truscott will meet at the summer Chinook Summit next week to discuss changes to SOA-2009-05. It needs to be determined which NMFS approvals are required for the steelhead program. Marco will provide a revised draft of SOA-2009-05 ten days prior to the next meeting with the intent of a vote being asked for.**

- V. **HGMP/M&E**
 - A. **Distribute HGMP Status Report** – Status reports were uploaded to the HSC website, and distributed via hard copy. Members reviewed and discussed status reports after Pearsons gave a brief overview of the format and content. **HGMP Status Report format change – place the most recent data at the front of the document, and add an expected completion date column.**
 - B. **Extension of timelines letter update** – PRCC and HSC members met via conference call on April 13, 2009 to approve

the extension of time to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding Artificial Propagation Plans (APP) and Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMP).

- C. Distribution and discussion of hatchery implementation schedules** – Pearsons and Langshaw explained that the implementation schedules are the first draft of engineers, consultants, and Grant PUD Lands, Permitting, and Fish Wildlife and Water Quality (FWWQ) staff at estimating work timelines for hatchery and acclimation development. They suggest HSC members to review the schedules closely and make recommendations as to how the schedules can be condensed. After a brief review of implementation schedules, HSC members noticed the 2015 Wenatchee Summer Chinook implementation date, and questioned how to reconcile dates to meet the 2013 No Net Impact (NNI) **schedule agreed upon in the Salmon Steelhead Settlement Agreement (SSA)**. McManus asked that she be notified if members brief their policy representative to estimated implementation dates. **McManus will notify Rohr of inconsistent hatchery and acclimation implementation dates.** FERC consequences and compliance was discussed. **Dresser, Grant PUD FWWQ Manager will schedule a meeting between FERC, the PRCC and HSC.**

Wenatchee Summer Chinook – Petersen thought it was feasible for NMFS to approve the Wenatchee summer Chinook HGMP by January 2011, but recommended that to be consistent with NMFS intent of batching the Wenatchee Basin consultations, the focus be on completing the White River and Nason Creek spring Chinook HGMPs, then focus on the Wenatchee summer Chinook HGMP. **Further discussion below, under VII - Summer Chinook.**

Fall Chinook – Pearsons explained that some comments were received when the plan was distributed in January 2009, but they haven't been incorporated yet. Pearsons asked that a conference call be held prior to the May meeting to allow him the opportunity to discuss fall Chinook comments.

- D. Identify HCP work plan/schedules for review and refinement of the draft HGMP/M&E plans due in May and July. Prioritize among these plans if needed** – Pearsons explained that the HGMPs and APPs distributed are working drafts and asked members which plans should be developed first. HSC members agreed that the White River spring Chinook HGMP, Nason Creek spring Chinook HGMP, Methow spring Chinook APP, fall Chinook HGMP and M&E, and the umbrella M&E were the priority.

Williams will send clean double sided hard copies of the White River spring Chinook HGMP, Nason Creek spring Chinook HGMP, Fall Chinook HGMP and M&E, Methow spring Chinook APP, and the umbrella M&E to Scribner and Petersen (include CD to Kris). HGMP and APP completeness review due Wednesday, May 6, 2009. Substantive HGMP, APP comments due to McManus by Wednesday, May 13, 2009, please provide suggested text for each comment. McManus will discuss Douglas PUD HGMP development schedules with Mike Schiewe.

The Joint Fisheries Party (JFP) will meet in early May to discuss HGMPs and APPs. **McManus will schedule a JFP meeting prior to the HSC meeting in May.** Fully revised HGMP and APP drafts will be distributed on June 05, 2009. A conference call will then be scheduled to discuss the revised plans. Final drafts will be distributed by June 23, 2009. HSC approval will be asked for on June 26, 2009. **McManus will have a Ross & Assoc. staff person send out a schedule matrix for HSC member's availability.**

Pearsons asked that instead of just submitting comments, proponents include text they would like to have incorporated into the document. He explained that the M&E Plan covers all species, with the objectives and hypothesis being the same as that of the HCP M&E document. **McManus will adjust meeting dates to coordinate with HCP due dates and provide that information to Williams.**

- E. Spring Chinook management in Wenatchee Basin Implementation Plan** – Members discussed the draft plan and implementation schedules.

VI. Fall Chinook

- A. WDFW mass marking dispute resolution update** – See discussion above under item II.
- B. Fall Chinook Work Group update** – No discussion took place.

VII. Summer Chinook –

- A. Update on potential facilities** – Dotson updated members on Gloyd Springs Hatchery, and Dryden Pond.

Members were unclear if Grant PUD needs a Section 10 Permit and an approved HGMP prior to construction of the Gloyd Springs Hatchery. **Dotson will find out if an approved HGMP and Section 10 Permit is required prior to construction of the Gloyd Springs Hatchery.** Water quality, temperature, and availability of water during the height of summer Chinook spawning was discussed. Grant PUD will drill an 8" test well at

the Gloyd Springs location after receipt of a deep well permit, expected by Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) in May 2009. Unless a reliable source of water can be found to keep fish late into the fall, another site needs to be found. HSC members recommend that the test well be drilled as soon as possible, and that alternative sites be found for summer Chinook acclimation. **May Agenda Item: Water supply issues at Gloyd Springs.**

The Wenatchee summer Chinook Status Report concluded that Dryden Pond would not meet the needs of Grant PUD's summer Chinook program. Grant PUD staff cited the following reasons why: lack of capacity, not enough room to build a second pond, not enough ground water for de-icing, and the property isn't owned by Grant PUD. Murdoch stated the assumption is that Chelan PUD's production will decrease, allowing for more capacity for Grant PUD. Julie Pyper, Chelan PUD stated "Dryden Pond doesn't have the capacity to meet Grant PUD's requirements for over-wintering". Members questioned what alterations would be required to retro-fit the facility for over-wintering. **Dotson will present a PowerPoint at the May meeting on necessary alterations to retro-fit Dryden Pond for over-winter acclimation. Grant PUD will look at a summer Chinook acclimation site mentioned by Dave Carie.**

VIII. Spring Chinook –

- A. **Rotary Screw Trap – White River/Nason Creek update –** Screw trap rotary summaries were sent electronically to members. More than 109 yearling Chinook have been trapped on the White River and Nason Creek. The 8' trap will be installed within the next two weeks. **Murdoch will remind Matt Collins, YN to document steelhead in the White River. Murdoch will have Matt Collins provide an updated Rotary Summary for upload to the website. Murdoch will send the draft Rotary Screw Trap Annual Report to members upon completion.**
- B. **White River –** Langshaw explained that [some](#) fish released in Lake Wenatchee moved through the lake so fast they likely didn't gain much Lake Wenatchee imprinting. But that overall, everything went well. Members discussed what should happen with fish that return to the Little White Salmon National Fish Hatchery (LWSNFH) instead of the White River. The fish are 100% adipose clipped, and easily identifiable. **HSC members will develop protocols to deal with fish that return to LWSNFH.** Langshaw said the hatchery has raceway space to hold them until they can be transported to the White River. Scribner suggested LWSNFH staff be given more flexibility and

authority to make decisions regarding fish health, as it relates to White River (WR) fish being raised there. PRCC members agreed that LWSNFH staff should be allowed to make general decisions regarding fish health and care without approval from the PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee. If an extreme issue arises, the HSC should be notified. **May Agenda Item: Schedule a conference call to discuss acclimation net mesh size. June Agenda Item: Grant PUD will likely send out Request for Proposal for a 5 yr. contract to cover fish culture in Lake Wenatchee net pens, and remote acclimation sites.**

C. Nason Creek – Water modeling at Nason Creek is being completed by consultants. Ground water shortage is an issue for hatchery design. **Grant PUD will determine if a draft water report has been completed for the proposed Nason Creek acclimation site. Consultants will provide a 15 min. presentation on available ground water at Nason Creek.**

IX. Sockeye – No discussion took place.

X. Review/refine/finalize Meeting Minutes – Williams will send February 19, 2009 minutes out for review. Current drafts will be redistributed to members. Send comments to Elizabeth.

- **November 20, 2008 meeting**
- **December 18, 2008 meeting**
- **January 22, 2009 meeting**
- **March 19, 2009 conference call**
- **March 30, 2009 conference**

XI. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2009, Location to be determined.