



Meeting Minutes

Priest Rapids Fish Forum

Wednesday, April 01, 2009

10:00 – 12:00

Conference Call

Members

Stephen Lewis, USFWS
Bob Rose, YN
Keith Hatch, BIA
Marcie Mangold, WDOE

Patrick Verhey, WDFW
Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Joe Peone, CCT
Mike Clement, GCPUD

Attendees

Patrick Verhey, WDFW
Keith Hatch, BIA
Bob Rose, Yakama Nation
Carl Merkle, CTUIR
Alyssa Buck, Wanapum
Ben Lenz, GCPUD
Kevin Malone, Facilitator

Brad James, WDFW
Marcie Mangold, WDOE
Blaine Parker, CRITFC
Jim Powell, Freshwater Fisheries Society of B.C
Mike Clement, GCPUD
Debbie Williams, GCPUD

Action Items:

1. **WSMP, Page 19, 3.1.2 - Juvenile White Sturgeon Stocking – telemetry evaluation should be included in the study plan.**
2. **WSMP, Page 47, Powell will provide reference paper to Lenz regarding captive broodstock.**

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

1. **WSMP Page 21, 3.3 – June 03, 2009 meeting; determine the definition of carrying capacity.**
2. **Bull Trout Hydrologic and Water Quality Study Plan comments.**

Decisions:

1. **PRFF members voted and approved the White Sturgeon Management Plan as edited during today's PRFF conference call.**
2. **PRFF Members agreed not to hold a meeting on May 6, 2009.**

Meeting Minutes

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** – Malone welcomed members on the conference line.
- II. **Agenda Review** – Malone reviewed the agenda. Protocols will not be discussed today, in order to allow Bob Heinith to participate.
- III. **Action Item Review** – No discussion took place.
 - A **YN/WDFW Sturgeon Discussion Review (Pending 3/23 Meeting Date)** – Edits developed during a meeting with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Yakama Nation (YN) were sent to Grant PUD prior to today's meeting. See discussion below.
 - B **YN/WDFW/WDOE/Grant PUD White Sturgeon Management Plan (WSMP) Edits and Update** – Members participated in a Web Ex Conference Call in order to edit comments in real time. Clement explained that all comments will be incorporated into a table, and attached to the plan. Action Item: **Page 19, 3.1.2 - Juvenile White Sturgeon Stocking – telemetry evaluation should be included in the study plan.** Agenda Item: **Page 21, 3.3 – Determine the definition of carrying capacity.** Action Item: **Page 47, Powell will provide reference paper to Lenz regarding captive broodstock.**

Clement assured members that Grant PUD will work towards regional coordination regarding the White Sturgeon Management Plan.

All of the highlighted edited comments provided by WDFW and the YN were approved by Grant PUD, and will be incorporated into the final WSMP. After PRFF approval, the WSMP will be sent to WDOE for approval, then onto FERC for final approval.

Clement motioned to approve the WSMP. PRFF members voted and approved the White Sturgeon Management Plan as edited during today's PRFF conference call. Yes votes were given by Grant PUD, Yakama Nation, Umatilla Indians, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Action Item: Malone will contact Steve Lewis, of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service regarding his vote. Parker and Powell left the call at 11:41 a.m.
- IV. **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Update** – Members affirmed an e-mail vote to approve a one year extension of the AIS Plan. Washington Department of Ecology approved the extension on March 31, 2009. Hendrick will work with Allen Pleus, AIS Coordinator for Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to develop a schedule for the plan over the next several months. A second AIS

draft will be provided by September 2009. A 60 day comment period will be provided for review of the second draft. Portions of the plan that will undergo extensive revisions are the rapid response, and zebra muscle sections. Shoreline inspections will take place every two years. Grant PUD will continue to conduct regular zebra muscle monitoring again this year. Hendrick will provide monthly updates.

V. PRFF Protocol Discussion –

A **Review of CRITFC Protocol Updates (Bob Heinith edits) –** Protocols will not be discussed today, in order to allow Bob Heinith to participate.

B **Consensus Vote on Protocols –** No vote was taken.

VI. Management & Monitoring Evaluation Plan Updates

A **Native Resident Fish update -** The Native Resident Fish Plan was sent to FERC on April 02, 2009.

B **Lamprey Update –** The Pacific Lamprey Plan was approved by the Priest Rapids Fish Forum and Washington Department of Ecology. It was sent to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on February 19, 2009. Letters supporting expedition of the plan were sent to FERC by WDFW and the Columbia River Inter-tribal. An email from Eric Gaedeke (FERC) indicated they would try to expedite the plan. Grant PUD is in the process of submitting a 3 yr contract to start work on the Lamprey Plan. The work will include installation of plating, and modifications to the fishways. After a contractor is approved, Clement would like to bring the consultant to a PRFF meeting after the contract was in place to discuss the 2010 study plan. 3 Request for Proposals were received, reviewed and scored. After commission approval of the Clement would like PRFF members to discuss the scope of work.

C **Bull Trout Update –** The Bull Trout Hydrologic and Water Quality Study Plan (BTHWQSP) will require an extension. The extension letter will be sent to FERC on April 02, 2009. Agenda Item for the next meeting. Comments on the plan are due prior to May 06.

VII. Additional Items – No discussion took place.

VIII. Meeting Minutes

- March 04 meeting minutes will be posted to the website.

IX. Next Meeting: PRFF Members agreed not to hold a meeting on May 6, 2009. The June 03, 2009 meeting will be held at the United States Fish and Wildlife Service office in Wenatchee.