

SOA 2010-09

**Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee Hatchery Subcommittee
Statement of Agreement on the Basis of Design for the
White River Acclimation Facility**

Submitted to PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: November 4, 2010

Approved by PRCC Hatchery Subcommittee: November 18, 2010

Approved by PRCC:

Statement

The HSC agrees that design of the White River Acclimation Facility should follow the engineering criteria and assumptions described in White River Acclimation Facility Basis of Design by Jacobs, Contract No. 430-1286, Document No. WR-PA-0202.4 Ephrata, Washington: Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, October 11, 2010 and summarized in the background section of this SOA, below. The White River Acclimation Facility includes the construction of a surface water intake and outfall, ground water wells, pump station, late fish rearing and acclimation vessels, predation control features, associated outbuildings, waste containment, on-site environmental mitigation and site grading. The White River Acclimation Facility operational goal is to raise and acclimate 150,000 Spring Chinook smolts for release each year at an average release size of 15 fish per pound. Smolts will be released either directly into the White River or relocated for off-site release at other locations.

Background

The White River Acclimation Facility is one of several mitigation actions listed in the Biological Opinion issued for the Priest Rapids Project by the National Marine Fisheries Service on February 1, 2008. The purpose of the White River Acclimation Facility is to increase the number of natural spawners in the White River and reduce short-term extinction risk for the White River stock of spring Chinook salmon in the Wenatchee River Basin. The Facility is intended to be part of an “Integrated Recovery Program”, as defined in the HGMP. The purpose of the facility is to “...reduce the risk of extinction for naturally spawning, Wenatchee River spring Chinook.”

The *Upper Columbia River Spring-run Chinook Salmon – White River Supplementation Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan* (HGMP) provides the final definition of the spring Chinook program for the White River Spring Chinook Acclimation Facility (WRAF).

The HSC was provided the draft White River Basis of Design for review in April, 2010. HSC member organizations provided comments in April, May, August, September, and October 2010. Grant County PUD responded to the comments and made revisions to the Basis of Design. The HSC received the final Basis of Design document in October 2010.

The final Basis of Design document agreed to in this SOA establishes the engineering design criteria to be used for the development of construction documents. The following is a synopsis of these criteria:

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Acclimation Facility

Design Criterion Title	Criterion Value	BoD Reference
<u>Release</u>		
Number of Fish Released	150,000	2.1
Fish Size at Release	15 fish/ lb	2.1
Assumed Fish Length at Release	6 inches	2.1
Release Method	Volitional via drain or off-site transfer and release	
<u>Acclimation</u>		
Acclimation Units	Circular Tanks and naturalized ponds	5.2
Untreated Surface Water Supply	Oct.-May	4.1
Predation Control	Land-based only	6.1
Surface Water Treatment Method	None	4.2
Ground Water Treatment Method	None	4.2.1
Design Density Index (High BKD)	0.06 lbs/cf-in	2.2
Design Flow Index (High BKD)	0.60 lbs/gpm-in	2.2.2
Transfer-to-Release Survival	95%	2.3

This SOA only addresses criteria for facility design. It does not address site impacts, permitting, or other requirements that would need to be mitigated or met prior to construction.