

RECREATION

2010 Annual Report

Priest Rapids Project 2114



Grant County PUD

Grant County Public Utility District (Grant PUD) is a Washington state municipal corporation that began providing electricity in 1942. Owned by the people it serves, Grant PUD generates and sells electricity to Grant County residents and millions of customers throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Grant PUD has a five-member board of commissioners made up of local citizens elected on a nonpartisan basis by the people of Grant County. The commissioners meet bi-weekly to set policy, review operations and approve budget expenditures.

The Priest Rapids Project, comprised of Priest Rapids and Wanapum Dams, has the capacity to produce 2,000 megawatts of clean renewable electricity: enough to supply a city the size of Seattle. Grant PUD operates the Priest Rapids Project under a 44-year license issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) in 2008. The utility continues to meet license requirements monitored by state and federal agencies and Indian tribes. Grant PUD management staff and commission work to continue a long tradition of managing natural and cultural resources, salmon species, recreational resources and the needs of all customers who receive power from the Priest Rapids Project.



Wanapum Dam

Priest Rapids Dam

The Natural Resource Division and the Lands and Recreation Department

The Lands and Recreation Department is part of the Natural Resources Division. The Natural Resources Division is responsible for meeting the environmental stewardship goals of Grant PUD. Specific responsibilities include stewardship of fish, wildlife, recreation, land use, cultural resources, and compliance with environmental regulations. Securing and preserving Priest Rapids Project licenses, relicensing and environmental compliance for natural resource issues are also included in the responsibilities of the Natural Resources Division.



The Lands and Recreation Department is responsible for meeting all public use and shoreline requirements as determined by FERC in the issuing of the Grant PUD's License, including a Recreation Resource Management Plan (RRMP) and Shoreline Management Plan (SMP).

In 2010, the Lands and Recreation Department made significant progress toward systematically meeting FERC requirements and set new goals for achievement in 2011.

A Note from the Recreation Program Staff

We are excited about the upcoming recreation improvements planned for Grant PUD property. As a department we manage and protect the natural resources within the Priest Rapids Project for visitor use.

The Project area includes all recreation resources, waters, and lands within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary. The Project boundary includes 58 miles of the Columbia River from River Mile (RM) 395, approximately 2 miles downstream of Priest Rapids Dam, upstream to a point approximately 0.5 miles below Chelan County PUD's Rock Island Dam at RM 453. In addition to developed recreation sites, there are dispersed undeveloped day use sites that are included in the Project area.

As a Lands and Recreation group we provide a presence on the lands and waters of the Priest Rapids Project through permanent and seasonal staff. We also work to provide education to visitors regarding allowed land use, safety and resource protection.



Brad Harshman, Jerri Mickle, Vanessa Seldal



**Jordan, Reed, Chris, Cory, Scott & Jameson
Lands & Recreation Crew members**

The crew removed nearly 16,000 pounds of garbage from the Priest Rapids Project in 2010.

When you see us out on the project, be sure to say 'Hello!' We look forward to getting to know the recreating public.

Meeting Our Requirements

The Lands and Recreation group are tasked with implementing numerous requirements that are conditions of Grant PUD's license from the FERC to operate the Priest Rapids and Wanapum Dam.

The FERC issued License requires Grant PUD to implement recreation measures that were listed in the approved Recreation Resources Management Plan (RRMP) and identified in the License on a timely basis. The FERC License and RRMP can all be found on the Grant PUD website at www.gcpud.org. All requirements mentioned in the License address developed and undeveloped sites that are within the Project boundary. Requirements range from site monitoring to complete site overhauls and include a range of upgrades including: new and renovated boat launches, trails, campgrounds, designated swimming areas and stabilized shorelines and beaches.

In 2010, staff began work on 17 recreation capital projects that are required by the License. Many of the recreation sites now have, at minimum, schematic site plans. Typically schematic site plans require topographic and bathymetric surveys, property boundary surveys, and environmental surveys to help determine the best placement for the proposed amenities and/or improvements. Other sites are much further along and by years-end had permit packages sent to the regulatory agencies for approval. Visit Grant PUD's website, www.gcpud.org/recreation, to check for updates.



In 2010 Grant PUD's Recreation and Hydro Engineering staff worked with consultants to develop conceptual site plans for the following recreation areas:

*Apricot Orchard
Burkett Lake
Crescent Bar
Frenchman Coulee
Huntzinger Fishing Access Site
Huntzinger Boat Launch
Kittitas County Boat Launch
Priest Rapids Recreation Area (Desert Aire)
Priest Rapids Tailrace
Wanapum Dam Lower Boat Launch
Wanapum Dam Upper Boat Launch
Wanapum Dam Picnic Area*

2010 Project Status Progress Report

In addition to developing recreation sites, Grant PUD is required to develop recreation programs. The following chart is a summary of additional requirements allocated for the Recreation Department in the FERC license:

Meet License Requirements	Status
Coordinate and Communicate with internal and external stakeholders.	Complete/Ongoing
Continue Capital Development projects as outlined in the implementation schedule submitted to FERC with the License amendment.	Complete/Ongoing
Continue monitoring requirements on dispersed recreation sites.	Complete/Ongoing
Submit License amendment in February to FERC.	Completed
Work with the Cultural Resources Department to continue with surveying the area of potential affect (shoreline) and getting the approval from the CR Working Group to proceed with permitting the recreation enhancements.	Complete/Ongoing
Coordinate with the SMP, RRMP, Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) and the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (WHMP).	Complete/Ongoing
Finalize and Implement the First Edition of Recreation Programs	Status
Operation and Maintenance Program	Ongoing/pending
Facility Development/Design Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law Enforcement 	95% complete Complete/Ongoing
Interpretation and Education Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sign Program • Draft a Volunteer Program 	Completed Completed Pending
Recreation Monitoring Program	Completed

2010 Highlights

In 2010, significant progress was made toward meeting FERC License requirements. Recreation management programs were developed and the ongoing development and planning of recreation capital improvements continued. The following list highlights some of the milestones achieved by the Recreation Department in 2010:

Continued ongoing coordination with stakeholders and project team members to develop concept designs for recreation improvements.

Approximately 12 meetings



Posted a “No Wake” zone at Quilomene Dune and Bay.

December 31, 2010

Awarded a construction contract for the Wanapum Dam Overlook.

October 19, 2010



Developed a site management plan for Getty's Cove (purchased in August 2009).

December 8, 2010

Submitted permit applications for the Priest Rapids Recreation Area.

November 30, 2010



2010 Highlights cont'd

Submitted a License amendment for Crab Creek Corridor, Crescent Bar, Priest Rapids Park, and Priest Rapids Dam Picnic Area.

February 26, 2010

Notice of Application for Amendment of License and Soliciting Comments Motions to Intervene and Protests

May 18, 2010



2010 Financial Summary
Expenditures as of December 31, 2010

Planning and Engineering	\$2,252,097
Lands & Recreation Crew	\$74,007
Operation & Maintenance	\$321,119
Service Providers:	
Sanitation	\$11,884
Waste Management	\$ 6,020
Janitorial and Cleaning	\$ 6,500
Management Services	\$ 7,064
TOTAL:	\$2,678,691

Goals and Objectives for 2011

Overarching Lands and Recreation Department Goals

- Continue to coordinate and communicate with internal and external stakeholders.
- Continue meeting License obligations as outlined in the implementation schedule submitted to FERC with the License amendment on capital improvements.
- Continue monitoring requirements on dispersed recreation sites.
- Work with the Cultural Resources Department to continue with surveying the area of potential affect (shoreline) and getting the approval from the CR Working group to proceed with permitting the recreation enhancements.
- Coordinate with the Shoreline Management Plan, Recreation Resources Management Plan, Historic Properties Management Plan, and the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan.
- Develop a plan for recreation improvements at Sand Hollow South and Priest Rapids Tailrace.

