

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
September 8, 2005
Conference Call

ACC Participants Present (10)

Michelle Day, NOAA Fisheries
Diana Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD
Adam Haspiel, USDA Forest Service
Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp
Jim Malinowski, Fish First
Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp
Todd Olson, PacifiCorp
Will Shallenberger, PacifiCorp
Ruth Tracy, USDA Forest Service
John Weinheimer, WDFW

Calendar:

Sept. 14, 2005	Adult Coho Release Event	Lewis River Hatchery
Sept. 16, 2005	TCC Meeting	Merwin, WA
October 3, 2005	TCC Meeting	Lacey, WA
October 6, 2005	ACC Meeting	Merwin, WA

Assignments from September 8th Meeting:	Status:
McCune: Notify the ACC not present at today's meeting that the meeting notes have been approved, and request comments prior to Monday, September 12, 2005.	Complete – 9/8/05
McCune: Mail copy of Wildlife and Habitat Assessment Report/Skamania County to Jim Malinowski.	Complete – 9/8/05
Tracy: Email tour suggestions to McCune such as acclimation pond site(s), new development, etc.	Complete – 9/14/05
McCune: Email details of fish release event to ACC.	Complete – 9/8/05
Lesko: Email site visit details of Minter Creek and Makah National Fish Hatchery to ACC.	Confirming details as of 9/19/05. Lesko will advise McCune when complete

Assignments from August 11th Meeting:	Status:
McCune: Contact Skamania County regarding obtaining copy of Wildlife Habitat & Assessment Report and relay details to ACC.	Complete - 8/18/05
Kaje: Email requested July 14 th meeting notes changes to McCune.	Complete – 8/17/05
McCune: Email Acclimation Pond Sites map to ACC	Complete – 8/17/05
Shrier: Consult with Holly Harwood (PacifiCorp) to confirm that Day's proposed language (section 1.0 pg. 4 of funding document) is not conflicting with the Settlement Agreement.	Complete -- 9/15/05
Tracy: Provide relevant temperature data from the streams to Shrier via email.	Complete – 8/11/05

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Todd Olson (PacifiCorp) conducted a review of Agenda for the day and the ACC meeting notes for August 11, 2005.

Diana Gritten-MacDonald (Cowlitz PUD) requested an addition to the Agenda for the Swift Canal Update. The ACC agreed to the addition and Gritten-MacDonald will provide the update after the review of the meeting notes.

Jim Malinowski (Fish First) requested the following modifications (in red) to the meeting notes which have been incorporated into the final document:

*Jim Malinowski (Fish First) said that the ACC **members** may experience conflict due to bias for **their** own projects.*

Kim McCune (PacifiCorp) will promptly notify the ACC not present at today's meeting that the meeting notes have been approved, and request comments prior to Monday, September 12, 2005. Final notes will be posted to the Lewis River website by close of business on the 12th.

Swift Canal Update

Gritten-MacDonald communicated to the ACC that the PUD was approaching completion of reconstruction of the Swift Canal. Gritten-MacDonald provided the following update:

- Canal water wasteway reconstruction
- Install Liner in drain
- Remove coffer dam
- Repair canal drain pipe (water supply to Constructed Channel)
- Work will require dewatering the Swift canal for 18 days – to begin September 26, 2005
- Fishing platform 99% complete (no railings yet)

Funding Process Document Update

Olson reminded the ACC that the 30-day review period for the “Aquatics Fund – Strategic Plan and Administrative Procedures” document ends on September 15, 2005. He also requested any comments on the draft letter announcing the availability of funds for aquatic projects. If there are no comments from the ACC relating to the availability of funding letter, PacifiCorp will mail the letter tomorrow, September 9, 2005. Gritten-MacDonald requested PacifiCorp include the mailing list with the letter.

Michelle Day (NOAA Fisheries) indicated that she may request a change on the second paragraph of the cover letter relating to the \$300,000, and would notify Kim McCune (PacifiCorp) via email of any requested edits. Day further communicated that the \$300,000 was acceptable for this year but some modification may be required for next year.

Engineering Subgroup Meeting Results

Merwin and Swift trap design process

Brent Denham (PacifiCorp) provided a quick update to the ACC regarding the August Engineering subgroup meeting:

Pat Powers is no longer the WDFW engineer; they will be replacing him in the future.

PacifiCorp prepared and submitted to the subgroup the Facility Design document for upstream capacity. The group discussed the document and the company will be working to provide the document to the ACC for review.

The next task is to finalize the design for the upper Swift canal release point. PacifiCorp will be providing the ACC with the final location site and a design by end of November.

Engineering Subgroup meetings have been scheduled as follows for the next seven (7) months:

- October 4, 2005 (Merwin Hydro)
- November 15, 2005 (Natural Resource Building, Olympia, WA)
- January 10, 2006 (Merwin Hydro)
- February 7, 2006 (Merwin Hydro)
- The 1st Tuesday of every month following February 7th (Merwin Hydro)

Entrainment Proposal

Erik Lesko (PacifiCorp) informed the ACC that PacifiCorp is working on proposal internally at PacifiCorp. Proposed study plan will be sent to ACC very soon for their review and comment.

Project Updates (provided by Lesko)

Merwin Tailrace Study

- Tagged 50 steelhead, 10 have reentered the trap + 1 angler. PacifiCorp has recovered a total of 11 and found 10 dispersed downstream; 30 fish currently unaccounted for.
- Expecting 75% recovery.
- Tagging second group of 50 latter this month
- All six antenna working properly at Merwin dam/powerhouse.
- Tagging of 100 Coho to begin by October 1, 2005.

Habitat Preparation Plan

WDFW will begin hauling adult Coho on September 14, 2005, and continue on weekly basis until 2,000 have been transported and released at the Swift boat ramp.

Olson invited the ACC to attend the initial fish release event to begin at 10:00am on 9/14/05 at the Lewis River Hatchery.

Spawning Gravel Study

Low elevation survey complete. Stillwater Sciences is focusing on specific evaluation sites.

Hatchery and Supplementation Plan

A meeting has been scheduled with WDFW on 9/21/05 to facilitate information exchange between hatchery personnel and PacifiCorp's contractor preparing the draft Plan. PacifiCorp expects to distribute a draft of the Plan to the ACC in November. PacifiCorp will inform the ACC of what was discussed with WDFW at the September meeting.

Hatchery Upgrades

- Initial upgrades following receiving the new licenses include rebuilding the Lewis River hatchery adult sorting and handling facility.
- Planning work for the upgrades includes a site visit to two unique sorting facilities: Minter Creek Hatchery on 9/29/05 and Makah National Fish Hatchery on 9/30/05. Observe if it would be prudent to apply similar concepts to the Lewis River facility. The ACC is welcome to participate in these hatchery site visits. Lesko will send details of the site visits to the ACC.

Yale/Merwin Entrainment Study

Olson informed the ACC that PacifiCorp has developed a draft study Plan and will be distributing to the ACC for their review.

Release Pond site – update on progress to purchase land

Appraisal is to be complete by end of October. PacifiCorp will continue to work with WDFW to complete ownership transfer of property.

Next Scheduled Meetings

Thursday, October 6, 2005 (Merwin Hydro Facility)

Agenda items for October 6, 2005

- Review of 9/08/05 meeting notes
- Site tour of upper basin

Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 am

Handouts

- Final Agenda
- Draft Meeting Notes 8/11/05