

FINAL
10-29-13 Meeting Summary
RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)
North Umpqua Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. P-1927)

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)
Pam Sichtung (USDA-FS)
Ed Meyer (NMFS)
Rob Burns (USFWS)
Dave Harris (ODFW)
Chris Stine (ODEQ)

Also Present

Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)
Scott Schevenius (PacifiCorp Energy)
Mike Blum (PacifiCorp Energy)

PUBLIC TOUR DISCUSSION

The RCC Meeting will be held at the NUIC office at Toketee, and the Public Tour will start from there as well. The room configuration will be changed to accommodate the expected number of public attendees after the RCC meeting.

Bus Status

USDA-FS will provide a 20-person bus, and two 7-person vans
USFWS will provide a 6-7 person van
PacifiCorp will provide a 7-person van

The press release will be published either this week or next [released Oct 28], and will state that all people wanting to reserve a spot in the vehicles will contact either Pam or Rich.

Ed most likely will not be attending due to vacation plans. He also noted that NMFS is back into the “essential travel” mode. There is “continuing resolution” until January, and that the agency is being cautious. The next round of sequestration will happen in either January or February.

Rich reported on several recent developments and events leading up to this meeting:

Soda Springs – Due to the defect in the wedge wire as shipped from the manufacturer, the material was rejected. During phone consultations, PacifiCorp and the agencies agreed that it was prudent to require the material to meet the original specifications even if doing so extended the schedule for fish screen repairs for several months. Completion is now expected in January 2014, as opposed to completion this month. All agreed that it was important to have the fish

screen back in service by March, when smolt outmigration from the 2012 spawners is likely to begin.

In the interim, the stop logs will be removed so as to keep the fish screen in a submerged state so that the spillway is readily available in case a high flow event occurs this winter. Those on the tour will likely see the screen in a submerged but non-operating condition.

19.2 Monitoring – During the recent federal shutdown, Rich and Dave Harris made a decision to utilize SA 19.2 funding to help document what appeared (from index viewing points) to be a large number of Chinook salmon spawning upstream of Soda Springs dam. Dirk Pedersen and Abel Brumo of Stillwater Sciences were already in the area doing preliminary work for the Slide Creek full flow reach ramping study, so they were asked to spend a long day surveying the reaches from Slide Creek dam to Soda Springs reservoir. The survey was done on October 11, 2013, with over 160 redds counted in that reach. Sam Moyers (ODFW) had counted redds in the lower two miles of Fish Creek, and that information will be added to Stillwater's technical memorandum expected soon. They said it is encouraging to see this many spawning salmon in historic habitat in the first year after the Soda Springs fish ladder was completed.

The cost for Stillwater's work on the survey and technical memorandum will be less than \$10,000 of SA 19.2 funds in compliance with the long term monitoring plan. Rich and Dave considered this a prudent use of 19.2 funds to obtain valuable information.

Action: The RCC approved the SA 19.2 expenditure.

Association of Power Biologists Tour – On September 26, 2013, a project tour was provided as part of the APB meeting held at Diamond Lake Lodge. For the Soda Springs fish passage project, Rich said what worked well was to park on the bridge and let people in small groups go to evaluation building without PPE, while he took about a dozen people at a time with PPE up on the dam.

For the upcoming public tour, Rich requested agency members to bring their own hardhats, so there will be enough spares to go around for the public. Pam Sichting said Public Affairs could bring 10-12 hard hats.

Tailrace Barriers – There are lots of leaves hanging up on the pickets and they require frequent cleaning.

Aquatic Reconnect – A 23-foot section was cut out, a culvert installed, and the formwork constructed as part of the aquatic reconnection being completed at the Lemolo 1 canal. This project is expected to be completed in November during a maintenance outage at the plant.

Operations Update – Lemolo 1 system is currently shut down for the reconnect work, plus some electrical work at the powerhouse. It will come back up mid-November. The Lemolo1 forebay has been dewatered. **This will not be part of the tour this year.**

Monte asked Dave about the possibility of doing a short video/DVD of fish clips showing fish moving across the screen. Dave said they are now marking day and hour, so they can pinpoint. Someone could go back into the hard drives and pull the information out.

Rich said he could pick out a few clips to use for the tour presentation.

Monte said that in the future we expect different species to be documented, perhaps even lamprey.

It was noted that Stillwater's field work on the Rock Creek Effectiveness Monitoring project is officially finished, but analysis and documentation are still ongoing, with a final report expected around year's end.

Regarding the 19.3 program, Pam reported there is a website and that the link to it was in the letter that she recently distributed. They are seeking comments from the public and RCC on a "draft impact letter" by December 18, 2013.

Meeting adjourned.