

**3-17-10 Meeting Summary \* Approved 4-21-10 \***  
**RESOURCE COORDINATION COMMITTEE (RCC)**  
**NORTH UMPQUA HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT- FERC #1927-008**

RCC Members or Alternates Present

Monte Garrett (PacifiCorp Energy)  
Craig Kohanek (OWRD)  
Dave Harris (ODFW)  
Rob Burns (USFWS)  
Stephanie Burchfield (NMFS)  
Chris Stine (ODEQ)  
Ariel Hiller (BLM)  
Gina Freel (USDA-FS)

Also Present

Rich Grost (PacifiCorp Energy)  
Beth Bendickson (PacifiCorp Energy)

RCC Members Absent

Ed Meyer (NOAA)  
Pam Sighting (USDA-FS)

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**INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA, OLD BUSINESS**

Member Updates

USDA-FS – Julie Merit is the new bridge engineer.

PacifiCorp – Joe Donnell (North Umpqua Production Manager) is leaving the company. His last day is March 26. Rod Owre (Resource Analyst) is leaving as well. His last day is March 25.

ODEQ – They should have news soon on Paul Heberling’s replacement.

BLM – The future budget is becoming increasingly dire. Ariel Hiller is hopeful it won’t slow our project review process.

NMFS – While they still don’t have a regional manager; Eric Schwaab is the new NMFS deputy. He’s located in Washington D.C.

Outage Schedule Update (flow changes)

Rich Grost has recently distributed the tentative schedule for planned waterway maintenance. Maintenance of waterway facilities typically affects bypass reach flows; for example, Lemolo 2 is currently down for maintenance and flow in the bypass reach are consequently running at about 300 cfs. Clearwater 2 will be down for maintenance beginning April 5, which will require a fish salvage of the waterway. The plan is to liberate salvaged fish into the L2 forebay, to jumpstart the fishery there.

**RCC Action: Approve the February RCC Meeting Summary.** *Approved 3-17-10.*

### Public Information Opportunities

Soda Springs fish passage project - PacifiCorp will prepare an informative press release before the ground action starts in May. Monte Garrett will draft release text and forward to both Cheryl Caplan (USDA-FS), (copying Gina Freel & Pam Sichting), and Meghan Collins (ODFW). As others expressed interest, it was decided that Monte would copy all the RCC members.

Craig Kohanek mentioned that the “Water Talk” series of public meetings might be interested in a speaker about NUHP activities.

Monte mentioned that Mark Brown (videographer) will be working throughout the year on the fish passage project as well as others. He’ll finish up later this year, and the video update would be available to the public in 2011.

## **CURRENT PROJECT UPDATES**

### Notice-to-Proceed (NTP) Status

Notice-to-Proceed meeting – the annual meeting was held with the USDA-FS on March 16. Steve Albertelli prepared a booklet with maps and descriptions of projects for discussion with USDA-FS staff. Most notable was the Lemolo 2 Reroute project. Clearances are underway and actions for this project include final design completion this year. Work on the ground is expected to begin by year’s end. Preparation work includes timber sale, public closure, sensitive species determination, and power pole relocation. A visit to see some of the aquatic connectivity sites completed last year was done, along with some discussion about the new aquatic sites planned for this year. Overall it was an informative meeting, with no difficulties anticipated in receiving NTPs.

### Fish Creek and Lemolo 2 Canal Shut-off and Drainage Systems –

**Fish Creek Test** – the first chance for this test will most likely be in June. PacifiCorp will first need to retest and verify operation of this facility internally, due to lack of flows resulting in the system being inactive for much of last year. When Watson Ridge communication site opens in May, installation of an additional radio will provide another link for communication to Fish Creek. That, along with spring flows, should result in a successful test.

**Lemolo 2 Test** – the test on March 2 was deemed successful. Chris Stine commented that it was an impressive test. Mark Croissant’s parting contribution was the boom system to guide entrapped big game out of the waterway.

Lemolo 1 Forebay and Wetland – The civil work was completed in 2009. Due to FERC delays with respect to berm construction criteria, the forebay liner installation was delayed until August 2010. Following that, the breach of canal wall will be completed to connect the new forebay to the waterway. The forebay will slowly fill, providing extra storage for Lemolo 1 system. Final touches will be done

on hydraulic components of the wetland associated with the forebay. This fall, Steve Albertelli will work with USDA-FS botanist Eric Baxter to complete the wetland plantings.

Soda Springs Fish Passage – PacifiCorp is working with the design consultant and working through contract procurement steps to make sure the project stays on schedule this year. All work below the ordinary high water mark is planned to be completed this year. However, because of the complexity of the project, FERC approval to commence construction is not expected until late May. Award of the contract for construction is expected at the end of April or early May. Following issuance of the contract, the contractor will prepare for FERC review a coffer dam plan, blasting plan, emergency action plan, and other deliverables. FERC needs 30 days to review before ground can be broken. The USDA-FS will issue a public announcement out so the area can be officially closed from May 2010 until end of 2011.

Evaluation facility – Ed Meyer provided detailed comments and questions regarding evaluation facility. Clint Smith (MWH) and Rich Grost have been working with Ed on these matters. Sam Moyers (ODFW) is working on tank design, drain function, and the anesthesia area within the holding tanks. Dave Harris said they have a conceptual design, but need to get it down on paper. Rich Grost asked for completion of final design details by the end of the year.

Slide Creek Tailrace Barrier – Geotechnical have been completed and the Notice-to-Proceed has been issued by the USDA-FS. Construction is scheduled to start next year. A modeling exercise is underway on the meantime to inform the continued design.

Tokenee Trash Rack Modification – This project will help stop entrainment of brown trout at the Tokenee intake. Jean Castillo (ODFW) is reviewing the draft designs and will get back to Tom Hickey. Construction is scheduled for this summer.

Aquatic Connectivity – Six or seven sites will be constructed this year. Specific sites not yet selected.

Poole Creek Boat Ramp at Lemolo Lake – This project was selected during the RRMP RAP process last year, and will provide fishing access in Lemolo Reservoir through October. The facility design is being completed by the USDA-FS and construction is planned for late this fall; during the time the reservoir is drawn down so work can be done in the dry.

## **TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP UPDATES**

Aquatic Connectivity – Out of 54 total sites, designs for 20 have been reviewed and approved. The remaining 34 sites are more complex. PacifiCorp's consultant will finish the designs for these sites this year and they will be passed on to the agencies for approval. The completion date for all sites is 2016.

L2R (Lemolo 2 Reroute) – The 90% design meeting was held on March 4. While a bit more defined, there were no big changes from the 60% designs. Discussion topics included water management, wetland development, and timber sale. The intake/outfall design details were advanced and agreed upon. Final designs will be distributed in the near future to all parties. 100% designs are expected to be done in June. Steve Albertelli is working on the joint permit application, and we expect the project

to be fully permitted by the end of the year. Some preparatory work will also be done toward the end of the year. Construction is scheduled for 2011 and is estimated to take as many as nine months to complete. We are optimistic that the project could be started in February 2011. Toketee Rigdon Road will have a single lane of traffic throughout the construction period. The campground will be closed.

FHS (Fish Habitat Studies) – The TWG met on March 3 and reviewed the 19.2 program and draft of the 2009 Annual Report summary. The most difficult component of 2009 work was estimating abundance of resident fish populations in the bypass reaches (flows are higher and harder to work in than during the original work in 1992-93). ODFW will provide a draft of the methods and results for review by Stillwater Sciences and other scientists to request suggestions on improving field sampling methods for 2010. One plan is to apply more effort this year; it's the last year to do work before the Slide Creek tailrace barrier work interferes with flows in the Slide Cr. bypass reach. Predator control study work will be minimal during 2010 because of interference from the Soda Springs fish passage project construction and the substantial amount and consistency of past work and results. The Soda Springs smolt trap will be pulled out prior to loss of access when the Soda Springs fish passage construction.

Personnel for the 19.2 work will be supplied similar to past years: two EBAs hired through ODFW; one person through PUR.

Flow & Ramping TWG – PacifiCorp is in final review of the Flow Monitoring Report for Water Year 2008; it will be released before April 1, to ODEQ, OWRD, and USDA-FS as per the Flow Monitoring Plan.

FPD (Fish Passage Design) – The next design meeting for the Slide Creek tailrace was changed from April 7 to April 15. Rich Barney (Project Manager) and design consultant, McMillen Engineering, met with AECOM on March 12 to review plans for modeling, which will be completed over the next few months. This modeling exercise, scaled at approximately 15%, will be similar to that conducted for the Soda Springs fish passage project. The potential date for viewing the model is May 25 in AECOM's office in Seattle.

The selected option entails a picket barrier below Slide Creek powerhouse not extending past the bridge. The upstream end of the structure will be positioned somewhat upstream of the powerhouse. This will present challenges in balancing flows through individual bays of the tailrace barrier.

An overhaul of the Slide Creek powerplant will be completed simultaneous with the tailrace barrier construction, adding to the difficulty of the construction project.

Lemolo Reservoir – Scott Lamb has started netting for tui chub. His permit started March 15.

The TWG met February 18 to go over the proposed plans to initiate trap netting earlier than originally planned due to warm and dry conditions. It was agreed it would be moderately useful to start early; as long as cost and effort were kept low so that sufficient funding is retained to do full-scale netting during May and June when larger catches are anticipated. Costs would go up later when more tui chub are present. The next Lemolo Reservoir TWG meeting has been rescheduled from March 25 to March 30. Joe Eilers could use these five extra days to get better prepped for the meeting. Rich is hopeful he

will have a complete presentation. Monitoring-wise, the USDA-FS and PacifiCorp are intending to follow a similar effort/level of monitoring as to what was done in 2009.

Joe Eilers apparently met recently with Scott Lamb and Bob Kinyon (PUR), after which Bob sent out an e-mail with an attachment of a proposal for continued monitoring in 2011 - 2013, along with requests for funding for this program of work. Rich appreciated the outreach for funding since PacifiCorp may be unable to continue such contributions beyond 2010, aside from amounts already dedicated to the federal mitigation fund.

Dave Harris spoke about the tui chub disposal efforts. Regarding selling the chub to a bait company – he got in touch with ODFW Salem staff who oversee commercial fishery permits. The commercial fishery permit process is open to all commercial companies, allowing anyone who got the bid to remove chub and sell them. After year one, there would be only three permits allowed. One would go to Scott Lamb; the others would go out to bid. It would be a commercial license. ODFW’s Chief of Fisheries is not in support of the license as it would create too much pressure on Lemolo. Dave said, “We could give them away, but once you want to make money, it goes into a whole new ball game.”

Rich reported that the reservoir bottomed out at 4,118 feet in early March and is up to 4,121 now on a course of gradual refill toward the next target of having boat ramps usable for opening day of fishing on April 24. Unless we get a big rainstorm, it will be a slow fill.

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The next RCC meeting was confirmed for April 21, 10AM-2PM (end time is extended, just in case extra time is needed), in-person at BLM Office in Roseburg. Ariel requested that folks arrive a bit early to allow for security checks and name badging.

Meeting adjourned.