# Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects Settlement Agreement Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting Agenda

Date & Time: Thursday, October 10, 2013

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Place: CONFERENCE CALL ONLY

**Contacts:** Frank Shrier: (503) 320-7423

Time	Discussion Item		
9:00 a.m.	Welcome		
	Review Agenda & 9/12/13 Meeting Notes		
	➤ Comment & accept Agenda & 9/12/13 Meeting Notes		
9:15 a.m.	2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Update		
9:45 a.m.	Study/Work Product Updates		
	<ul> <li>Woodland Release Ponds - Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Hatchery Upgrades - Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Hatchery and Supplementation Plan – Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Crab Creek Acclimation Pond Screen - Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Clear Cr. and Muddy R. Acclimation Pond Construction –</li> </ul>		
	Status		
	<ul> <li>Merwin Upstream Construction - Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Swift Downstream Collector - Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Future Fish Passage Facilities New Information – Status</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>Yale Spillway Barrier Net – Status</li> </ul>		
10:00 a.m.	Next Meeting's Agenda		
	Public Comment Opportunity		
	Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at:		
	http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro.html		
10:15 a.m.	Adjourn		

# Join by Phone

+1 (503) 813-5252 [Portland, Ore.]

+1 (855) 499-5252 [Toll Free]

Conference ID: 1814916

# FINAL Meeting Notes Lewis River License Implementation Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting October 10, 2013 Conference Call

# **ACC Participants Present (7)**

Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy Peggy Miller, WDFW Aaron Roberts, WDFW Pat Frazier, LCFRB Jim Malinowski, Fish First Shannon Wills, Cowlitz Indian Tribe

### **Calendar:**

November 14, 2013	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
December 12, 2013	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro

Assignments from October 10, 2013 meeting	
None	

# **Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes**

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Shrier identified all participants on the conference call. The ACC reviewed the agenda and no additions were requested.

The September 12, 2013 meeting notes were reviewed and approved without change and approved at 9:05 a.m. Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp) will finalize the September 12, 2013 meeting notes for posting to the Lewis River website.

### 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Update

McCune informed the ACC attendees that the Utilities received five (5) Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals and were in the process of evaluating these projects. Utility comments were requested by October 28, 2013 at which time their evaluations would be provided to the ACC prior to the November ACC meeting.

On October 9, 2013 (Attachment A) McCune provided the ACC with a link to the Lewis River website to view electronic copies of each Pre-proposal.

Jim Malinowski (Fish First) noted upon his review of the 2013/2014 Pre-Proposals that he felt noxious weed removal should be the responsibility of the property owner. In addition, he would like more financial detail/project costs included. Shrier reminded the ACC attendees that typically a Pre-Proposal does not include specific project costs. At this stage of the Aquatic Fund Process each project is evaluated by the Utilities and the ACC on the merits of each project. Once each project is reviewed and evaluated by the Utilities and the ACC a selection is made in

November/December for those projects that will proceed to full proposal at which time the project sponsor will provide considerably more detail, project costs, etc.

# **Study/Project Updates**

### **Woodland Release Ponds**

This project remains on hold as NMFS was to respond regarding Eulachon consultation to the FERC initially by February 2013, then by the end of July 2013. Response is still pending as of October 2013. We are nearing a window for this project where, if the BiOp doesn't come out soon, PacifiCorp will be not be able to be built in 2014 as a minimum of 6 months is needed for permitting. If NMFS continues to delay the process until the end of 2013 this project will likely be delayed another year.

Aaron Roberts (WDFW) informed the ACC attendees that WDFW is deferring a rebuild due to Eulachon issue. He agrees that building this project in 2014 is also questionable.

### **Hatchery and Supplementation Program**

Subgroup met last Friday, October 4, 2013. Pat Frazier (LCFRB) informed the ACC attendees that the following primary topics were discussed regarding the 2014 Annual Operating Plan (AOP) that needs to be resolved:

- Wild brood program; how to go forward; reviewing next best step;
- Reduction of brood program; concerned with effective breeding population size;
- Discussed spawning strategies, monitoring;
- Discussed Consolidated monitoring (separate meeting needed for this discussion); and,
- Decided to discontinue the kelt reconditioning program.

Shrier noted that the kelt coming into the floating surface collector are in very good condition; those that are not in good condition are few and do not respond to reconditioning. More testing needs to occur before genetic marker capture is used for a population estimate tool. Field testing needs to occur over the next few years in multiple basins.

Additional meetings are required.

### **Acclimation Pond/Crab Creek**

In response to WDFW suggestions/concerns PacifiCorp engineers worked up a new footprint for the Crab Creek intake system based on a recommended type of intake that is used elsewhere in the State. This design allows for fish passage but the footprint was questionable. PacifiCorp sent a sketch of the new design and received a cursory reply from Adam Haspiel (US Forest Service) that he thought the new footprint would work but PacifiCorp needs more than that. PacifiCorp needs an answer from the GP Forest Service as to whether or not this new design will need re-consultation under NEPA. Peggy Miller (WDFW) informed the ACC attendees that she received an email from a US Forest Service HPA biologist. Miller wanted to know if PacifiCorp has submitted its HPA for diversion. Shrier said that we have not as the design is not finalized yet. PacifiCorp needs the US Forest Service to engage and respond.

Shrier informed the ACC attendees that there was a fall release of acclimation spring Chinook into Crab Creek last week. In the spring of 2014 PacifiCorp will release into the Muddy River and Clear Creek acclimation ponds.

### Acclimation Pond/Muddy River and Clear Creek Update

Construction is doing well; Muddy River nearly complete. The intake screen was placed at Clear Creek before recent high water event and they held in place very well.

Clear Creek and Muddy River are ready to receive fish in Spring 2014, providing the snow levels will allow access.

# **Merwin Upstream Construction Status**

Construction is continuing and is on schedule. Very close to beginning training for staff; will begin test run in November 2013 (pumping under different flow conditions).

### **Swift Downstream Collector Construction Status**

The floating surface collector is back in service as of October 1, 2013; caught fish right away. Worked out a lot of bugs during the de-ballasting to address screens that were jamming, etc. The main panel exclusionary net will be fixed by November 2013; side panels fixed by March 2014.

### **Development of New Information to Inform Fish Passage**

The PIT tag antenna placed near the mouth of Clear Creek detected several fish right away. It turns out that those fish were part of the 80,000 spring Chinook Acclimation release in April. This helps to understand where some of those fish went since very few were detected at the Swift FSC.

Continuing with predator population assessment; 2<sup>nd</sup> phase in the fall. Researchers are working up population estimates of pike minnow in Merwin. They have also completed reviewing previous upstream barrier mapping, verifying the locations and putting them into GPS so we know the extent of where fish migrate. Upper basin surveys of coho and Chinook are helping us to find the spawners and how the barriers may or may not affect the extent of their migration.

Frazier suggested Shrier talk to WDFW regarding their modeling data of flow and velocities; they may have GPS maps that could help. Shrier indicated that we are looking at on-the-ground truthing right now.

### Yale Spillway Barrier Net

Net in place and float system operating correctly.

### **Other Topics**

Malinowski communicated to the ACC that the Coastal Conservation Alliance (CCA) has a Cathlamet, WA net pen project and he would like to know if WDFW take Lewis River fish out of the system to put them there. Malinowski expressed that the Lewis River hatcheries are there to compensate for the dams. If there are excess program fish, what is wrong with releasing them back into the Lewis River?

Aaron Roberts (WDFW) responded that at Speelyai Hatchery 250,000 eggs are provided for other programs and deep river net pens.

Malinowski said that it's wrong to send juveniles outside of the Lewis River system. Roberts confirmed that Lewis River Spring Chinook are not being sent to the Cathlamet, WA net pen project but eggs have been sent to the Grays River Hatchery. Frazier expressed that mitigation goals, wild fish and hatchery fish production levels are considered; we must be cognizant of managing fish for recovery of listed fish in the basin. Excess hatchery fish in natural spawning areas can limit recovery of naturally produced populations.

Shannon Wills (Cowlitz Indian Tribe) communicated that the ACC is tied into what we have agreed to in the Settlement Agreement (SA) in terms of fish production. At this point we can't change what those numbers are until the next SA.

Shrier mentioned that excess adults are being hauled upstream when normally the 7,000 coho we have transported upstream would have been surplused.

Malinowski also brought up ocean recruits and wondered whether or not someone was keeping track of the numbers to establish baseline. How do you accurately estimate the 86,000 recruits?

Shrier – PacifiCorp brought on a consultant to establish the baseline and a presentation will be given to the ACC hopefully by year end 2013 but may not be until January 2014.

<9:45 a.m. meeting adjourned >

# Agenda items for November 14, 2013

- ➤ Review October 10, 2013 Meeting Notes
- ➤ 2014 ACC Meeting Schedule
- ➤ 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Review
- > Study/Work Product Updates

### **Public Comment**

None

# **Next Scheduled Meetings**

November 14, 2013	December 12, 2013
Merwin Hydro Control Center	Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA	Ariel, WA
9:00 a.m. –11:00am	9:00 a.m. – 3:00pm

# **Meeting Handouts & Attachments**

- ➤ Notes from 9/12/13
- ➤ Agenda from 10/10/13
- ➤ Attachment A Email to ACC re link to Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals, dated October 9, 2013

# McCune, Kimberly

From: McCune, Kimberly

Sent: Wednesday, October 09, 2013 9:52 AM

To: (Aaron.roberts@dfw.wa.gov); (michael\_hudson@fws.gov); (Timothy\_Whitesel@fws.gov);

Adam Haspiel (ahaspiel@fs.fed.us); Bart Stepp; Bob Rose (rosb@yakamafish-nsn.gov); Bryan Nordlund; Diana MacDonald; Doyle, Jeremiah; Eli Asher (easher@cowlitz.org); Eric Kinne; Ferraiolo, Mark; Fish First (j.malinowski@ieee.org); gghalseth@gmail.com; James H Malinowski (jim.malinowski@icloud.com); 'Jeff Breckel'; Karchesky, Chris; Karen Adams; Kathryn Miller (kmiller@tu.org); Lesko, Erik; LouEllyn Jones; Mariah Stoll-Smith Reese (M.Reese@tds.net); Maynard, Chris (ECY); Melody Tereski; Michelle Day; Olson, Todd; Pam Johnson (johnson@co.skamania.wa.us); Patrick Frazier (pfrazier@lcfrb.gen.wa.us); Patrick Lee; Peggy Miller; Rhidian Morgan (rmmorgan@plasnewydd.org); Ruth Tracy; Samagaio,

James; Shannon Wills; Shrier, Frank; Taylor Aalvik (taalvik@cowlitz.org)

**Subject:** 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals

Attn: ACC Participants

The Utilities have received five (5) Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals for the 2013/2014 aquatic funding cycle. You may view each Pre-Proposal on the Lewis River website at the link provided below.

# http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro/hl/lr.html#

- Lewis River
- License Implementation
- ACC
- Aquatics Coordination Committee 2014

The Utilities are reviewing and will provide its recommendations prior to the ACC November meeting.

Thank you.

# **Kimberly McCune**

Sr. Project Coordinator PacifiCorp Energy - Hydro Resources 825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1500 Portland, OR 97232

Ph: (503) 813-6078

From: McCune, Kimberly

Sent: Thursday, September 05, 2013 8:07 AM

**To:** Amy Tanska (<a href="mailto:atanska@mshinstitute.org">atanska@mshinstitute.org</a>); Bill Bakke (<a href="mailto:bmbakke@gmail.com">bmbakke@gmail.com</a>); Bryan Nordlund (<a href="mailto:Bryan.Nordlund@noaa.gov">Bryan Nordlund@noaa.gov</a>); Byron Hinners; Christine Champe; <a href="mailto:culture@cowlitz.org">culture@cowlitz.org</a>; Darlene Johnson (<a href="mailto:darlene@gowoot.net">darlene@gowoot.net</a>); Emily Platt; Erich Gaedeke (<a href="mailto:Erich.Gaedeke@ferc.gov">Erich.Gaedeke@ferc.gov</a>); Evan Haas; Gardner Johnston (<a href="mailto:gjohnston@interfluve.com">gjohnston@interfluve.com</a>); James Byrne; <a href="mailto:jkling@westernrivers.org">jkling@westernrivers.org</a>; Jody lando; John Clapp (<a href="mailto:jmcmaple@gmail.com">jmcmaple@gmail.com</a>); <a href="mailto:KomportMailto:Komport Mailto:Komport Mailto:Komport Mailto:Johnston">mailto:Johnston</a>); <a href="mailto:Johnston">Johnston</a>); <a href="mailto:Johnston">Johnston</a>);

Kemper McMaster; Lisa Moscinski; Noel Johnson; Patrick Lee (<a href="mailto:patrick.lee@clark.wa.gov">patrick.lee@clark.wa.gov</a>); Paul Pearce - NFCSC

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Please see the attached Lewis River Aquatic Fund 2013/2014 announcement. The deadline for Pre-Proposal Form submission is **October 7, 2013**. Please submit materials to:

Frank Shrier
PacifiCorp – LCT 1500
825 NE Multnomah
Portland, OR 97232

Thank you.

# **Kimberly McCune**

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