

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

**Date & Time:** Thursday, November 14, 2013  
9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**Place:** Merwin Hydro Control Center  
105 Merwin Village Court  
Ariel, WA 98603

**Contacts:** Frank Shrier: (503) 320-7423  
Lore Boles (Merwin Desk): (360) 225-4412

<b>Time</b>	<b>Discussion Item</b>
9:00 a.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Review Agenda &amp; 10/10/13 Meeting Notes</li><li>➤ Comment &amp; accept Agenda &amp; 10/10/13 Meeting Notes</li></ul>
9:15 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Review</li><li>➤ Review of 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Utilities Evaluation Matrix</li></ul>
<b>10:15 a.m.</b>	<b>Break</b>
10:30 a.m.	Study/Work Product Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Woodland Release Ponds - Status</li><li>○ Hatchery Upgrades - Status</li><li>○ Hatchery and Supplementation Plan – Status</li><li>○ Crab Creek Acclimation Pond Screen - Status</li><li>○ Clear Cr. and Muddy R. Acclimation Pond Construction – Status</li><li>○ Merwin Upstream Construction - Status</li><li>○ Swift Downstream Collector - Status</li><li>○ Future Fish Passage Facilities New Information – Status</li></ul>
11:00 a.m.	2014 ACC Meeting Schedule
11:15 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Next Meeting's Agenda</li><li>➤ Public Comment Opportunity</li></ul> <p>Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at: <a href="http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro.html">http://www.pacificorp.com/es/hydro.html</a></p>
<b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b>

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**  
**November 14, 2013**  
**Ariel, WA**

**ACC Participants Present (12)**

Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy  
Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy  
Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp Energy  
Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp Energy  
Peggy Miller, WDFW (via conference)  
Aaron Roberts, WDFW  
Eric Kinne, WDFW  
Pat Frazier, LCFRB  
Shannon Wills, Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
Adam Haspiel, USDA Forest Service  
Diana Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD  
Eli Asher, Cowlitz Indian Tribe (via conference)

**Calendar:**

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

<b>Assignments from November 14, 2013 meeting</b>	
Shrier: Email broodstock hatchery release record to WDFW	<b>Complete – 11/14/13</b>
Shrier: Email PacifiCorp Eulachon Biological Assessment (BA) to Shannon Wills at Cowlitz Indian Tribe.	<b>Complete – 11/15/13</b>
Shrier: Send Crab Creek design drawings to the USFS.	<b>Pending</b>
Shrier/Frazier: Add Erik Lesko to LCFEG technical oversight group for both Eagle Island North Channel Restoration and Haapa Habitat Enhancement projects.	<b>Complete – 11/15/13</b>
Shrier: Discuss with ACC putting the adult trap efficiency test evaluation off until March 2015 (late winter steelhead) to allow for the trap to be in its best operating condition (all tweaks and adjustments complete).	

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

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. All attendees identified themselves for the benefit of those on the conference call. The ACC reviewed the agenda and the following topics will be added:

- Merwin Trap Completion Update
- NMFS - Eulachon Biological Opinion Update

Shrier reviewed the October 10, 2013 meeting notes and the following clarifications were requested:

**Hatchery and Supplementation Program, Page 2, last sentence shall be modified to read:**

*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.*

**Other Topics, Page 4, second paragraph shall be modified to read:**

*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.*

The October 10, 2013 meeting notes were reviewed and approved with the above-referenced changes and approved at 9:25 a.m. Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp) will finalize the October 10, 2013 meeting notes for posting to the Lewis River website.

**2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposals Review**

McCune provided a copy of the Lewis River Aquatic Fund – Utilities Evaluation Matrix, dated October 29, 2013 ([Attachment A](#)).

*1. Cowlitz Tribe – Eagle Island 2014 Knotweed Expedition*

Discussion took place regarding preference for knotweed programs that span the entire basin, knotweed infestation up river, is this a one year effort vs. a 3-5 year, and that the Aquatic Fund is not designed for weed control projects.

*2. USDA Forest Service – Muddy River Tributary near Hoo Hoo Bridge*

Discussion took place regarding bedrock, spawning gravels do not exist in this area, does not seem to be suitable coho habitat.

*3. USDA Forest Service – Lewis River Alcove near 90480 Road*

Discussion took place regarding obtaining GPS data and information needed from WDFW first before GPS data can be provided to the ACC.

*4. Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group – Eagle Island North Channel Restoration*

Discussion took place regarding sediment removal, timing of construction, spawning habitat, substrate size, Army Corp permitting, design input and the potential for dredging material placement in an area where there are a lot of redds.

*5. Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group – Haapa Habitat Enhancement*

Discussion took place regarding chum spawning, rearing channel for coho, LCFEG already spent \$113K for design.

**The ACC are to provide formal written comments on or before Friday, December 6, 2013.**

## **Study/Project Updates**

### **Woodland Release Ponds**

This project remains on hold as NMFS has yet to respond regarding Eulachon consultation with the FERC.

### **NMFS - Eulachon Biological Opinion Update**

PacifiCorp informed NMFS that if we do not hear from them by December 31, 2013 the Woodland Release Pond project will not be constructed in 2014 as currently planned per PacifiCorp's delay request and approval with the FERC. In that case, the project will be delayed until 2015. Originally NMFS was to provide a response on the Eulachon BiOp last February 2013; then by the end of July 2013 but no response has been received since July. Shannon Wills (Cowlitz Indian Tribe) will go back to the Tribe and see what they can do to move the project along. She also requested a copy of the Biological Assessment prepared by PacifiCorp for submittal to the consultation process.

### **Hatchery and Supplementation Program**

A draft H&S 2014 Annual Operating Plan was provided to the Subgroup on October 31, 2013 for their review and comment. Comments are due November 22, 2013. Depending on comments received, another meeting may be scheduled to finalize the plan.

The Hatchery and Supplementation Plan is due to be updated by December 2014. Erik Lesko will work with the HS subgroup and ACC as this plan is updated and provide for adequate comment period prior to the December 2014 deadline.

### **Hatchery Upgrades**

Three projects remain as part of Schedule 8.7 of the Settlement Agreement.

- **Lewis River Hatchery Downstream intake repair:** This project is scheduled for completion in 2014 pending completion of the NMFS BiOP for Eulachon by December 31, 2013. If not received by this date, the project will be delayed until 2015.
- **Speelyai Hatchery Intake Modifications:** This project is scheduled for completion in 2014.
- **Merwin Hatchery Ozone Upgrades:** This project started in the summer of 2013. The ozone destruct unit has been replaced and upgrades to the residual monitors will be completed this year. Replacement of the PLC will be completed by November 30, 2014.

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

The ACC attendees were informed by Adam Haspiel (USDA Forest Service) there was some kind of deadline at the end of September related to the NEPA process. Since they did not have the drawings and description of the construction and operation of the Crab Creek screen facility, Forest Service will have to go back out for public comment on the Crab Creek Acclimation Facility. That can happen as soon as January if we have everything they need for the consultation package. According to Haspiel, public review will need a 30 or 45-day comment period.

Haspiel requested PacifiCorp send its design drawings along with a description of construction procedures and operation procedures to the USFS.

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

Construction is complete; projects buttoned up for the winter; all screens pulled and stored. Water will continue to flow through Clear Creek over the winter. One week ahead of start up the stop logs will be put in place at both projects. After flows are stabilized, screens will be cleaned prior to placing fish in the ponds and periodically thereafter depending on the need.

### **Merwin Upstream Construction Status**

The FERC required “substantially complete” date is January 23, 2014. The construction contractors expect substantial completion by January 16, 2014 and final completion by April of next year.

### **M&E Plan**

The Plan calls for adult trap efficiency test to begin in May 2014 with Spring Chinook. PacifiCorp would like the ACC to consider putting the evaluation off until March 2015 (late winter steelhead) to allow for the trap to be in its best operating condition (all tweaks and adjustments complete). Shrier asked the ACC to think about doing the testing when it makes sense; wants everything working right; gives us an entire year. PacifiCorp will formalize that request with a timeline by the next ACC.

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

The floating surface collector (FSC) is back up and operational in early October 2013; the main focus was recoating; retrofitting of components (crowders, brushes; modification to pipes that affected fish counters. New pipe evaluation is ongoing; repairing tear(s) in the net (removal of side panels (wings) to repair and then reinstall). Time line is December 2013 to March 2014 for net wing removal and replacement.

PacifiCorp is considering lowering main net to be out of the way of weather conditions to avoid any further damage to main net.

A question was posed to the ACC attendees if we continue to operate the FSC when the nets are not in place. Shrier said that USFWS has concerns and wants the net wings left up as much as possible; they do not want removal of the old net wings until the new wings are ready to reinstall.

Additional discussion is required as this action is being addressed with informal consultation between PacifiCorp and USFWS.

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

Samples that suffered from the freezer failure back in 2009 are still viable; collecting new data this year continues to add to the information database for stable isotope analysis. Pit tag detector on Clear Creek found 6 tags from acclimation coho that seemed to have remained in the upper watershed. One of those tagged coho was capture and eaten by an angler. He bit the PIT tag and later returned it to WDFW.

## 2014 ACC Meeting Schedule

The ACC agreed to conduct the 2014 meetings on the second Thursday of every month.

## Other Topics

Number of adults put up stream in 2013:

- 7,035 coho
- 579 Spring Chinook
- 741 Steelhead

*<11:00 a.m. meeting adjourned >*

## Agenda items for December 12, 2013

- Review November 14, 2013 Meeting Notes
- 2013/2014 Aquatic Fund Pre-Proposal Selection (**DECISION MAKING MEETING**)
- Study/Work Product Updates

## Public Comment

None

## Next Scheduled Meetings

December 12, 2013	January 9, 2014
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 10/10/13
- Agenda from 11/14/13
- **Attachment A** – Lewis River Aquatic Fund – Utilities Evaluation Matrix, dated October 29, 2013

Lewis River Aquatic Fund - Utilities' Evaluation of 2013/2014 Project Proposals											
No.	Applicant	Project Title	Project Schedule	Benefit	Bull Trout	Project Partners	Funding	Cost Share?	Consistency with Fund Objectives	Selected for Utilities for Full-Proposal - Y or N	Comments - Utilities
1	Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Eagle Island 2014 Knotweed Expedition	2014 - 2017	Reduction or eradication of the entire year's crop of knotweed spp., Armenian blackberry and Scotch Broom. Promoting native re-vegetation to provide erosion control, shade and nutrient cycling for wildlife and fish species in the area.	No	Cowlitz Indian Tribe, WDFW, Cowlitz Co, Noxious Weed Control Board, Clark County Veg Management	\$ 26,000.00	Yes	1 Benefit Recovery N 2 Support reintro.N 3 Enhance habitat N	Mixed support	This seems a bit of a stretch to say this project meets the fund objectives. While there are some indirect benefits, they pale in comparison to in-water habitat improvements. Requires continual eradication efforts to be successful and without long term funding commitment the success of this project beyond the stated duration is questionable. The Aquatic Fund does not pay for weed control.
	USDA Forest Service	Muddy River Tributary near Hoo Hoo Bridge	2015/2016	Restore one mile of fish habitat on tributary of Muddy River that crosses the 8322 road at Hoo Hoo Bridge. Place 200 pieces of LWD with rootwads to create 15 structures, creating rearing pools to enhance juvenile salmonid rearing habitat. Coho is the main species to benefit. *Conducted survey on 9/27/13 revealing 2 coho redds from landlocked coho. Government furloughs restricted subsequent surveys.	No	Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mt. St. Helens Institute	\$ 38,000.00	Yes	1 Benefit Recovery Y 2 Support reintro. Y 3 Enhance habitat Y	Y	It appears that improvements may provide additional habitat for coho since there is already some existing use albeit those were landlocked. Currently, this tributary is not part of the coho sample framework for upper river surveys. Is not clear why, but at some point it was decided that this is not a spawning stream (for transported adult anadromous species). Therefore, the benefits need to be evaluated further despite the two landlocked coho that were observed in the tributary. The stream reach appears to have potential for transported adult spawning. Progeny from both residualized or transported coho have important value in meeting the reintroduction's goals.
	USDA Forest Service	Lewis River Alcove near 90480 Road	2015/2017	Restore approx. 200-300 feet of alcove habitat on the Lewis River. Place appx. 60 pieces of LWM in the alcove to improve rearing habitat. Coho salmon primary species to benefit from these actions, however steelhead and Chinook juveniles may also use this alcove.	No	Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Mt. St. Helens Institute	\$ 25,000.00	Yes	1 Benefit Recovery Y 2 Support reintro. Y 3 Enhance habitat Y	Y	It should be made clear that the benefits are to juveniles - not necessarily adults. Contractors have observed considerable amounts of coho spawning in upper Lewis side channels this year. Contingent on receiving GPS points of this years spawner surveys, this project may directly enhance coho spawning habitat.
	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	Eagle Island - North Channel Restoration	2015/2016	Construction funding to implement designs for modifying the Lewis River at the upstream end of Eagle Island in order to increase flows into the North Channel to benefit salmonid habitat. LCFEG was awarded \$167,000 to create designs to address flow-related habitat impairments (copy of designs and report provided)	No	SRFB, LCFEG	\$ 100,000.00	Yes	1 Benefit Recovery Y 2 Support reintro. Y 3 Enhance habitat Y	Y	Another phase in the process of improving the north Channel of Eagle Island. Has the river responded to the previous efforts? This is a long term problem and has slowly become worse every year. Not sure the expected results are sustainable over the long term. The river will choose its own path. Does this project create boating hazards? It should be mentioned that numerous winter steelhead redds are observed on the bar each year, occurring specifically where the preliminary construction documents call for cutting. Preliminary construction documents seem vague when compared to the potential effects of the restoration. Is there a hydraulic output model post restoration conditions? Appendix B page 16 of the hydraulics output shows the river left edge of the proposed reach having higher stream powers even during the two year event. The preliminary construction documents call for filling of this edge. I am concerned sediment diameters required to resist these stream powers may be too large for biological benefit. Furthermore, if cutting material from adjacent bar (smaller diameters) are used to fill the left edge this introduced sediment may adversely effect immediate downstream conditions. Specifically at the head of the recently constructed side channel just downstream of the proposed project.
	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	Haapa Habitat Enhancement	2015/2016	Restore critical habitat for ESA-listed salmonids in one of the highest priority reaches in the lower NF Lewis River. Designs focus on increasing spawning and rearing habitat, including pool quantity and quality, rearing cover and refugia, and spawning habitat for fall Chinook, coho, steelhead and chum. Enhance 1,000 lineal feet (5 acres) using large wood structures; creation of 1,000 lineal feet of connected low-flow side-channel habitat; restore native riparian plan community on up to 9 acres; construct bar apex jams, enhance/create appx. 800 feet of off-channel alcove habitat.	No	WDFW, Clark County Parks and Recr, PacifiCorp, BPA, Cowlitz Indian Tribe, WA DNR Aquatics and local private landowners.	\$ 75,000.00	Yes	1 Benefit Recovery Y 2 Support reintro. Y 3 Enhance habitat Y	Y	This project should benefit adults in the mainstem and juvenile rearing in the side channel. The project should have favorable ecological response. Supportive of all components with the exception of No. 1 and No. 2. The benefits of these two components should be detailed out and have data to support expenditures. Placing LWD in the mainstem Lewis River seems risky. Will the expected benefits be sustainable over the long term? Does this project create boating hazards?
5							\$ 264,000.00				
Totals							\$ 264,000.00				
Total non-bull trout Funds							\$ 264,000.00				
Bull Trout Funds							\$ -				
Fund Objectives:											
1. Benefit fish recovery throughout the North Fork Lewis River, priority to federal ESA-listed species											
2. Support the re-introduction of anadromous fish throughout the basin											
3. Enhance fish habitat in the Lewis River Basin, with priority given to North Fork Lewis River											

# Fish Facility Report

## Swift Floating Surface Collector

October 2013

Day	Coho		Chinook		Steelhead		Cutthroat			Bull Trout			Planted Rainbow
	fry	smolt	fry	smolt	fry	smolt	fry	< 13 in	> 13 in	fry	< 13 in	> 13 in	
01													
02													
03													
04													
05													
06													
07													
08	0	11	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
09	0	9	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	22	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	8	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	4	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	14	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	10	0	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	0	22	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
20	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	0	5	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	0	3	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
30	0	3	0	6	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
31	0	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

<b>Monthly</b>	0	137	0	67	0	2	1	5	0	0	0	1	1
<b>Annual</b>	0	14988	0	1043	0	164	48	536	6	0	8	2	815

Deballasting concluded on 10/7 and normal FSC operations resumed thereafter.

No adult steelhead (kelts) were collected.

All coho, Chinook and steelhead smolts and cutthroat were transported downstream.

All fry, bull trout, and planted rainbow were returned to Swift Reservoir.



Friday, November 1st, 2013