

**FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
January 14, 2010
Conference Call**

ACC Participants Present (11)

Jeremiah Doyle, PacifiCorp Energy
Diana Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD
David Hu, US Forest Service
LouEllyn Jones, USFWS
Eric Kinne, WDFW
Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp Energy
Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy
Kate Miller, Trout Unlimited
Todd Olson, PacifiCorp Energy
Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy
Shannon Wills, Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Calendar:

February 11, 2010	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
March 11, 2010	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro

Assignments from January 14, 2010 Meeting:	Status:
McCune: Notify all ACC representatives via email of the informal approval of the 12/10/09 meeting notes and request comment, if any, within the 7-day period.	Complete – 1/14/10

Assignments from November 12, 2009 Meeting:	Status:
Kinne and Adams: Review fish trap daily return numbers and confirm best 30-day shut down period to address hatchery and construction needs specific to Merwin Trap.	Complete – 2/11/10 Best shut down period: 7/16 through 8/15

Assignments from April 9, 2009 Meeting:	Status:
ACC: Further investigate WDFW carcass survey methods established in 1978 and determine “next step” regarding modifications needed, if any, to the 1978 methods.	Pending as of 12/10/09

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:10am. Shrier reviewed the agenda for the day and requested any changes/additions. Shrier informed the ACC attendees that he would like to add discussion about the Low Impact Hydro Institute (LIHI) application.

Shrier requested comments and/or changes to the ACC Draft 12/10/09 meeting notes. No changes were requested. The meeting notes were informally approved at 9:15am.

However, many ACC representatives were not present today so for those ACC representatives absent and in accordance with the Terrestrial and Aquatic Coordination Committees Structure and Ground Rules it states:

“The Coordinators will notify absent parties of the “informal” decision via email promptly after the TCC or ACC meeting and request a decision response by the end of the 7 day period. If a Representative fails to respond in the 7-day period, their silence will be considered as no objection to the decision”.

Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp) will notify all ACC representatives via email and request comment, if any, within the 7-day period.

Hatchery and Supplementation (H&S) Plan Subgroup Update

Erik Lesko (PacifiCorp Energy) informed the ACC attendees that the H&S report for last year’s activities will be available by the end of this month.

In addition, the collection window will be broken up in two phases

Phase 1 - Pure North Fork Lewis River mainstems

Phase 2 – wild winter steelhead from the Cascade Stratum (Washougal to Cowlitz R.)

When the annual operating plan for winter steelhead is provided to the H&S Plan Subgroup this week Lesko will schedule a Subgroup meeting approximately 2-3 weeks after.

David Hu (US Forest Service) joined

Swift Net Pens Update

Todd Olson (PacifiCorp Energy) informed the ACC attendees that by the end of June 2010 the net pens must be purchased and installed for use. PacifiCorp is moving forward with purchasing the net pens (similar to the high density polyethylene pens the State uses). PacifiCorp has made the pen design available for ACC review via email on January 5, 2010 from K. McCune and has received comments from WDFW. Based on comments, the pen design has been modified for additional safety and operational aspects.

Study Updates

Shrier and Lesko provided the following study updates:

Swift Upper Release – PacifiCorp is waiting for receipt of a vacuum valve prior to completing the project and releasing flows. The vacuum valve may not arrive by the end of January. The target date for completion is early February. The flows could be re-

established now but PacifiCorp does not want to entice the fish into the new habitat channel, and then have to shut off the water flow again to install the valve.

Swift Downstream & Merwin Upstream Fish Passage Designs – Submitted 100% design to the FERC on 12/23/09.

6.1.6 (c) - Response to Flow Reductions or Interruptions – The Plan will be distributed to the ACC next week and will be included on the February agenda for discussion.

Yale Spill Net Plan – FERC notified PacifiCorp that they find the concept as laid out acceptable. The FERC wants to include a maintenance plan and failure mode analysis. The deadline for the Plan is December 26, 2012.

Hatchery Upgrades –

Lewis River Hatchery Ponds 13 & 14 – In procurement; due to start Pond 14 on March 14, 2010. Inspection of upstream intake pipe will take place during the construction of Ponds 13 and 14 in May.

Merwin Hatchery – Rearing ponds modifications set to begin in June 2010; in permitting now; out for bids February 2010.

Speelyai Hatchery Modifications – not out for bid yet; in procurement.

Burrows Pond (2nd Bank) – designs being finalized; bids out in February 2010; construction to begin July 2010.

Swift Net Pens – Comments received from WDFW; integrated the comments into the current design.

Shannon Wills (Cowlitz Indian Tribe) joined

2009/2010 Aquatic Fund Pre-proposal selections – PacifiCorp notified the pre-proposal parties on December 23, 2009, of which projects were selected and which ones were not selected for full proposal. For those projects accepted, the parties were invited to provide a presentation to the ACC at the February 11, 2010 ACC meeting.

2009 Aquatic Fund Accounting –

Lewis River Aquatics fund (Bull Trout): \$519,901.13

Lewis River Aquatics Fund (Resource Projects): \$236,734.67*

*\$50,000 is pending distribution in 2010 to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe for an approved 2009 project

Addition contribution of \$200,000 will be made to the Lewis River Aquatics Fund (Resource Projects) on April 30, 2010.

Release Pond Design - PacifiCorp is seeking to secure an easement with the property owner as rezoning the property may not be available and would likely take a great deal of time to go through the process which would jeopardize the deadline of September 2010.

Given an easement can be acquired; PacifiCorp is planning to complete the design by summer 2010.

Acclimation Pond Plan – A level logger has been installed at Crab Creek for flow records, which is related to NEPA requirements to define impacts of withdrawing water; checking again in March 2010. In addition, a second level logger has been installed for the purpose of measuring barometric pressure.

PacifiCorp has met with the US Forest Service with developing wetland delineation and cultural reports for NEPA by fall 2010. The deadline for NEPA is September 2010 to meet the compliance deadline of December 26, 2012.

Stranding Study – Nothing new to report

Kate Miller (Trout Unlimited) joined

New Topics

Shrier suggested he conduct a presentation at the February 11, 2010, ACC meeting about PacifiCorp's Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) application for certification of the Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects. The presentation will include comparisons to the Lewis River project such as Nisqually, Skagit, Chelan, and Pelton Round Butte to provide ACC representatives more detailed information prior to submittal of their written submittals to LIHI by the deadline of March 3, 2010. Shrier requested that ACC withhold their comments to LIHI until after his presentation and discussion at the next ACC meeting.

In addition, Olson communicated to the ACC attendees that PacifiCorp's legal counsel is working diligently on completing the contractual requirements needed specific to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe 2009 aquatic fund project (Plas Newydd RM 2.0 Off-Channel Habitat Enhancement Project). Considerable headway was made over the holidays.

Agenda items for February 11, 2010

- Review January 14, 2010 Meeting Notes
- Aquatic Fund Proposal Presentations
- Low Impact Hydropower Institute Presentation – Frank Shrier
- Proposed USFWS Revision to Bull Trout Critical Habitat
- Response to Flow Reductions or Interruptions (6.1.6)
- Study/Work Product Updates

Public Comment

None

Next Scheduled Meetings

February 11, 2010	March 11, 2010
Merwin Hydro Control Center	Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA	Ariel, WA
9:00am – 3:00pm	9:00am – 3:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Handouts

- Final Agenda
- Draft ACC Meeting Notes 12/10/09