

## Lewis River Fish Passage Subcommittee Meeting

### Agenda

Wednesday April 20, 2022

3:00 to 5:00 pm

Teams

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#### Introductions

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#### Review agenda and meeting notes

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#### Introduce Eric Hansen

Todd/Eric

- PacifiCorp Project Manager – Yale Downstream Passage
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#### Yale Downstream Passage Status and Near-Term Design Activities

Eric/Chris

- ID major considerations
  - Status of studies
  - Key design decisions
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#### Development of Habitat Preparation Plan

Erik

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#### Updates

All

- updates from others
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**Next meeting** – May 18<sup>th</sup> (42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Mount St. Helens Eruption)

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**FINAL Meeting Notes**  
**Lewis River License Implementation**  
**Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC)**  
**Fish Passage Subcommittee**  
**April 20, 2022**  
**MS Teams Meeting**

**Attendees:**

Steve West – LCFRB  
Peggy Miller – WDFW  
Jim Byrne – TU  
Bryce Glaser – WDFW  
Josua Holowatz – WDFW  
Jonathan Stumpf – TU  
Bridget Moran – American Rivers  
Eli Asher – Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
Bill Sharp – Yakama Nation  
Jeffrey Garnett – USFWS  
Logan Negherbon – NMFS  
Todd Olson – PacifiCorp  
Eric Hansen – PacifiCorp  
Erik Lesko – PacifiCorp  
Chris Karchesky – PacifiCorp  
Amanda Froberg – Cowlitz PUD  
Sam Gibbons – WDFW

Bryce briefly reviewed the meeting agenda sent out by Peggy. The group conducted a round of introductions.

Eric Hansen (large project PM for PacifiCorp) briefed the group on his initial data collection, modeling, and other efforts to develop the designs for the Yale downstream facility. He reported that the first step in developing and evaluating alternatives for the facility was data collection. He explained that the PacifiCorp team will include expert consultants, most of whom he hopes will remain on the team over the long term.

Eric reported that PacifiCorp is proceeding with a detailed bathymetric survey to inform hydrodynamic modeling using *FLOW-3D*. He explained that they are very early in the design phase, and that many parameters will feed into alternatives for evaluation. Bryce asked which design criteria were being considered in developing the downstream collector, and Eric explained that hundreds of individual criteria could be used—e.g., currents, timing, wind, fish behavior, physical geography, etc. He confirmed that this is a separate issue from performance criteria stipulated in the Settlement Agreement.

Chris provided an overview of the fish behavior study underway for spring 2022. Objectives include establishing transit time, behavior within the forebay, relationships between environmental

variables and powerhouse operation with fish behavior and describing fish behavior in the entire reservoir. He showed slides outlining study design for the acoustic tagging study, and reported that work would begin next week, with tagging beginning in the first week of May 2022. He expects fairly streamlined technical memos in August 2022 to help inform alternatives selection.

Chris also provided additional detail regarding the forebay hydraulic modeling exercise, which includes a 3-dimensional computational fluid dynamics (CFD) model. He reported that the target timeline for technical memo is fall/early winter 2022 for use in evaluating design alternatives. Responding to questions from Bill, Chris predicted that debris will be less problematic at Yale than it is at the Swift FSC, volume-wise, but he said that it is a consideration in design.

Bryce led a discussion of how this group will review materials and engage the ACC moving forward. Todd explained that with the compressed timelines, PacifiCorp has taken an all-hands approach. Bryce and Jim Byrne expressed desires to provide review and feedback on the design process early and often. Todd expressed concern that formalizing reviews could slow the engineering process. Bryce suggested that a living document/library with project progress would be helpful for the committee to review.

Erik Lesko provided an initial draft of a Yale Habitat Preparation Plan (HPP) and offered to distribute the plan to the group for review and comment prior to ACC review and decision. Erik explained that the HPP is a requirement of the SA and is expected to provide marine derived nutrients and substrate tilling by spawning fish. He noted that the plan is roughly based on the HPP used to prepare habitat above Swift. The group discussed current recreational fishery regulations and concluded that changes in regulation may be necessary to prevent HPP fish from being targeted and retained by anglers. In response to a question from Josua, Erik explained that the HPP is a separate effort from the nutrient enhancement project conducted by the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group using ACC funds. The group discussed target numbers for HPP fish, and advantages of selecting late vs. early coho stocks. Bryce suggested that optimizing HPP operations would be a suitable topic for the Aquatic Technical Subgroup (ATS) to address. Without objection, the Yale HPP was delegated to the ATS for draft review.

Eli will send invites to the Cowlitz Teams page to the Utilities' participants and Bill Sharp to ensure access for all.

For the next meeting, Todd expects to introduce Nathan Higa, who is leading the design projects for upstream transport. He suggested that the group could have an introductory discussion about locating upstream transport facilities. Bryce reminded the group that the ACC had raised questions about the long-term transport vision, and that this group would be an appropriate place to start that discussion at the next meeting.