

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

Date & Time: Thursday, April 11, 2019
9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

Contacts: Erik Lesko: (503) 412-8401

Time	Discussion Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review Agenda and ACC 3/14/19 Meeting Notes ➤ Comment & Accept Agenda and 3/14/19 Meeting Notes
9:10 a.m.	Public Comment Opportunity
9:15 a.m.	Bull Trout Presentation, Mike Hudson (WDFW)
9:45 a.m.	Aquatic Fund Process Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Aquatic Fund Announcement ➤ Evaluation Criteria ➤ Process Timeline ➤ Pre and Full Proposals
10:30 a.m.	Break
10:45 a.m.	Aquatic Fund Process Review (cont'd)
12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:30 p.m.	Aquatic Fund Process Review (cont'd)
1:30 p.m.	Study/Work Product Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ATS Plan Update ○ Merwin Upstream Passage – Status ○ Swift Floating Surface Collector – Status ○ Lewis River In-Lieu Status
1:45 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 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/hl/lr.html#
2:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Join by Phone
+1 (503) 813-5252 [Portland, Ore.]
+1 (855) 499-5252 [Toll Free]

Conference ID: 6325627

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
April 11, 2019
Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA

ACC Representatives Present (12)

Kim McCune, PacifiCorp
 Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp
 Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp
 Jeremiah Doyle, PacifiCorp
 Eli Asher, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
 Tom Wadsworth, WDFW
 Peggy Miller, WDFW
 Mike Hudson, USFWS
 Jamie Lamperth, WDFW
 Amanda Froberg, Cowlitz PUD
 Ruth Tracy, US Forest Service
 Steve West, LCFRB

Calendar:

May 9, 2019	ACC Meeting	Merwin HCC
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Assignments from April 11, 2019	Status
McCune: Email revised aquatic fund process document to the ACC for an additional 7-day review period.	Complete – 4/15/19

Assignments from March 14, 2019	Status
Josh Ashline – Contact NMFS sampling permit department for their response on NOR Tracking and report back to the ACC and perhaps discuss other tagging options.	

Parking Lot Items	Status
Tracy: Stage 0 webinar PowerPoint presentation to ACC.	Tentative – May or June 2019
All: What are things to focus on; Salmon Port	

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Erik Lesko (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:05am and reviewed the agenda. Tom Wadsworth (WDFW) requested the addition of Lewis River flows update. Lesko also reviewed the March 14, 2019 meeting notes. The meeting notes were approved with minor housekeeping changes at 9:20 a.m.

Public Comment

None

Bull Trout Presentation, Mike Hudson (USFWS)

Mike Hudson (USFWS) provided an overview of the Lewis River Bull Trout: Synthesis of Known Information for ACC review. The document can also be viewed on the Lewis River website at the following link:

http://www.pacificorp.com/content/dam/pacificorp/doc/Energy_Sources/Hydro/Hydro_Licensing/Lewis_River/li/acc/04112019_LR_BT_Known_Info.pdf

Hudson provided a background on the Lewis River Bull Trout Recovery Team (LRBTRT) to include the bullets listed below. In addition, the LRBTRT is made up of representatives from the Forest Service, Trout Unlimited, LCFRB, USGS, USFWS, WDFW, PacifiCorp and Cowlitz PUD.

- Lewis River Bull Trout Recovery Team
- Subgroup of the Lewis River Aquatic Coordination Committee
- Analogous to bull trout core area working groups
- Regularly met for several years to identify and implement needed RME actions to benefit bull trout in the Lewis River subbasin

Hudson informed the ACC attendees that the synthesis document summarizes information on:

- The synthesis document summarizes information on:
- Habitat
- Demographic characteristics
- Vital rates
- Spatial distribution
- Movement patterns
- Genetic diversity
- Limiting factors
- Identifies data gaps and Research monitor & evaluation needs

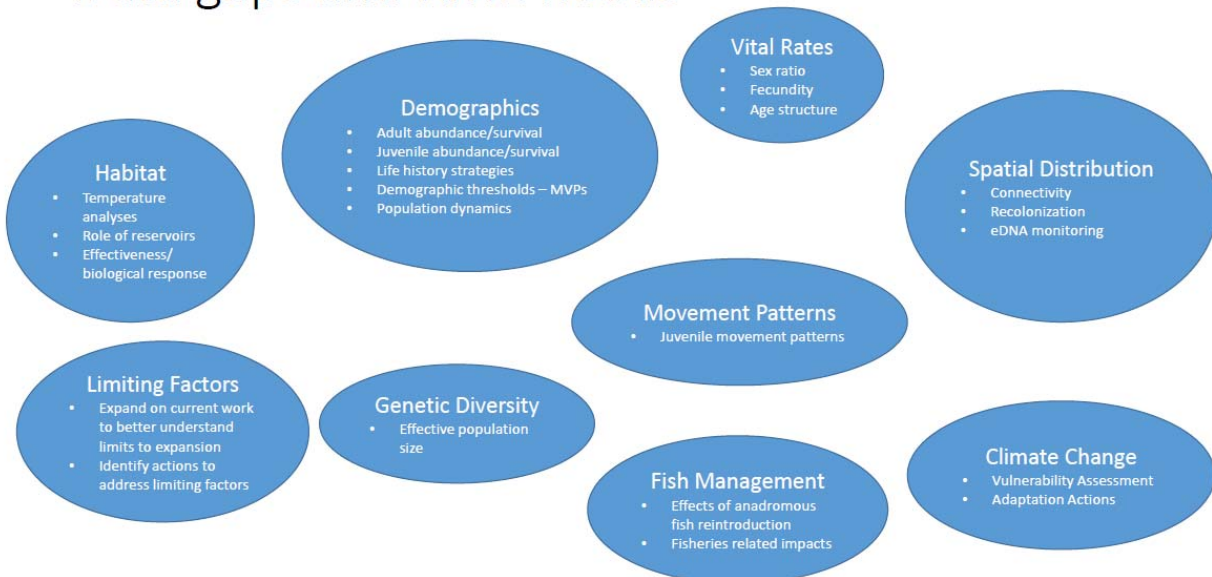
Hudson noted that the data is abundant but the team needed to synthesis data first to include but not limited to:

- Demographic characteristics (effective population size)
- Age structure (age at maturity)
- Vital rates (survival & growth)
- Spatial distribution (length-frequency of bull trout in tributaries, occupancy and distribution and eDNA analysis which was implemented 2017)
- Movement patterns (PIT monitoring, radiotelemetry implemented a few years ago which allows the ability to find every one of the fish, screw traps)
- Genetic diversity – spawning populations; these are genetically distinct; info to use for mgmt. and other populations in the future
- Survival – 1998 big jump due to this was the year bull trout was listed

Hudson reviewed limiting factors, data gaps and research monitor & evaluation needs:

- Temperature (major limiting factory)
- Barriers
- Low discharge
- Frequent scour events
- Lack of channel complexity
- Lack of optimal stream depth

Data gaps and RME needs



Proposed new work include the following bullets below. eDNA will be conducted outside of the known spawning areas. Backed off genetic analysis in 2017 but in the next couple years will begin a more effective effort. All will feed into development of a monitoring plan in the future.

- Adult abundance/survival
- Sex ratio
- Fecundity

<Break 10:10am>

<Reconvene 10:20am>

Lewis River Lower River Flows – WDFW commented that it would be helpful to have a regular Lewis River lower river flows update. The what, why and future expectations of inflow, reservoir levels, elevation and outflows. Lesko suggested WDFW email Briana Weatherly (PacifiCorp) and copy Lesko indicating specifically what they need. WDFW wants PacifiCorp to provide inflow data monthly. Peggy Miller (WDFW) said she will email Weatherly, Lesko, Todd Olson (PacifiCorp) and Amanda Froberg (Cowlitz PUD) and discuss details of their needs.

Study/Work Product Updates

Aquatic Technical Subgroup (ATS)

Lesko informed the ACC attendees that the ATS is on an aggressive schedule. The 5-yr rewrite of the H&S plan is on target for a December 31, 2019 completion and submittal to the FERC. The ATS is still considering if they will complete the independent periodic review this year. The plan is to have it both the periodic review and ACC 60-day review done concurrently to meet the December 31 due date to FERC. The ACC should have a draft ready for review by October 2019.

Lewis River In-Lieu Status

Josh Ashline (NMFS) communicated via email on April 10, 2019 that the in-lieu decision continues to be evaluated by headquarters staff, and we anticipate a timely decision (by April 12, 2019) on their part.

ATE Update

Karchesky (PacifiCorp) provided a brief update for the ongoing Adult Telemetry Evaluation (ATE) on winter steelhead below Merwin Dam. He mentioned that about eighty (80) fish had been radio tagged so far. A more detailed summary will be provided next month, although based on preliminary data it appears that trap naïve fish tagged in the lower river were out performing those tagged at Merwin Trap and re-released downstream, or trap non-naïve fish. These results are consistent with those reported last year (2018) for winter steelhead.

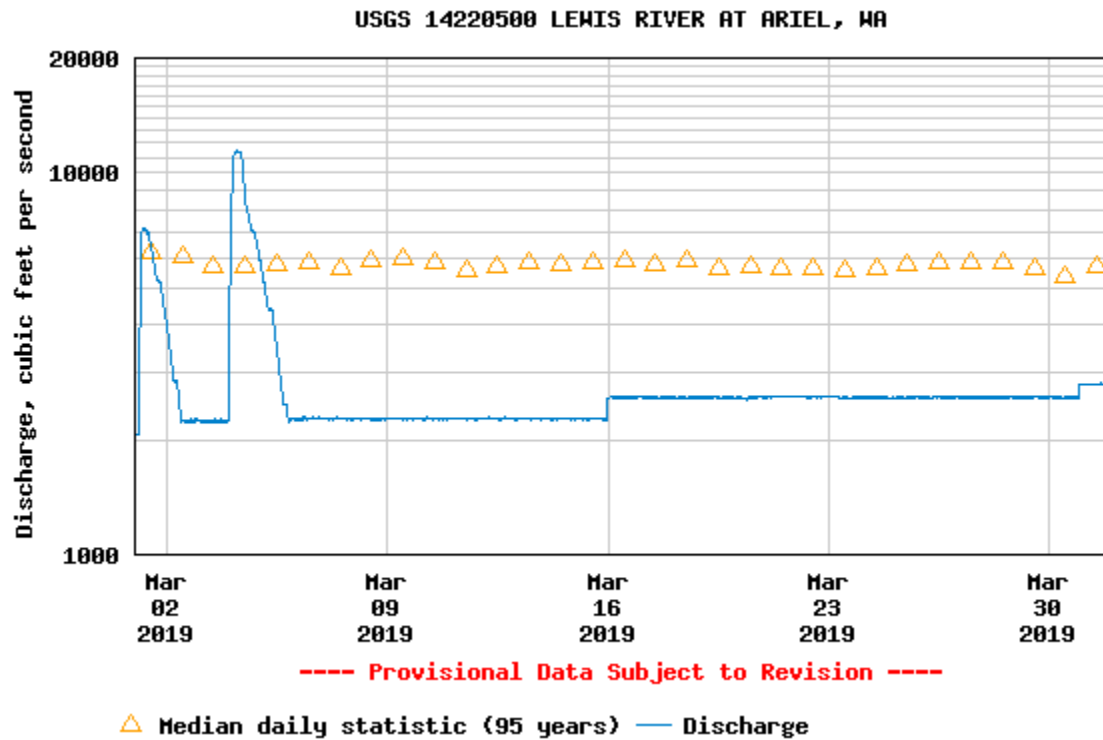
Merwin Fish Collection Facility and General Operations ([Attachment A](#))

During the month of March, a total of 152 fish were captured at the Merwin Dam Adult Fish Collection Facility. The majority of these fish were winter steelhead (146– 96%). Four (4) spring Chinook were captured during the month of March.

The Merwin Trap ran continuously during the month of March.

River flow below Merwin Dam remained near the required minimum flows throughout much of the month (2,200 cfs from March 2 to March 15, and 2,500 from March 16 to March 30, and 2,700 on March 31). Two brief high water events occurred early in the month reaching 7,180 cfs on March 1, 2019, and 11,500 on March 4, 2019.

Discharge, cubic feet per second



Upstream Transport ([Attachment A](#))

Seven (7) Blank Wire Tag (BWT) winter steelhead were captured in December 2018 and were transported upstream as part of the 2019 run year. An additional 38 adults were taken upstream in January 2019 and another 30 in February and 106 in March for a total of 181 BWT winter steelhead transported as part of the 2019 run year. One additional winter steelhead of natural origin (NOR) containing a PIT tag from the upper basin was also transported upstream as part of the 2019 run year.

Run Year	Male	Female	Total adult winter steelhead taken upstream of Swift Dam
2012	141	48	189
2013	440	301	741
2014	452	581	1,033
2015	746	477	1,223
2016	378	376	754
2017	331	261	592

2018	682	535	1,227
2019	106	76	182

One (1) NOR spring Chinook (male) was taken upstream in March 2019 with the remaining three (3) hatchery origin (HOR) spring Chinook taken to Speelyai Hatchery for brood.

Swift Floating Surface Collector (Attachment A)

The Swift FSC remained in operation throughout the month of March. A total of 813 out-migrants were collected along with an additional 13 planted rainbow trout. In the last 72 hours the fish numbers are increasing dramatically. The vast majority are oversized (super smolts). The acoustic telemetry study is underway for the next couple of months.

Other

7.1.1 Large Woody Debris Program (Funding) – The ACC had some questions about the use of the \$10,000 LWD fund outside of the Lewis River basin. Lesko provided this detail from the Lewis River Settlement Agreement to address ACC questions:

*..... In addition, within 180 days after Issuance of the New License for the Merwin Project and annually thereafter, PacifiCorp shall contribute \$10,000 to the Aquatics Fund (Section 7.5) that will be earmarked for LWD projects in the mainstem of the Lewis River below Merwin Dam that benefit anadromous fish. **If there are not sufficient LWD projects, or if the LWD program is suspended as provided in Section 7.1.4 below, PacifiCorp, at the request of the ACC, shall use the funds for other Aquatics Fund projects that benefit anadromous fish in the mainstem of the Lewis River below Merwin Dam and then for other projects in the Lewis River Basin below Merwin Dam. For any LWD project below Merwin Dam, PacifiCorp shall provide for the transportation of LWD at its own expense to a staging area provided by the entity or individual carrying out the project.***

Aquatic Fund Process Review

The ACC continued its comprehensive review of the aquatic fund process documents that they had originally started last September, 2018.

Parking Lot Items	Status
Begin review of aquatic fund document edits no later than May 2019. The 2018 edits are attached to the September 13, 2018 ACC Meeting notes. Wordsmith item 4 & 5 of Attachment D, Evaluation Criteria.	Complete – 4/11/19

The following documents were modified slightly to include housekeeping and clarifying changes to assist the applicants with providing thorough and detailed aquatic fund projects for ACC consideration.

- Announcement Letter
- Attachment A – Preproposal Form
- Attachment B – Full Proposal Form
- Attachment D – Evaluation Criteria
- Attachment E – Aquatic Fund Process Timeline

Break and Working Lunch - 11:50am
Reconvene – 12:10pm

Since a number of ACC representatives were absent today McCune will submit the revised documents to the entire ACC for an additional 7-day review and comment period.

In addition, the ACC agreed it was beneficial to distribute the announcement in May 2019 in order to provide additional time for interested parties to submit their project proposals.

Agenda items for May 9, 2019

- April 11, 2019 Meeting Notes
- NOR Tracking Update; NOAA response
- Stage 0 webinar PowerPoint presentation to ACC; tentative
- Upriver salmonid distribution map - Karchesky
- In Lieu Update
- Study/Work Product Update

Adjourn 1:50pm

Next Scheduled Meeting:

May 9, 2019
Merwin HCC
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Handouts & Attachments:

- Meeting Notes from 3/14/19
- Agenda from 4/11/19
- **Attachment A** - Lewis River Fish Passage Report (March 2019)

Lewis River Fish Passage Report

March 2018

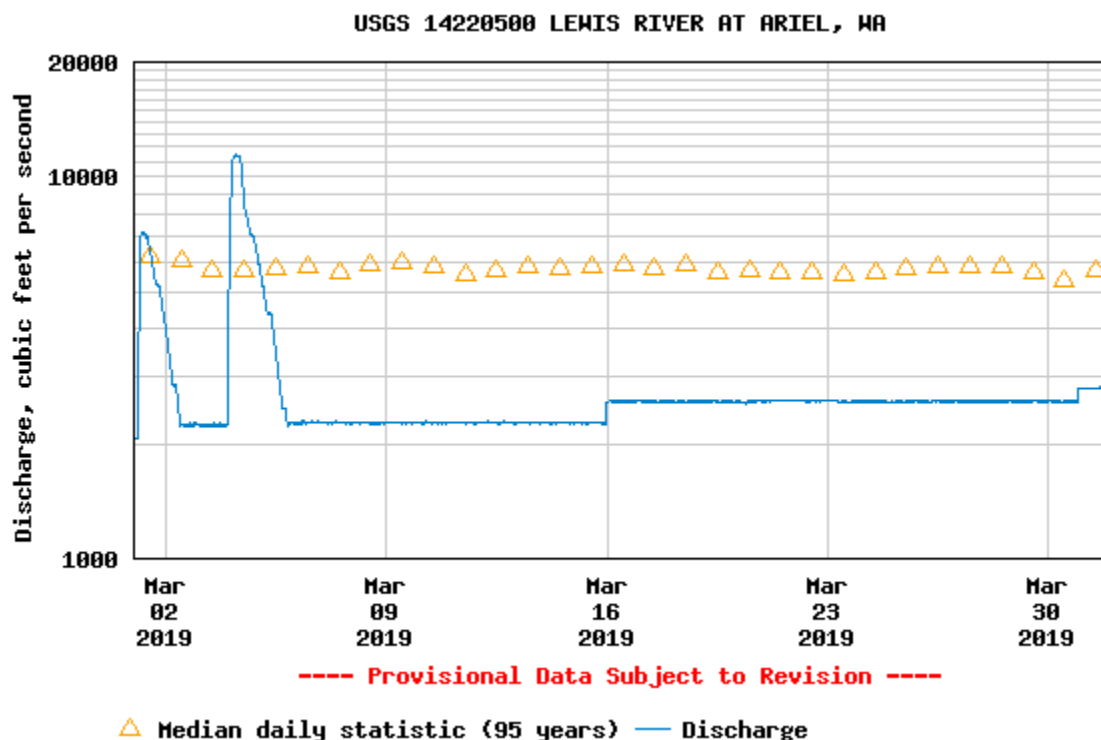
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Floating Surface Collector (FSC)

The Swift FSC remained in operation throughout the month of March. A total of 813 out-migrants were collected along with an additional 13 planted rainbow trout.

Fish Facility Report
Swift Floating Surface Collector
March 2019

Day	Coho			Chinook			Steelhead				Cutthroat			Bull Trout	Planted Rainbow	Total
	fry	parr	smolt	fry	parr	smolt	fry	parr	smolt	kelt	fry	< 13 in	> 13 in			
01	13	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
02	10	3	4	0	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
03	2	4	0	0	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	20
04	3	2	2	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
05	5	3	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
06	5	10	2	0	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
07	16	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
08	7	5	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
09	8	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
10	1	6	0	0	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	16
11	8	8	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25
12	5	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	12
13	4	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
14	4	8	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	17
15	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	10
16	3	4	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
17	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
18	0	11	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
19	11	0	4	0	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21
20	10	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
21	9	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
22	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
23	3	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
24	10	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
25	49	6	8	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	66
26	38	3	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	49
27	30	7	13	0	1	8	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	61
28	68	4	3	0	1	12	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	91
29	27	5	5	0	2	21	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	66
30	27	6	36	0	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	4	88
31	18	0	11	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	34
Monthly	401	135	111	3	40	108	1	0	4	0	0	13	0	0	13	829
Total	467	383	603	3	49	176	1	1	7	0	0	21	1	0	16	1728

