

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
May 11, 2006
Ariel, WA

ACC Participants Present (23)

John Barr, Mobrاند Jones & Stokes
 Craig Burley, WDFW
 Jim Byrne, WDFW
 Michelle Day, NMFS
 Jeremiah Doyle, CH2M Hill
 Diana Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD
 Adam Haspiel, USDA Forest Service
 LouEllyn Jones, USFWS
 Janne Kaje, Steward & Associates
 Keith Keown, WDFW
 Eric Kinne, WDFW
 Curt Leigh, WDFW (via teleconference at 10:10am)
 Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp Energy
 Kaitlin Lovell, Trout Unlimited
 Tammy Mackey, American Rivers and Trout Unlimited
 Jim Malinowski, Fish First
 Kevin Malone, Mobrاند Jones & Stokes
 Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy
 Todd Olson, PacifiCorp Energy
 Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy
 Brett Swift, American Rivers
 Richard Turner, NMFS
 John Weinheimer, WDFW

Calendar:

May 30, 2006	TCC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
May 30, 2006	ACC H&S Plan Subgroup Meeting	WDFW - Vancouver, WA
June 8, 2006	ACC Meeting	WDFW - Vancouver, WA

Assignments from May 11th Meeting:	Status:
McCune: Email the "revised" draft 4/13/06 meeting notes to all ACC participants for a 7-day review process.	Complete – 5/17/06
PacifiCorp to follow-up with YN on Supplementation Plan	Complete – 5/15/06
Olson: Review the Settlement Agreement to identify specific articles that require the completed H&S Plan for implementation of the articles and to use this analysis to determine the completion data of the H&S Plan.	Complete – 6/8/06

Assignments from April 13th Meeting:	Status:
Olson/McCune: Notify the ACC via email that the next ACC meeting (5/11/06) is dedicated to H&S discussions and include the issues/agenda items to be resolved.	Complete – 4/21/06 and 5/11/06
Day: Email electro-anesthesia information she has to Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp Energy) for distribution to the ACC.	Complete – 4/20/06
Olson: Provide a final Funding Proposal Report to include the ACC agreed upon modifications.	Complete – 5/8/06
Lesko: Contact Michelle Day and inform her that PacifiCorp Energy is discussing shutting ladder down for 2-3 month period to construct pond 15.	Complete – 4/20/06

Assignments from March 9th Meeting:	Status:
Olson: Follow up with Adam Haspiel (USDA Forest Service) regarding conditions around contracting and fund distribution.	In process - USFS working to get PacifiCorp a example-draft project contract.

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:15am and conducted a review of the Agenda for the day. He asked if the ACC would like any changes. No changes were requested.

Shrier requested a round table introduction of all attendees.

Shrier requested any comments and/or changes to the ACC 4/13/06 draft meeting notes. Craig Burley (WDFW) requested addition and clarification on page 4 relating to the Lewis River Hatchery & Supplementation Plan to read as follows:

Burley asked that PacifiCorp Energy staff review the Settlement Agreement to identify specific articles that require the completed H&S Plan for implementation of the articles and to use this analysis to determine the completion data of the H&S Plan. The ACC can then use this information to back plan a schedule for completing the H&S Plan.

Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp Energy) to add missing text on page 4 which was provided by Trout Unlimited and American Rivers (see Attachment 1 of 4/13/06 meeting notes) as follows:

It is impossible to reach any conclusion without the analysis required by the Settlement Agreement.

All changes were approved by the ACC at 9:25am. The ACC requested McCune email the revised draft to all ACC participants for a 7-day review process.

Merwin Upstream Collection and Transport Facility – Criteria Document (Update)

Shrier notified the ACC verbally that PacifiCorp Energy is beginning the 30% design and will follow up in writing. Shrier requested any comments from the ACC soon as we are proceeding to the design phase.

Lewis River Hatchery & Supplementation Plan (H&S Plan) Discussion

Todd Olson (PacifiCorp Energy) communicated to the ACC the desired structure of today's H&S Plan discussion to include review page by page to address issues in real time, modify the language and obtain agreement from all participants.

There was general discussion regarding what are the adverse impacts of hatchery populations against wild fish, improvement of hatchery survival rates, preserving wild populations and upper water shed. Shrier indicated that the driver is when we have to have juveniles ready to plant in the upper water shed.

Following is a list of some, but not all issues the ACC would like to consider as parking lot items for future discussion:

Inconsistencies with the SA	Number of juveniles by species for supplementation; consider # of acclimation ponds, location, permitting requirements (USFS – NEPA)	Ocean recruits and methods
Juvenile supplementation numbers	Wild winter steelhead CE at Swift downstream collector in year 4	Adaptive management
General hatchery practices	Operations of the collection facilities – framework of expectations to help with development of Transport Plan; impacts of collected RBT	M&E plans for above Swift
Monitoring of Anadromous/Resident interactions; evaluation of meeting overall recovery Plan	Discuss ocean recruit inconsistency statement in H&S; it's not needed??	Consideration of “Integrated” alternatives for Spring Chinook, then coho
Use of nomenclature of “transported” and “nontransported”	Pond modification in year two does not fit in with H & S Plan proposed schedule below	

General discussion continued regarding how we would deal with wild winter steelhead stock, schedule of tasks to be completed, ocean recruits methods, permitting with NMFS, associated timeline for wild winter steelhead and creating a time line ([see Attachment A for suggested timeline](#)) for appropriate submittal of an HGMP to NMFS by 8/31/06.

Craig Burley (WDFW) stressed the importance of following the language within the Settlement Agreement then if the ACC discovers inconsistencies they should further

discuss this with the ACC to avoid any inconsistencies. He further expressed the importance of soliciting input from the Yakama Nation on the supplementation plan.

Olson and Shrier communicated that they will contact the Yakama Nation and inquire what their views are on the juvenile supplementation program.

Burley thinks that the philosophy by default is that we create the H&S Plan as a first go around consistent with the Settlement Agreement then use adaptive management going forward.

Brett Swift (American Rivers) expressed that the ACC has to think about what makes sense from a program perspective.

Section 3.3.1 Steelhead - Supplementation Strategy

The ACC agreed to modify the second paragraph as follows, but reserve the right for further modification:

A total of 50,000 smolts produced from wild winter steelhead returning to the Merwin Trap (or other location if necessary) will be released from Merwin Hatchery as 1+ smolts. Upon return, adults from this program will be transported above Swift Reservoir to build a natural spawning population in the upper watershed. Adults returning from the hatchery smolt releases will only be used for reintroduction. Broodstock for the program will be derived each year from the non-enhanced natural stock in order to improve the effective genetic effective population size of the reintroduced stock. Supplementation will be conducted for 15-years, unless otherwise determined by ACC through adaptive management. Throughout this period there are no proposed trigger points that would discontinue the program prior to its completion. The 15-year period was selected as it is required in the Settlement Agreement (Section 8.5.1 of Settlement Agreement) with provision for continuation of supplementation.

The ACC agreed to strike the following text in the third paragraph:

The supplementation program may continue through year 15 so long as it does not negatively impact the metrics used to determine if the goal for this species has been met. At the completion of the initial supplementation period, both smolt and adult supplementation will be discontinued and the population will be monitored to determine if reintroduction goals have been achieved. The decision to stop the program will be made in consultation with the ACC.

3.3.2 Broodstock Origin

The ACC agreed to modify Table 3-3 as follows:

Table 3-3. Priorities for use of hatchery and natural-origin late winter steelhead broodstock (NOR)

Generation after Introduction	Broodstock Source, Number and Composition
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1 st Generation (3-4yrs)	All broodstock for juvenile releases obtained from wild adults (50 fish goal, actual number considers estimated wild fish run size); all adult returns from the juvenile program transferred to the upper watershed; 500 minimum total adults is the target but may not be met early in the program.
2 nd Generation (5-8yrs)	All broodstock for juvenile supplementation releases obtained from wild adults (not adult returns from supplemented juveniles); all adult returns from the juvenile supplementation; 500 minimum total adults is the escapement target. When adequate information is available, ACC needs to review juvenile release (or some portion) into upper basin.
3 rd Generation (9-12 yrs)	All broodstock for juvenile supplementation releases obtained from wild adults (not adult returns from supplemented juveniles); all adult returns from the juvenile supplementation; 500 minimum total adults is the escapement target
4 th Generation (12-15 yrs)	Juvenile supplementation program may be suspended per ACC review; all adults with intact adipose fins arriving at Merwin released above Swift No.1 Dam*

*WDFW and NOAA will need to establish the adult handling policy to be followed once late winter steelhead production meets abundance targets. If NOR late winter steelhead from the upper basin are marked, agencies have the ability to sort out lower basin wild fish from upper basin steelhead.

General discussion continued regarding general population size, spawning conditions, collection efficiencies, considering impacts to natural population, productivity of hatchery, moving juveniles into the upper basin and smolt production.

4.2 Ocean Recruits

Jim Malinowski (Fish First) communicated to the ACC that he wanted confirmation that jacks will not be counted as adults, as the Settlement Agreement clearly indicated jacks are not adult targets.

The ACC agreed to modify the third paragraph as follows:

Jacks are not included or counted as part of the ocean recruits analysis (May 11, 2006 ACC Meeting).

Kaitlen Lovell (Trout Unlimited) indicated that American Rivers and Trout Unlimited are not in agreement with Jim Malinowski but they are willing to move forward.

Burley suggested that a topic for further discussion is how best to handle jacks in the reintroduction moving forward.

Lunch <12:00pm>

Reconvene <12:40pm>

2.1.1 Anadromous Fish – Programs

Kevin Malone (Mobrand Jones & Stokes) directed general discussion regarding adaptation to natural environment, proportional and natural influence (P&I), integration of hatchery fish, natural origin brood, transported vs. non-transported fish, how should the species be treated up river vs. down river, fitness loss and all age analyzer model.

The ACC proposed creating a subgroup for further discussion regarding integrated vs. segregated to suggest alternative plans to present back to the ACC. The subgroup participants are:

Keith Keown, WDFW	Kaitlin Lovell, Trout Unlimited
Janne Kaje, Steward & Assoc. (Cowlitz Tribe)	Brett Swift, American Rivers
Rich Turner, NMFS	John Weinheimer, WDFW
Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy	Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp Energy
Clifford Casesseka, Yakama Nation	George Lee, Yakama Nation

In addition, John Barr (Mobrand Jones & Stokes) expressed that the subgroup's assignment is to design a strategy that puts the composite hatchery/natural populations on a trajectory that moves them toward adaptation to the natural environment.

Break <1:50pm>

Reconvene <2:05pm>

Study Updates

Shrier provided the following study updates:

Yale Entrainment Study – This work is on-going and we are collecting data, seeing some entrainment and some positive fish identification. The video field is much smaller than acoustic field. Attempting to get a better identification of species.

Merwin Tailrace Behavior Study – Eighteen wild winter steelhead tagged. Not getting many through, perhaps due to the seal activity is scaring them away. We are tagging the first group of spring Chinook on 5/12/06.

Limiting Factors Analysis – Kicking off in June '06.

Spawning Gravel Study - PacifiCorp Energy will issue yearly report for three (3) years.

Conditions in the river – High elevation snow pack not coming off, flows are dropping. According to low flow operations we are planning on dropping from 2,700 cfs to 2,540 cfs. Stage change in river is approximately ½ inch.

Agenda items for June 8, 2006

- Further discussion - Draft Hatchery & Supplementation Plan comments
 - Number of supplementation
 - Number of acclimation ponds and where located

Next Scheduled Meetings

May 30, 2006	June 8, 2006	July 13, 2006
WDFW	WDFW	Merwin Hydro Facility
Vancouver, WA	Vancouver, WA	Ariel, WA
1:00pm – 5:00pm	9:00am – 3:00pm	9:00am – 3:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 2:45p.m.

Handouts

- Final Agenda
- Draft Meeting Notes 4/13/06
- Lewis River Hatchery and Supplementation Plan – Services Review Draft, April 2006
- 2006 Final Annual Report – Lewis River Aquatic Fund Projects, May 2006

Attachment A

Hatchery & Supplementation Plan – ACC suggested timeline

