

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

Date & Time: Thursday, June 9, 2016
9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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

Contacts: Frank Shrier: (503) 320-7423

Time	Discussion Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Review Agenda and ACC 5/12/16 Meeting Notes ➤ Comment & Accept Agenda and 5/12/16 Meeting Notes
9:10 a.m.	Public Comment Opportunity
9:20 a.m.	Study/Work Product Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ M&E Update ○ Woodland Release Ponds/Permit - Status ○ Acclimation Ponds - Status ○ Merwin Upstream Passage – Status ○ Swift Floating Surface Collector – Status ○ Aquatic Fund Subgroup Effort - Update
9:45 a.m.	Safety ¹ orientation for tour
10:00 a.m.	Depart for tour and plan to return to HCC by 3:00 p.m. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Muddy River and Clear Creek Acclimation Pond Site
2:30 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#
3:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	<i>Return to HCC and Adjourn</i>

¹ Please bring rain gear and sturdy walking shoes for hiking in the forest. PacifiCorp will have 2 vehicles for transportation of up to 4 additional passengers. **NO SHORTS PLEASE!**

Join by Phone

+1 (503) 813-5252 [Portland, Ore.]

+1 (855) 499-5252 [Toll Free]

Conference ID: 848594

PLEASE BRING YOUR LUNCH

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
June 9, 2016
Merwin Hydro Control Center and Field Tour

ACC Participants Present (14)

Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp
 Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp
 Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp (via conference)
 Kim McCune, PacifiCorp
 Aaron Roberts, WDFW
 Peggy Miller, WDFW
 Pat Frazier, WDFW (via conference)
 David Howe, WDFW
 Michelle Day, NMFS
 Ruth Tracy, USDA Forest Service
 Bryce Michaelis, USDA Forest Service

Guests

Al Thomas, Columbian
 Kevin Young, WDFW
 Nathan Higa, PacifiCorp

Calendar:

June 22, 2016	ACC Meeting (Aquatic Fund Subgroup)	Merwin Hydro
July 14, 2016	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro

Assignments from June 9, 2016	Status
Shrier/McCune: Email Clear Creek and Muddy River construction drawings to the ACC.	Complete – 6/10/16
Tracy: USFS to advise PacifiCorp what action is needed to remove the Muddy River infiltration gallery and re-evaluate the NEPA.	Complete – 6/14/16

Assignments from May 12, 2016	Status
Tracy/Michaelis: Advise PacifiCorp what action is needed to remove the Clear Creek infiltration gallery and re-evaluate the NEPA.	Pending

Assignments from April 14, 2016	Status
Celedonia & Doyle: Flesh out a Yale HPP study plan and bring back to the ACC for its review.	ACC agreed to postpone until Feb. 2017

Assignments from February 11, 2016	Status
Frazier: Submit extension request details to McCune for the 2013 Survey of BT Stream Habitat Aquatic Fund Project.	Pending

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and reviewed the agenda.

An addition to the agenda includes the following:

- In Lieu Fish Passage Update
- Flow Coordination Committee Decision

Shrier also reviewed the May 12, 2016 meeting notes and were approved without change at 9:20am.

Public Comment

None

In Lieu Fish Passage Update

Shrier informed the ACC of the following In Lieu Fish Passage update:

- June 13th - ACC EDT subgroup meeting (Merwin conference room 12:30 to 3:30 PM) to review “realistic” EDT model run assumptions and outputs, and provide update on restoration opportunity summary table.
- June 24th - PacifiCorp to submit Final Study Reports to the Services and ACC.
- Post June 24th – Additional meetings at discretion of Services. However, per Settlement Agreement, Services must conduct at least one meeting prior to December 26, 2016.
- Within 60 days of the final Services/ACC meeting, Services to formally announce decision but no later than February 27, 2017.

Acclimation Ponds Discussion

The Muddy River site would need to be completely reconstructed. Both sites have lost the capacity to hold fish. The infiltration gallery at the Muddy River site has lost function and is now in the middle of the river (see photos below). The USFS will advise PacifiCorp what action is needed to go forward with the Muddy River acclimation site and evaluate the NEPA consultation to see what is needed there.

PacifiCorp recommends abandoning the Muddy River site, particularly due to its poor water quality and other site stability problems.

PacifiCorp suggests working with the Forest Service to develop a schedule so the ACC can make a decision to remediate or decommission the Clear Creek and Muddy River sites in 2017.

Study/Work Product Updates

M&E Update

Shrier informed the ACC attendees that the M&E Subgroup is reviewing sections 2.2 through 2.9, 2.11 and 2.14. Sections 2.7, 12 & 13 require more work so the plan is to review these sections at the July meeting.

Aquatic Fund Subgroup

Next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2016. Frank Shrier reviewed the habitat synthesis matrix and are making many edits. Shrier is working on improving the tool to help the ACC make decision to evaluate future projects.

Woodland Release Ponds

Shrier informed the ACC that PacifiCorp is still waiting for its eagle permit from the US Fish and Wildlife Service. They indicated that PacifiCorp should receive the permit as soon as June 10, 2016. No possibility to build the pond in 2016 due to this lengthy permitting process so PacifiCorp is definitely looking at 2017 for construction. As soon as the eagle permit is received then the entire permit packet goes to WDNR.

Acclimation Pond/Muddy River & Crab Creek

Shrier communicated to the ACC attendees that the Crab Creek site appears to be functional but will need just a little cleaning up from the winter flows. We are looking at direct release again for the Muddy River and Clear Creek. PacifiCorp needs the requirement from the Forest Service of what should be done with the intake that is in the middle of the Muddy River.

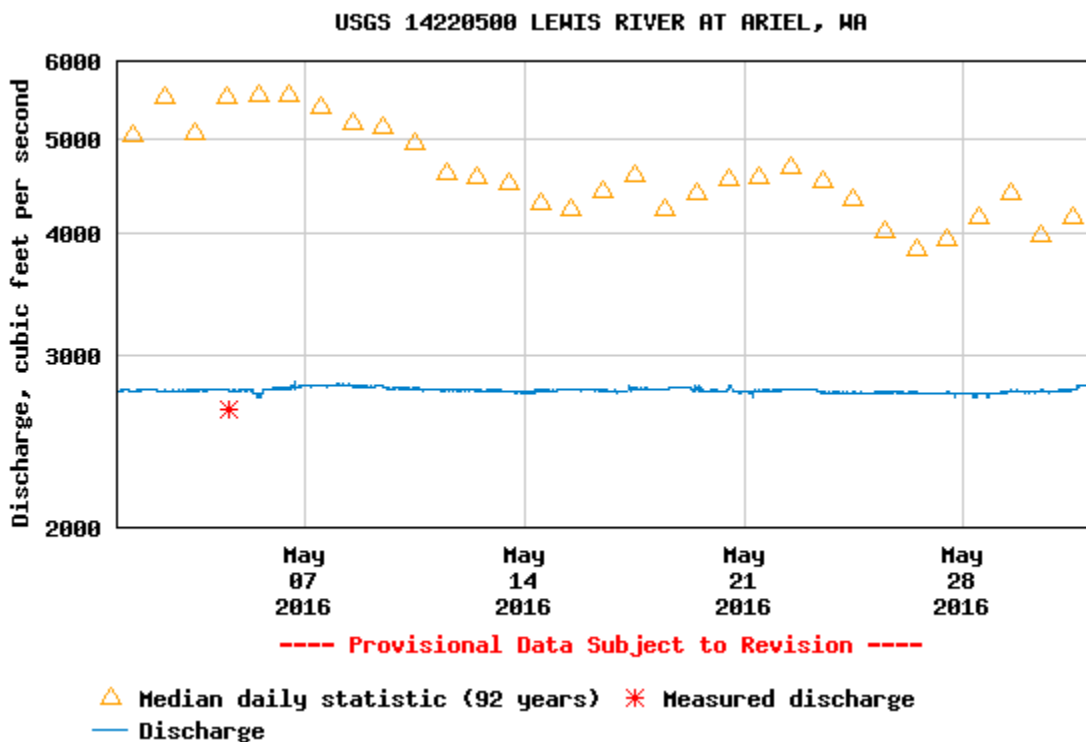
Merwin Fish Collection Facility and General Operations ([Attachment A](#))

During the month of May, a total 504 fish were captured at the Merwin Fish Collection Facility. Just over half of these fish (53%) were spring Chinook while the remaining comprised of both winter and summer steelhead. Six BWT winter steelhead were radio tagged and returned downstream as part of the Merwin trap efficiency study. All hatchery fish were given to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife including ten (10) wild spring Chinook for acclimation fish brood stock. Ninety-seven BWT winter steelhead and one cutthroat trout greater than thirteen inches were transported upstream of Swift Dam this month.

The Merwin Trap ran continuously through the month of May. The Auxiliary Water Supply (AWS) system, which can boost attraction flow up to 400 cfs, was operated daily.

River flow below Merwin Dam remained at approximately 2,700 cfs throughout the month of May.

Discharge, cubic feet per second



Upstream Transport ([Attachment A](#))

For calendar year 2016, seven hundred sixty six blank wire tag winter steelhead (three of which were captured at Lewis River Fish Hatchery), six hatchery coho (January 2016), and eight cutthroat trout greater than thirteen inches in length have been transported upstream.

Swift Floating Surface Collector ([Attachment A](#))

A total of 13,450 fish were collected at the Swift FSC during the month of May; of which most were transported downstream. The majority (78 percent) of these fish were coho (n=10,504), followed by planted rainbow (n=1,975), spring Chinook (n=282), steelhead (n=499), cutthroat (n=173), and bull trout (n=5). All planted rainbow and residential bull trout were returned to Swift Reservoir. The FSC remained in operation throughout the month of May.

Flow Coordination Committee Decision

Shrier informed the ACC of the following notice to the Low Flow Committee:

From: Weatherly, Briana

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2016 10:53 AM

To: McCune, Kimberly; Amanda Froberg; Asher, Eli; Bob Rose (rosb@yakamafish-nsn.gov); Bryce Glaser; Bryce Michaelis; David Howe; Diana MacDonald; Doyle, Jeremiah; Ed Meyer; Ferraiolo, Mark; Fish First (j.malinowski@ieee.org); Frazier, Patrick A (DFW); Hudson, Michael; James Bryne; James H Malinowski; 'Jeff Breckel'; Kale Bentley; Karchesky, Chris; Karen Adams; Ken Weiman (kwieman@fs.fed.us); Lesko, Erik; Mariah Stoll-Smith Reese; Mark Celedonia; Melody Tereski; Michael Garrity; Michelle Day; Nathan Reynolds; Olson, Todd; Patrick Lee; Peggy Miller; Rhidian Morgan (rmmorgan@pnfarm.com); HML LRN (Roberts, Aaron); Ruth Tracy; Serdar. Carol; Shrier, Frank; Steve Manlow; Taylor Aalvik (taylor.a@cowlitz.org); Whitesel, Timothy

Cc: Erich Gaedeke

Subject: Reduction of Instream Flow Released From Merwin

On June 3, 2016, per the terms of Article 415 of the Merwin Hydroelectric Project FERC License (Project No. 935) and Sections 6.2.4 and 6.2.5 of the Lewis River Settlement Agreement, the Lewis River Flow Coordination Committee (LRFCC) agreed to reduce minimum flows released from Merwin. The agreed upon flow reduction of 400 cubic feet per second (cfs), from 2,700 cfs to 2,300 cfs went into effect on June 4, 2016 and will be in place through June 30, at which time flows would normally be scheduled to be reduced to 2,300 cfs. The reduction of stream flows by 400 cfs, results in a river stage change of approximately 3.36 inches. The decision to reduce flows was based on the early loss of snowpack, low natural inflows and the forecasted dry summer.

The Lewis River Basin received considerable precipitation in the first quarter of 2016. Early in April, the National Resource Conservation Council (NRCS) flow forecast based on April 1 data indicated a snowpack of 118 percent of normal and expected inflows of 107 percent of median for the period of April 1-September 30. This was consistent with PacifiCorp's forecast data at the time and project operations were managed accordingly. PacifiCorp planned to continue to maintain some flood storage in the Lewis River Reservoirs to absorb any spring storms and start refilling on May 1.

By mid-April very little precipitation had developed, and warm temperatures had prematurely reduced much of the mid and lower elevation snowpack. PacifiCorp responded by reducing outflows at Merwin by 50 percent by April 15th and beginning to refill reservoirs earlier than previously planned. By April 20th, it was clear the precipitation was not going to materialize and PacifiCorp reduced outflow at Merwin to the allowable federal license minimum (2,700 cfs), which was maintained through June 3. By May 1 snowpack readings averaged 87 percent of normal in Washington, down significantly from the 118 percent a month prior. By May 20, the Lower Columbia River Basin was approximately 56 percent of normal snowpack level.

On June 1 there was approximately 22.76 feet of hole in the Lewis River Reservoirs and we have been drafting them since to maintain the minimum flow from Merwin. We currently have approximately 23.87 feet of hole in the reservoirs. This is not dissimilar to conditions we saw in the Spring of 2015 and PacifiCorp and the LRFCC are making water management decisions accordingly.

After Shrier conducted a safety orientation the ACC departed to view Muddy River and Clear Creek acclimation pond sites. He further expressed that the ACC will not be visiting Crab Creek today. If we don't get a special use permit this year PacifiCorp will use direct release.



Muddy River Acclimation Site



Muddy River Acclimation Site (infiltration gallery)



Muddy River Acclimation Site (looking up river)



Muddy River Acclimation Site (looking up river)



Muddy River



Muddy River



Clear Creek Acclimation Site



Clear Creek Acclimation Site



Clear Creek Acclimation Site



Clear Creek



Clear Creek

<Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. >

Agenda items for July 14, 2016

- June 9, 2016 Meeting Notes
- Acclimation ponds; rebuild or take out, NEPA consultation, HPA discussion
- Study/Work Product Updates

Next Scheduled Meetings:

June 22, 2016	July 9, 2016
Aquatic Fund Subgroup at HCC	Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA	Ariel, WA
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting Handouts & Attachments:

- Meeting Notes from 5/12/16
- Agenda from 6/9/16
- **Attachment A** - Lewis River Fish Passage Report (May 2016)

Lewis River Fish Passage Report

May 2016

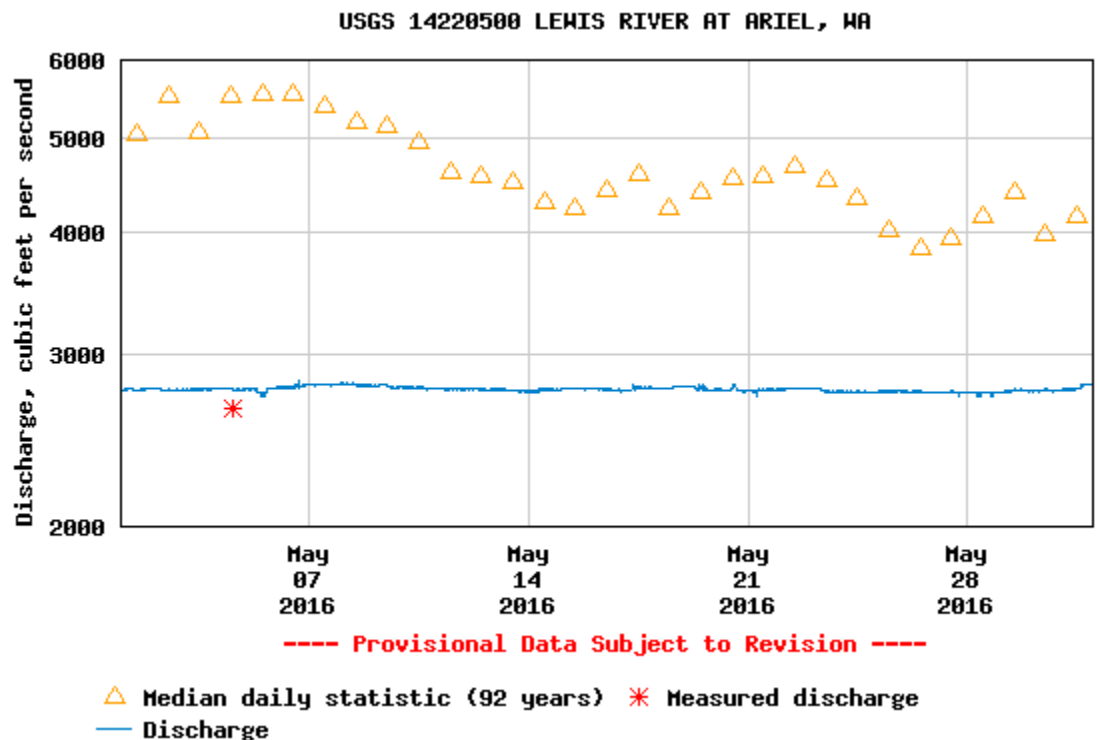
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Fish Facility Report
Swift Floating Surface Collector
May 2016

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	35	0	826	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	30	0	0	77	1008
02	55	0	683	0	0	0	0	0	112	0	0	1	1	0	41	893
03	0	0	141	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	0	11	162
04	12	2	231	0	0	3	0	0	3	1	0	1	0	0	53	306
05	77	10	1627	0	0	0	0	0	33	1	0	1	0	0	78	1827
06	33	0	918	0	0	30	0	0	91	0	0	0	0	0	20	1092
07	46	2	762	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	33	875
08	12	1	1382	0	0	0	0	0	62	0	0	0	0	0	30	1487
09	9	0	1388	0	0	11	0	0	61	0	0	1	0	1	54	1525
10	3	40	794	0	0	60	0	0	71	4	0	20	0	0	34	1026
11	5	1	334	0	0	0	0	0	91	4	0	30	0	0	3	468
12	3	10	574	0	0	33	0	0	121	1	0	14	0	0	86	842
13	0	17	1208	0	0	16	0	1	117	0	0	43	0	0	114	1516
14	0	0	333	0	0	0	0	0	31	0	0	10	0	0	58	432
15	0	0	336	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53	0	0	101	490
16	0	0	213	0	0	10	0	0	2	0	0	12	0	0	55	292
17	0	0	404	0	0	20	0	0	40	0	0	4	1	0	102	571
18	0	2	2063	0	0	40	0	0	111	1	0	63	0	0	42	2322
19	0	13	373	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	0	73	1	0	31	513
20	0	21	443	0	0	0	0	0	14	2	0	25	0	0	44	549
21	0	21	422	0	0	0	0	0	62	1	0	30	0	0	33	569
22	0	1	313	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	30	0	1	46	403
23	0	1	1002	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	0	13	1	2	60	1139
24	0	0	1024	0	0	0	0	0	50	4	1	10	0	0	67	1156
25	0	20	873	0	0	0	0	0	31	2	0	10	0	1	44	981
26	0	0	1012	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	28	1041
27	0	0	789	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	12	0	1	24	846
28	0	0	1032	0	0	0	0	0	41	0	0	20	0	1	21	1115
29	0	0	271	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	0	10	0	0	0	301
30	0	0	366	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	0	20	0	1	0	417
31	0	1	1209	0	0	10	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	1231

Monthly	290	163	23346	0	0	233	0	2	1390	22	1	546	4	8	1390	27395
Annual	514	10544	38218	0	564	2783	1	58	1947	34	5	929	25	36	4221	59879

