

**FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Aquatic Coordination Committee (ACC) Meeting
June 14, 2012
Conference Call**

ACC Participants Present (13)

Diana M. Gritten-MacDonald, Cowlitz PUD
 Jim Malinowski, Fish First
 Adam Haspiel, USDA Forest Service
 David Hu, USDA Forest Service
 Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy
 Erik Lesko, PacifiCorp Energy
 Frank Shrier, PacifiCorp Energy
 Chris Karchesky, PacifiCorp Energy
 Pat Frazier, WDFW
 Eric Kinne, WDFW
 Peggy Miller, WDFW
 LouEllyn Jones, USFWS
 Paul Pearce, Skamania County

Calendar:

July 12, 2012	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
August 9, 2012	ACC Meeting	Merwin Hydro

Assignments from June 14, 2012 meeting	
McCune: Review Acclimation Pond field notes from April 30, 2012 and advise if LouEllyn Jones (USFWS) comments were included.	Complete – 6/14/12
Shrier: Confirm if modifications to FSC screens have been completed yet and report results to Eric Kinne (WDFW).	Mods 80% done as of 7/12/12
Shrier: Schedule an Acclimation Pond Subgroup meeting to include appropriate Forest Service staff to discuss FS concerns, timing, etc. for the Crab Creek Alternative site.	Emailed request for meeting on 6/15/12
Lesko: Schedule a meeting with WDFW for a site visit to the Lewis River Hatchery to determine the temporary Release Pond site.	Pending
McCune: Provide clarification if ACC/TCC approval and a Corp permit is required for the 10-slip dock application on Swift Reservoir.	Complete – 6/19/12

Assignments from January 12, 2012 meeting	
Coordinate a summer tour of the Swift Downstream Collector Construction for the Cowlitz tribal council. (One month delay was recommended. Shannon Wills to confirm with Tribe leadership). <i>June 2012: Frank Shrier added that it might be easier, and better for access, to wait until the trestle has been floated down.</i>	Pending

Assignments from February 9, 2012 meeting	
Set up meeting to discuss how to release fish at the Release Pond site until pond is constructed.	Pending
Discuss Crab Creek Acclimation Pond alternatives at the next ACC meeting.	Complete – 6/14/12
Assignments from March 8, 2012 meeting	Status
Murdock - indicated that she will email literature to Shrier regarding Yakama Nation acclimation reports. <i>June 2012: Shrier is still awaiting information.</i>	Pending
Kinne - will get some information for the ACC on the White River acclimation and any other information his agency might have.	Pending

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Frank Shrier (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order @ 9:00 a.m. Shrier requested all attendees identify themselves for the benefit of new attendees. Shrier introduced a new PacifiCorp employee, Chris Karchesky who accepted the position of the Lewis River Fish Passage Biologist. Karchesky's primary office will be at the Merwin Hydro Control Center. The ACC reviewed the agenda and no new topics were added. The pending assignments and May 10, 2012 meeting notes were reviewed and accepted at 9:18am to include minor meeting note clarification changes on pages 3 and 5, requested by Eric Kinne (WDFW) and Jim Malinowski (Fish First).

Kim McCune (PacifiCorp) will finalize the meeting notes for posting to the Lewis River website.

Study Updates

Hatchery Upgrades Delay Schedule -

Erik Lesko (PacifiCorp) communicated to the ACC that Kimberly McCune (PacifiCorp) created a Lewis River Project Delay Schedule ([Attachment A](#)), to include certain Hatchery upgrades for ACC review. Lesko asked if any questions about the schedule. Kinne pointed out that for the Lewis River Downstream Intake Modification project, the correct year for the completed replacement of the common header and replacement of the submersible pumps should read 2005 and not 2008. McCune will make the appropriate change on the Delay Schedule.

Merwin Trap –

PacifiCorp received email confirmation from WDFW, USFWS and NMFS that the revised Merwin Trap schedule in accordance with [Attachment A](#) is approved. PacifiCorp will try to complete the project earlier if possible, but makes no promises. PacifiCorp will proceed with an accelerated schedule as long as it does not compromise the integrity of the project.

Lewis River Hatchery Upstream Intake (USI) -

A contract has been awarded to complete this project by August 30, 2012. All permitting is complete and the repairs will begin with a site inspection and fabrication of parts in July. In-water work will occur during the month of August, 2012.

Lewis River Hatchery Ladder –

Scheduled for completion in August 2012; river will need to be drawn down to 600 cfs for one day to allow work to be completed in the ‘dry’.; permits are in process.

Merwin Rearing Ponds – Remaining two ponds scheduled for completion after the fishing derby is completed at the hatchery on July 14, 2012.

Lewis River Hatchery – Downstream Intake Screen

See Project Delay Schedule, [Attachment A](#)

Speelyai Hatchery, Pond 14 –

See Project Delay Schedule, [Attachment A](#)

Speelyai Hatchery, Water Intake Structure Repair –

See Project Delay Schedule, [Attachment A](#)

Merwin Ozone Upgrades -

See Project Delay Schedule, [Attachment A](#)

Acclimation Pond Site (Crab Creek Alternative) –

Comments received from Department of Ecology and WDFW, which added another 45 days to the timing to wait for a consultation with USFWS. PacifiCorp has a letter of concurrence for the Muddy and Clear Creek sites.

Shrier expressed that two concerns emerged regarding the Crab Creek Alternative site, 1) having a cover on the structure so that children/people wouldn’t fall in but most importantly the pond structure could not be in place after May 1. Shrier said that these issues inhibit our ability to use the site in the spring and 2) for the fall, the site is used for hunting so the pond could not be in place until after hunting season, which ends November 14, 2012.

Pat Frazier (WDFW) asked what the Forest Service (FS) concern is around the Crab Creek Alternative site at Lower Falls Campground. Adam Haspiel (USFS) replied that the structure is not as natural as it should be; there are public safety concerns as well as concerns with piping. The FS does not want the structure to be in place during the recreation season (May 1 – Nov. 15), because it is located in a wild and scenic area. Shrier suggested that the Acclimation Pond Subgroup should schedule another meeting to include appropriate FS staff to discuss their concerns, timing, etc. Shrier and Bob Rose (Yakama Nation) will take the lead. WDFW suggested that the FS staff that has concerns about this site should be present at this meeting so that the ACC can fully understand and address their concerns.

Woodland Release Ponds -

Eulachon consultation is the biggest delay; the biological assessment (BA) is prepared but not submitted to NMFS yet. PacifiCorp is waiting for one more detail before its submittal to NMFS. Once submitted, estimated time for consultation is six months. Based on this information, Ponds 15 or 16 at the Lewis River Hatchery are being considered as temporary release sites until the Woodland Release Ponds are completed. Kinne expressed that it is feasible but would like a discussion around the needed modifications.

The in-water work window is August 15 to August 31st. **The ACC agrees with the extension date to December 26, 2013.**

Lesko noted that he wants to meet with WDFW and establish a date for a site visit to the Lewis River Hatchery to determine the temporary Release Pond site.

Hatchery and Supplementation Program –

PacifiCorp has set a July 18, 2012 meeting to begin discussing monitoring and evaluation activities for 2013. Main topics will include development of a Genetic Mark Recapture protocol to meet the objectives in the plan (e.g., such as wild to hatchery ratios and abundance). PacifiCorp's radio tracking efforts ended two weeks ago as many of the fish had fallen back into the reservoirs and are assumed to be kelts. Generally speaking, the fish did not migrate into the North Fork system as anticipated. Most of this fish spawned in lower Pine, Muddy and North Fork downstream of these two confluences. Also, several fish were detected in reservoir tributaries such as Drift and Swift Creek. Redd surveys in the lower river downstream of Merwin dam have been conducted every week and recently the number of new redds observed has dropped significantly. A total of two redds were observed during the last survey conducted June 13th, 2012. PacifiCorp inquired whether the redd surveys could be concluded; the ACC would like PacifiCorp to conduct one more survey before June 30, 2012.

M&E Plan Implementation –

If no Chinook are released upstream, then surveys would be delayed 4-6 weeks until coho spawning occurs

Merwin Upstream Construction Status –

Construction is on schedule and PacifiCorp is still anticipating a date of substantial completion by December 2013.

Swift Downstream Collector Construction Status –

On schedule.

Future Fish Passage Facilities New Information Status –

Waiting for Procurement to complete negotiations with the contractor.

Yale Spillway Barrier Net –

Nets are constructed; permits have been received and FERC approval has also been received. Construction schedule is Fall 2012.

10-Slip Boat Dock Application (Shoreline Management Plan)

Shrier and McCune informed the ACC that a neighboring landowner, Gerald Sauer, has applied for a Shoreline Use Permit from PacifiCorp for the purpose of installing a private use 10-slip boat dock on Swift Reservoir. The structure will be built on land owned by Mr. Sauer and will serve future residents of the subdivision he is building. Prior FERC approval is not needed as there will not be more than 10 slips. PacifiCorp is currently reviewing the application from engineering, cultural and operational standpoints. Although the review is not yet complete, PacifiCorp anticipates requiring further information from the applicant before an initial approval can be given. Applicant hopes to apply for governmental approvals as soon as possible.

The ACC would like clarification if ACC/TCC approval and a Corps permit are required. McCune will confirm and respond to the Committees via email.

Other Items

The ACC was informed that Bernadette Graham-Hudson (Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board) is resigning to take a position with the Oregon Department Fish and Wildlife. Jeff Breckel remains the primary representative while an alternate representative is to be determined.

<10:15 a.m. meeting adjourned >

Agenda items for July 12, 2012

- Review June 14, 2012 Meeting Notes
- 10-Slip Boat Dock Application Discussion
- Study/Work Product Updates
- Acclimation Pond/Crab Creek Discussion

Public Comment

None

Next Scheduled Meetings

July 12, 2012	August 9, 2012
Merwin Hydro Control Center	Merwin Hydro Control Center
Ariel, WA	Ariel, WA
9:00 a.m. – Noon	9:00 a.m. – Noon

Meeting Handouts & Attachments (sent via e-mail)

- Notes from 5/10/12
- Agenda for 6/14/12
- **Attachment A** – Lewis River Project Delay Schedule, dated June 12, 2012

Project Title/Mgr.	SA No.	Project Status and Justification for Extension Request	Former Completion Date	Permitting	Construction	Revised Completion Date
Merwin Upstream Trap Frank Shrier	4.3	New construction schedule for the Merwin Upstream Trap - old trap closure would occur in 2013 from July 1 to December. I also stated that the trap would be substantially complete on 1/23/2014 (i.e. trapping but not necessarily sorting). That essentially means the trap would be closed July 1, 2013 to January 23, 2014.	7/1/2013 to 12/31/2013	In progress	7/1/13 to 1/23/14	1/23/2014
Speelyai Pond 14 Modification Erik Lesko	8.7 (A)	PacifiCorp has completed its Consultation with the ACC and finalized the new raceway designs. Permit applications will soon be submitted to the appropriate agencies. Achieving final designs was delayed due to substantive changes requested by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife during the final phases of the design development. These changes included reconfiguration of pond sizes, concerns related to available water flow to each raceway and piping configurations. These requests caused significant delays in redrawing final plans and required specific consultation with the department. In addition, the project has a narrow construction window given other rearing space at the hatchery is used to meet license production goals and is not available. The existing Speelyai Pond 14 provides adequate rearing space for this additional production and no adverse effects are anticipated to fish health or production obligations by delaying this project to 2013.	9/1/2012	In progress	2/1/13 to 5/30/13	9/1/2013
Speelyai Intake Modification Erik Lesko	8.7 (C)	<p>On November 18, 2010, PacifiCorp informed the ACC that the project may be delayed for one year due to in-water permitting requirements. The ACC had no objections regarding the proposal to move this project to June 26, 2012. During the months to follow, PacifiCorp completed its Consultation with the ACC and prepared 90 percent project engineering designs and permit applications. The permit applications will soon be submitted to the appropriate state and local governments. From past experience with the permitting of other Lewis River projects, it is very likely that permits will not be issued in time to give a sufficient construction window that accommodates hatchery operations (this is the single water source for the Speelyai Hatchery).</p> <p>PacifiCorp Energy requested extension of time to complete the permitting process and construction of the Water Intake Structure Repair project. The existing intake functions normally and provides the specified volume of water to support fish health at the hatchery. Thus, there is no additional risk of fish loss from prolonging the modifications to the existing intake. The Lewis River Aquatic Coordination Committee was advised on May 10, 2012 of this situation and does not take issue with a delay until 2013.</p>	9/1/2012	Will submit June 2012	6/1/13 to 9/30/13	10/1/2013
Merwin Ozone Reliability Upgrade Erik Lesko	8.7 (A)	<p>On March 11, 2010 PacifiCorp informed the ACC that the upgrades to the Programmable Logic Control (PLC) at the Merwin Hatchery ozone plant treatment upgrade may be delayed for one year. PacifiCorp later confirmed the ACCs approval by submittal of the revised hatchery schedule to the Commission on May 6, 2010, as required by Section 8.2.3 of the Lewis River Settlement Agreement. PacifiCorp continues its extensive Consultation with the ACC and annual submittal of the revised hatchery upgrade schedules to the Commission on April 15, 2011 and April 13, 2012.</p> <p>Despite the delays to the PLC upgrades, PacifiCorp completed hardware upgrades including new metering, alarming and computer systems according to Schedule 8.7 of the Lewis River Settlement Agreement.</p> <p>On May 10, 2012 the ACC was informed that this the PLC upgrade project requires the use internal staff to upgrade the PLC. Internal staff are required due to the integration of the PLC upgrade with the company's proprietary Process Integration (PI) software platform. This requirement was not known until April of 2012. Because internal staff are not immediately available for most of 2012, the ACC was informed that the project would be implemented in 2013. PacifiCorp staff will, however, begin planning and design consultations with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2012 to prepare for implementation in 2013. This will help ensure that the project is ready for implementation in 2013. The PLC upgrade is intended to meet the objectives contained in Section 8.7 to ensure reliability of the water treatment system.</p>	6/26/2010	In progress	7/13/13 to 11/30/13	11/30/2013
Lewis River Downstream Intake Modification Erik Lesko	8.7 (C)	In 2008, PacifiCorp completed replacement of the common header and replacement of the submersible pumps with turbine motors. However, on March 12, 2008 PacifiCorp informed the ACC that the replacement of the screen and stabilization phases of the Lewis River Hatchery downstream water intake project upgrades will be delayed until 2011. PacifiCorp later confirmed the ACCs approval by submittal of the revised hatchery schedule to the Commission on May 6, 2008, as required by Section 8.2.3 of the Lewis River Settlement Agreement. PacifiCorp continues its extensive Consultation with the ACC and annual submittal of the revised hatchery upgrade schedules to the Commission. In March 2010, NOAA listed Eulachon (Pacific smelt) as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. This listing as well as subsequent critical habitat listings have delayed in-water work required for screen modifications and structure stabilization. On May 10, 2012 the ACC was informed that the project has been delayed while PacifiCorp drafts and submits their Biological Assessment to NOAA. We anticipate starting the project in the summer of 2013; however, if Eulachon coverage is not provided in time the project could be delayed further. The ACC had no objections regarding the proposal to move completion of this Project to September 1, 2013.	End of calendar year 2008	In progress	Summer 2013	9/1/2013
Lewis River RRMP David Moore	11.2.2.2	consultation with roadway landowners including the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Weyerhaeuser, a privative land owner. On December 15, 2011, PacifiCorp Energy received a letter (Attachment A) from DNR and a letter from Weyerhaeuser, dated November 5, 2010, (Attachment B) disapproving any undertaking or easement modification that could prohibit either entity from exercising the ability to use the Yale/IP Road for forestry activities and stating PacifiCorp Energy could not establish a pedestrian trail on their land ownership portions of the Yale/IP Road. Given responses, PacifiCorp Energy's concern is vehicle access on a road intended to be a non-motorized multi-use trail poses a public safety risk. In review of land ownership, it does look possible to adjust the scope of the trail and therefore reduce vehicle/pedestrian interactionsware platform. This requirement was not known until April of 2012. Because internal staff are not immediately available for most of 2012, the ACC was informed that the project would be implemented in 2013. PacifiCorp staff will, however, begin planning and design consultations with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2012 to prepare for implementation in 2013. This will	6/26/2012	In progress	N/A	3/1/2013