## LEWIS RIVER TERRESTRIAL COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Facilitator: KENDEL EMMERSON

503-813-6040; CELL 509-774-8102

Location: MERWIN HYDRO CONTROL CENTER

105 MERWIN VILLAGE COURT

ARIEL, WA 98603

Date: FEBRUARY 12, 2020

Time: 9:00 AM - 3:15 PM

## **Agenda Items**

9:00 a.m. Welcome

➤ Review Agenda & 1/8/20 Meeting Notes

Review and Accept Agenda & 1/8/20 Meeting Notes

9:15 a.m. Land Acquisition Update (Confidential)

10:00 a.m. PacifiCorp Review 2019 WHMP Report and 2020 Plan

11:30 a.m. Cowlitz PUD Review 2019 WHMP Report and 2020 Plan

12:00 p.m. Working Lunch

12:15 p.m. Study/Work Product Updates

> Speelyai Road Fence

> Saddle Dam Seismic Project

1:00 p.m. Safety<sup>1</sup> orientation for site visit to Management Unit 2 and the

Oak Sites in Management Unit 5

1:30 p.m. Arrive at Management Unit 2 – 2020 Timber Harvest

3:00 p.m. Next Meeting's Agenda

Note: all meeting notes and the meeting schedule can be located at: https://www.pacificorp.com/energy/hydro/lewis-river/acc-tcc.html

3:15 p.m. Meeting adjourn

1 Please bring rain gear and sturdy walking shoes for hiking in the forest. No hard hats needed for this tour. PacifiCorp will have 2 vehicles for transportation of up to 4 additional passengers.

## PLEASE BRING YOUR LUNCH

## Additional information:

Join by phone

(503) 813-6614 (US)

(503) 813-5252 [Portland, OR] (US)

(855) 499-5252 [Toll-Free] (US)

Conference ID: 4604738

English (United States)

English (United States)

English (United States)

#### **FINAL Meeting Notes**

# Lewis River License Implementation Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting and Field Tour February 12, 2020 Merwin Hydro Control Center Ariel, WA

#### **TCC Representatives Present: (9)**

Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Summer Peterman, PacifiCorp Amanda Froberg, Cowlitz PUD Kim McCune, PacifiCorp Eric Holman, WDFW Peggy Miller, WDFW Eric White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe Ray Croswell, RMEF Bill Richardson, RMEF

#### Calendar:

March 11, 2020	TCC Meeting	Merwin Hydro
		Control Center

Parking Lot Items	Status
Emmerson/McCune: Contact PacifiCorp's properties department to discuss	In progress
further TNC detail and report to the TCC at the next meeting.	In progress

Kendel Emmerson (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 9:10am. Emmerson reviewed the agenda and asked the TCC if there were any changes/additions. No additions to the agenda were requested.

The TCC reviewed the January 8, 2020 meeting notes and they were approved at 9:15am with no changes.

The TCC reviewed the January 8 & 28, 2020 confidential TCC meeting notes. Both were approved without change at 9:20am. Any additional detail around this topic is considered confidential and proprietary and not for public viewing at this time.

#### **Public Comment Opportunity:**

None

#### **Study/Work Product Updates**

#### Speelyai Road Fence

Emmerson informed the TCC that PacifiCorp has been trying to control Speelyai Road ATV trespass for over 10 years including using signage, log and rock barriers, and sending numerous letters to nearby landowners as a reminder that ATV use is not allowed on PacifiCorp's private lands. In addition, WDFW Law Enforcement has patrolled the area for years. Despite these efforts the violators continue to trespass and go around the barriers.

PacifiCorp has secured \$10k in capital dollars to install approximately 1,300' of wildlife friendly three-strand smooth wire fence (see photo and fence illustration below) by the tree line and insert flags. Cultural review will be required for the installing woodenposts which may be required in some areas to support the fence. To improve visibility flagging and reflective flagging will be placed on the fencing. The fence will be installed on Lewis River WHMP lands.

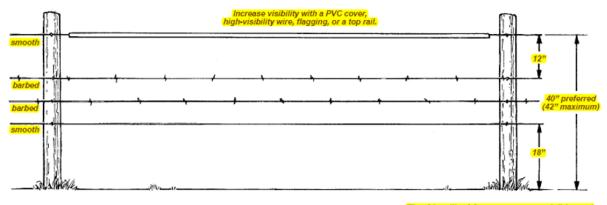


#### Wildlife Friendly Ideal

Wildlife friendly fences should be low enough for adult animals to jump, high enough for animals to crawl under, and minimize the chance of tangling. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) recommends:

- A top wire or rail preferably no more than 40" above the ground, and absolutely no more than 42";
- · At least 12" between the top two wires;
- At least 18" between the bottom wire or rail and the ground; Smooth wire or rail for the top, smooth wire on bottom.
- No vertical stays:
- · Posts at 16.5-foot intervals;
- · Gates, drop-downs, or other passages where wildlife concentrate and cross.

#### IDEAL WILDLIFE FRIENDLY FENCE



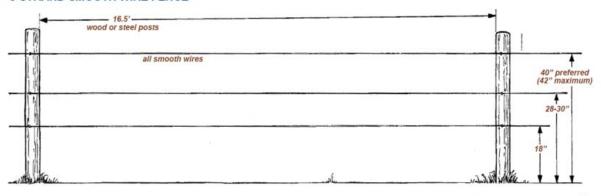
The friendliest fences are very visible and allow wild animals to easily jump over or slip under the wires or rails.

#### 3-STRAND SMOOTH WIRE FENCE

Use 3 strands of smooth (barbless) wire. High-tensile wire is effective for light livestock control.

- Top wire 40 to 42" high;
- Center wire 30" above the ground;
- Bottom wire 18" above the ground;
- Preferably, no vertical stays;
- Wood or steel posts at 16.5-foot intervals.

#### 3-STRAND SMOOTH WIRE FENCE



The TCC approved the fence project to proceed as quickly as possible.

#### Saddle Dam Seismic Project Update

The following updated was provided January 29, 2020: Emmerson informed the TCC that dam safety is a commitment that PacifiCorp takes very seriously and thorough evaluations of our dams are performed on a routine basis to ensure they remain safe. Such an evaluation was recently performed on the Yale Saddle Dam, located on the North Fork of the Lewis River. Our evaluation identified soils beneath the dam that could possibly be impacted during a significant earthquake and potentially lead to damaging the dam.

PacifiCorp is presently at work with industry experts to develop a remediation plan and implement necessary seismic upgrades by the end of 2023. As a precautionary measure, PacifiCorp is limiting the maximum operating level of Yale Reservoir to a target level that is about 10 feet below its current maximum operating level of 490 above sea level. This 10 feet of additional clearance space will greatly reduce the likelihood of water being released from the dam in the event a significant earthquake occurs prior to the completion of the seismic upgrades. PacifiCorp understands there may be some impacts to recreational activities on the Yale reservoir until these seismic upgrades can be performed. PacifiCorp is proud to offer the recreational benefits that Yale Reservoir provides to the local area and we will work to minimize those impacts as we complete these project upgrades

#### **Cowlitz PUD Review of 2019 WHMP Report**

Amanda Froberg (Cowlitz PUD) provided their WHMP Report and Plan to the TCC via email on February 7, 2020 for a 30-day review and comment period, and discussed briefly at today's meeting. Comments are due on March 10, 2020. Froberg provided the following Year 11 2019 budget illustrating the 2019 budget, including estimated costs, year-end costs and the difference between the two. At year-end, (\$23,473) remained in the budget, as itemized below.

Cowlitz PUD WHMP Year 11 2019 Budget

	U		
WHMP Activity	2019 Budget	2019 Actual	Difference
Administration	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,451	\$ 2,549
Annual inspection to monitor and manage public access	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Invasive plant surveys at high priority sites	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Invasive Species Control	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Northern Goshawk Survey	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,523	(\$ 23)
Meridian Forester Oversite	\$ 3,000	\$ 936	\$ 2,064
5.8-acre Devil's Backbone Patch Cut	\$ 89,000	\$ 93,215*	(\$ 4,215)
Estimated cost of management activities	\$ 100,500	\$ 100,125	\$ 375
Estimated amount remaining in 2019 Budget at year-end	(\$ 37,583)	(\$ 37,208)	\$ 375

<sup>\*</sup>This is not the total cost due to contract retention. Cowlitz PUD retains five percent (5%) of the total Contract price until satisfactory completion of the project.

#### Cowlitz PUD WHMP Year 11 2019 Carry Forward

Carry Forward		Running Total
2019 Carry Forward	(\$ 37,208)	(\$ 23,473)

Cowlitz PUD completed the 2019 WHMP Annual Report without charge as an in-kind service. On December 26, 2019, the WHMP fund included a deficit of \$23,473 in funds, which generated \$0 interest. On December 26, 2019, Cowlitz PUD made \$19,574 available for the Year 12 2020 WHMP activities. Therefore, the total available for the Year 12 2020 WHMP is (\$3,899).

#### Cowlitz PUD Review of 2020 WHMP Plan

Froberg provided a cursory review of Table 2.1-1 (below)

Table 2.1-1. Anticipated 2020 (Year 12) Annual Plan Budget (2020 dollars).

2020 Budget		
Dec 26, 2019 Annual Payment	\$19,574	
2019 Carry Forward	\$ (23,473)	
Interest on 2019 Ending Balance	\$0	
Total 2020 Budget	\$ (3,899)	
WHMP Activity	Estimated 2020 Cost	Assumptions
Administration	\$5,000	Includes general oversight and accounting, preparing Annual Report and Annual Plan, contracting, maintaining project files, participating in TCC meetings related to implementing Cowlitz PUD's WHMP.
Annual inspection to monitor and manage public access	\$0	Included in invasive plant surveys.
Invasive plant surveys at high priority sites	\$0	None in 2020.
Invasive plant species control	\$0	None in 2020.
Devil's Backbone Patch Cut burning, seeding and roadwork	\$17,801	Hadaller Logging Contract
Estimated cost of management activities	\$22,801	
Grants Submitted	Amount Received	
Matching Funds from RMEF	\$13,735	
Estimated amount remaining in 2020 budget at year end	\$(12,965)	Any funds not spent by year end, plus accrued interest, remain in the WHMP budget to be carried into the following year. <sup>2</sup>

The TCC requested Froberg combine the status quo implementation site management updates by year, where possible, to reduce the volume of redundant updates.

#### PacifiCorp Review of 2019 WHMP Report

Emmerson provided a cursory review of the 2019 WHMP Annual Report, particularly identifying management actions the TCC should be aware of such as in Section 5.2 – Riparian Habitat Management:

• Due to southwest Washington being in declared drought conditions, the water type modification surveys for newly acquired lands were deferred to 2020.

Summer Peterman (PacifiCorp) noted that in Section 7.1 – Farmland/Meadow Inspections she plans to add a table for grasses and legume percentages to use as reference post Saddle Dam Seismic Project, with the idea that we can use this opportunity to improve palatable forage in the farm fields.

Peterman further noted that in Section 8.2 – Orchards she has set up a tracking system within our GIS records of what is being planting and where; PacifiCorp is mapping all trees and location so we can map the success.

PacifiCorp's WHMP 2019 Report and 2020 Plan will be sent to the ACC for its 30-day review and comment period in early March 2020.

#### PacifiCorp Review of 2020 WHMP Plan

Emmerson informed the TCC attendees that there was a budget shortage from 2018 that was discovered in 2020 and therefore not accounted for in the 2019 budget. This shortage was the result of reporting a greater budget then actual in 2018, not aware of charges that were included in the WHMP budget, and developing the total 2018 cost before all charges had posted. As a result, the 2020 budget will be reduced to make up this budget deficit.

The 2020 WHMP budget is estimated as of January 1, 2020 dollars is \$570,970.89 which includes the cost per acre for fee simple and conservation easement lands, and remaining funds from the previous year.

<Break & working lunch 12:10pm>

< Reconvene 12:20pm>

### **Safety Orientation for Field Tour**

Emmerson informed the TCC attendees who are participating in the tour to watch for brushy conditions, wet and sloped uneven surfaces and tripping hazards.

#### Management Unit 2 – 2020 Timber Harvest

The TCC toured Cougar Maker, a proposed 22.1 acre commercial thin harvest. This clearcut is in pole conifer stand [i.e., Canopy cover consist of ≥70% conifer and the average stand diameter is 8 to 15 inches diameter at breast height (dbh). Even-aged stands with relatively uniform structure]. The stand is comprised almost entirely of conifer trees that are average 10 inches in dbh. Douglas-fir is primary tree with lesser amounts of western hemlock. Black cottonwood trees were retained from the original harvest and will be kept to extent possible during the commercial thinning.







Cover vs. Forage	Vegetation Cover Types	Pre-Harvest acres	Post-Harvest acres
	Old Growth (>26" dbh)	33.9	33.9
	Mature Conifer (21-26" dbh)	17.5	17.5
	Mature Conifer (Thinned) > than 5 years since commercially thinned	5.1	5.1
	Mid-Successional Conifer (16-20" dbh)	32.4	32.4
	Mid-Successional Conifer (Thinned) > than 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	0.0
_	Upland Mixed (conifer 30-70%)	76.7	76.7
Cover	Upland Mixed (Thinned) > than 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	0.0
0	Young Upland Mixed <sup>4</sup>	0.0	0.0
	Pole Conifer (8-15" dbh)	22.1	0.0
	Pole Conifer (Thinned); (8-15" dbh) > 5 years since commercially thinned <sup>4</sup>	12.4	12.4
	Lodge Pole Pine	0.0	0.0
	Riparian Mixed	0.0	0.0
	Total Acres of Cover	200.1	178.0
	Young Upland Deciduous	0.0	0.0
	Mature Conifer (Thinned) < 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	0.0
	Pole Conifer (Thinned); (8-15" dbh) < 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	22.1
	Upland Mixed (Thinned) < than 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	0.0
	Mid-Successional Conifer (Thinned) < than 5 years since commercially thinned	0.0	0.0
	Riparian Shrub	0.0	0.0
	Riparian Deciduous	2.7	2.7
	Upland Deciduous	7.8	7.8
9.	Oak Woodland <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0
Forage	Transmission Line ROW <sup>2</sup>	18.0	18.0
<u>~</u>	Recreational (vegetated areas)	0.0	0.0
	Dry Meadow/Grassland <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0
	Shrubland <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0
	Orchard <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0
	Agriculture <sup>2</sup>	0.0	0.0
	Seedling/Sapling Conifer (5-8" dbh)	24.7	24.7
	Seedling/Sapling Conifer (New) (<4" dbh)	0.0	0.0
	Palustrine Wetlands 1,2	0.0	0.0
	Total Acres of Forage	53.2	75.3
	Open Water (Palustrine Aquatic Bed, Palustrine Unconsolidated Bottom, Riverine Unconsolidated Bottom, and Lacustrine Unconsolidated Bottom)	0.0	0.0
	Riverine Unconsolidated Shore	0.0	0.0
뉼	Highway right-of-way	4.2	4.2
Neither	Residential	0.0	0.0
	Sparse veg.; Disturbed; Developed or PacifiCorp Facility	0.6	0.6
	Rock Outcropping and Talus	0.0	0.0
	Total Acres of Neither	4.8	4.8
Total Management Unit Acres		258.1	258.1
WHMP Proposed Cover:Forage Ratio		60:40 (+/- 59	6) with 5%
Cover:Forage Ratio		79:21	70:30
Percent of Permanent Forage (Total permanent forage acres <sup>2</sup> / total Manageable Acres)		22.56%	22.56%

Palustrine Wetland includes all palustrine vegetation cover types except PAB and PUB. These vegetation cover types are consider permanent forage

#### Management Unit 5 – Oak Sites 5-1 & 5-2

TCC recommended removing conifers in a 50ft buffer around the closest oak tree to increase the light exposure. To encourage further growth of naturally germinated seedlings, Plantskydd was applied to selected seedlings, while allowing others to continue to be browsed. This allows for successful growth for future generations of oaks while still allowing forage opportunity. The seedlings were selected because they grew in an area where their growth would not compete with existing oaks. Bigleaf maples were retained to encourage diversity. The selected seedlings were sprayed with Plantskydd once in the spring and again in the fall and will continue for the next 4 years.

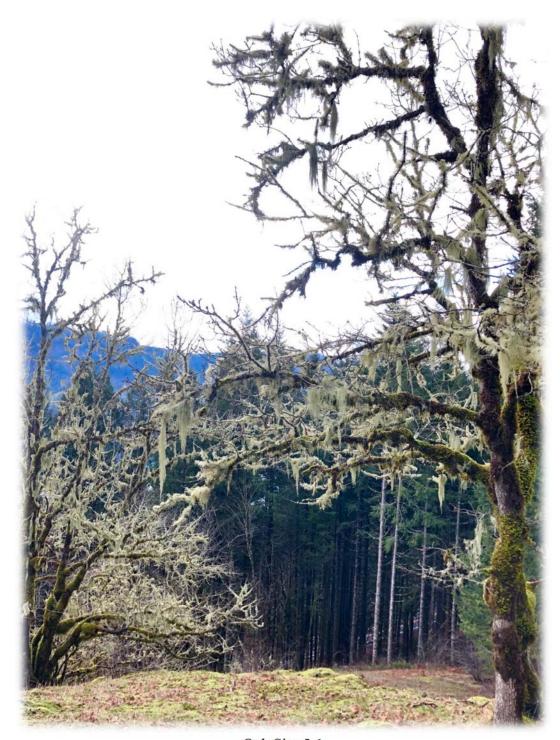
The falling and limbing of conifers occurred January 2019. In oak stand 5-1, 23 total trees were cut and one snag was made, 4 natural snags occurred due to root rot in the adjacent stand increasing light exposure to the oaks. Six seedlings were flagged and treated with Plantskydd. In Oak Stand 5-2, 13 total trees were cut and 5 seedlings were flagged for Plantskydd treatment. The total cost of the project in 2019 was \$3,768.42. It is estimated it will cost \$500/year for the next four years to treat the stands with Plantskyyd, bringing the total of the project to \$5,768.42



Oak Site 5-2



Oak Site 5-1



Oak Site 5-1

## Agenda items for March 11, 2020

- Review February 12, 2020 Meeting Notes
- ➤ Land Acquisition Update (Confidential)
   ➤ Study/Work Product Updates
   Update Saddle Dam seismic
   ➤ 2019 Financials

- Field tour, Units 9 and 11

## **Next Scheduled Meeting**

tone sometiment traceting	
March 11, 2020	
Location: Merwin Hydro Control	
Center	

## **Attachments:**

• February 12, 2020 Meeting Agenda

Adjourn 3:00pm