

**Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects Settlement Agreement
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC)
Meeting Agenda**

Date & Time: Wednesday, June 12, 2013
9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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

Contacts: Kirk Naylor: (503) 813-6619; cell (503) 866-8750

Time	Discussion Item
9:00 a.m.	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Review Agenda & 5/09/13 Meeting Notes➤ Comment & accept Agenda & 5/09/13 Meeting Notes
9:15 a.m.	➤ Hazard Trees and clearing near Speelyai Canal - TCC Decision Required
9:30 a.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.html
9:45 a.m.	Safety ¹ orientation for tour of Unit 15 and BPA crossing (Unit 16)
10:00 a.m. -	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Depart for tour and plan to return to HCC by 3:00 p.m.➤ Discuss connectivity objective in relation to mapped areas in Units 5, 16 and 17 (visit unit 16).➤ Site visit to Unit 15 to review new meadow and BPA proposed 500kV location
3:00 p.m.	Adjourn

Please bring rain gear and sturdy walking shoes for hiking in the forest – PacifiCorp will have 2 vehicles for transportation of up to 7 additional passengers

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

Conference ID: 4641794

Please bring your lunch

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting
June 12, 2013
Ariel, WA

TCC Participants Present: (9)

Diana Gritten-MacDonald (via teleconference)
Ray Croswell, RMEF
LouEllyn Jones, USFWS
Peggy Miller, WDFW
Eric Holman, WDFW
Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy
Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy
Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy
Erik White, Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Calendar:

Wednesday – July 10, 2013	Cancelled	Reconvene in August
Wednesday – August 14, 2013	TCC Meeting	HCC

Assignments from June 12, 2013	Status
None	

Assignments from January 9, 2013	Status
Gritten-MacDonald: Investigate an inter-local agreement with Skamania County for 2013 weed control.	Complete

Assignments from June 13, 2012	Status
Naylor: Review the SA/WHMP budget(s) as well as determine status and opportunity for coordination with John Cook (NCASI) and Lisa Shipley (Washington State University) doing the blacktail study and report back to the TCC.	In Progress

Parking lot items from April 13, 2011 Meeting	Status
Naylor: Provide TCC with Riparian Management Plan for review.	Pending

Parking lot items from December 12, 2012 Meeting	Status
PacifiCorp: Work with TCC to proceed with second RMEF/PAC Project Proposal.	Pending

Parking lot items from February 12, 2013 Meeting	Status
Cowlitz PUD: Schedule a field tour of the Devil's Backbone management unit	Complete – 9/11/13

Review of Agenda and Finalize Meeting Notes

Kirk Naylor (PacifiCorp Energy) called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Naylor reviewed the agenda and asked the TCC if there were any changes/additions. No changes were requested.

Naylor reviewed the May 8, 2013 meeting notes and assignments. The meeting notes were approved at 9:20am without change.

Hazard Trees and clearing near Speelyai Canal – TCC Decision Required

Naylor posed the question to the TCC if they wish to proceed with clearing a narrow strip of land (approximately 7 acres) in its entirety that has hazard trees (alder) and escalate the efforts in 2013 to get rid of the problem. The alder trees came to the attention of PacifiCorp because there is significant mortality in the stand and neighboring structures and a private access road are all threatened. PacifiCorp will initiate this year's goshawk surveys and the cultural resource survey. Naylor noted that PacifiCorp has completed removal of hazard trees approximately two weeks ago in front of a nearby home and out-building due to the immediate safety issues.

Naylor also informed the TCC attendees that Nathan Reynolds (Cowlitz Indian Tribe) does not want to set a precedent by clearing without the two year Goshawk survey protocol.

Peggy Miller (WDFW) expressed that Reynolds comments rings a bell with her and supports his decision.

LouEllyn Jones (USFWS) said that if the trees are not immediately hazardous to structures then she agrees that we should conduct the two year survey.

Additional residents of neighboring houses have contacted PacifiCorp since the initial hazard tree removal. PacifiCorp responded that we needed to evaluate the situation with the TCC and respond to the residents at a later date. PacifiCorp has addressed the immediate hazard trees to structures but others are not considered hazardous to structures at this time although the entire access road is a safety concern.

No response or concerns were expressed from Cowlitz PUD.

The TCC agreed that a two-year (2013 & 2014) Goshawk survey is appropriate before any additional trees are removed. The area will therefore be added to the 2014 forest management plan.

Old-Growth Connectivity Discussion

General discussion took place regarding connectivity to old growth on state or federal lands () from the mature stand in Unit 17. There aren't any adjacent state or federal old growth areas. The question was, "what are we connecting to; from an old growth perspective? Eric Holman (WDFW) expressed that the riparian component was an important aspect of connectivity. Connectivity should be appropriate to the landscape; strategically placed to connect old-growth habitats that are disjointed.

Kendel Emmerson (PacifiCorp) read Old Growth Management Objective D for TCC consideration:

Objective d: Within 5 years of Lewis River WHMP implementation, identify and evaluate specific mature conifer stands or other areas that could improve habitat connectivity between old-growth stands or increase number or size of old-growth patches, and develop a schedule to manage/protect these areas as appropriate. Complete the identification/evaluation process within 5 years of the acquisition of Interests in Land.

As a result of the discussion, the TCC doesn't think we are ready to make a decision regarding connectivity in either Unit 5, 15 or 17. The TCC would like to spend more time gathering data to ensure its efforts are done correctly the first time. Today's field visit is just another opportunity to establish more perspective and agree on objectives intent and method to implement.

The TCC agreed to continue its comprehensive discussions and delay finalizing the connectivity plan until 2014. This will provide more time to review the priority areas to determine what management would be done to develop old growth habitat characteristics.

Other Topics

Cowlitz PUD Update – Diana Gritten-MacDonald (Cowlitz PUD) informed the TCC attendees that a one year inter-local agreement with Skamania County has been secured for weed control on Devils Backbone along the canal with an option for two additional years (see [Attachment B](#)).

During the week of June 18th Cowlitz County will conduct weed and access surveys and Meridian consultants will lay out patch cuts in July. In early May Cowlitz PUD representatives hiked to the squatter's cabin located on BLM land at the tip of Devils Backbone. The cabin appears to be alive and well and in use. There is also a well-used trail down to the reservoir. Due to the fire and safety concerns, PacifiCorp inquired with law enforcement or enforcing/encouraging BLM to enforce trespass and have the cabin removed. Primary access to the cabin appears to be by boat.

The TCC scheduled a field tour with Cowlitz PUD on August 14, 2013

Parking lot items from February 12, 2013 Meeting	Status
Cowlitz PUD: Schedule a field tour of the Devil's Backbone management unit	August 14, 2013 (tentative)

Naylor conducted a Safety Orientation/Hydro Resources Job Brief for all attendees participating in the field visit of timber harvest and hazard tree areas specific to management Units 15 & 16.

Public Comment Opportunity

No public comment was provided.

<10:00 a.m. meeting adjourned – depart for field tour>

Agenda items for August 14, 2013

- Review June 12, 2013 Meeting Notes
- Review Old-Growth Connectivity

Next Scheduled Meetings

July 10, 2013	August 14, 2013
TCC Meeting	TCC Meeting
Cancelled (reconvene in August)	Merwin Hydro Control Center
	Ariel, WA
	9:00am – 3:00pm

Attachments:

- June 12, 2013 Meeting Agenda
- May 8, 2013 Meeting Notes
- **Attachment A** – Old growth connectivity memo from May 8, 2013 TCC meeting
- **Attachment B** – Email from Cowlitz PUD re week control update, dated May 31, 2013

Depart for field visit of last year's timber harvest areas to Units 15, 16 and BPA proposed 500kV location. Unit 15 (discuss connectivity objective in relation to mapped areas in Units 5, 16 and 17 (visit Unit 16) and Unit 15 to review new meadow and BPA proposed transmission line.

Unit 15



2012 timber harvest area is approximately 17 acres. Maintained shrubs islands (vine maple and red huckleberry); alder stand removed, planted back to alder except road buffer.

The piles of “long-butts” are the result the mills specifications for processing logs. These piles create a problem for PacifiCorp to get rid of because on 4 of the piles were hauled off for fire wood use and the remaining piles wouldn’t burn. Typically logging slash is easily burned and 20-30% of piles are left behind for small mammals.

Tree spacing per acre – Alder - 15’ (220 trees per acre)
 Fir - 12’ (300 trees per acre)



Closed existing road parallel to stream and replanted; created new road outside riparian buffer.



Some removal of bracken fern may take place if forage or seedlings are being shaded-out.



In the 1984 this portion of Unit 15 was planted at 700 trees per acre; pre-commercially thinned four times since. Area is proposed for commercial thinning in 2013.

Unit 15 – Existing meadow was doubled in size to 2 acres through alder removal and the old portion of the meadow was renovated while retaining shrub islands.



Meadow addition created in 2012; March/April 2013 burned piles, graded and seeded;

Unit 15 – Buncomb Hollow (homestead orchard)



Some elk use, lots of bear, bird habitat, and deer use.



Mature stand (ID number 156164) is approximately 11.5 acres and was commercially thinned in 1995. Discussed the need for over-arching goal for management and does this area fit the connectivity objective? Currently this area was established to develop understory shrubs. Old growth connectivity objectives (to be determined) might be passive (no action) or establish goals determined by the TCC as a treatment plan (snags, downed wood, secondary and tertiary

understory conifer); schedule of treatment (if any) would be prioritized over time to manage mature stands that provide more critical connectivity (e.g. connects to the SOSEA) than others. This stand currently provides good deer and song bird habitat.



Holman expressed that treatment for this section of Unit 15 is a lower priority and already has good habitat.

The TCC agreed that the five methods for managing old-growth would be :

- Create Snags
- Create down wood
- Create openings
- Promote second layer canopy (understory conifer trees)
- Promoted third layer canopy (shrubs)

The TCC agreed to cancel the July TCC meeting and reconvene on August 14, 2013.

Old Growth Connectivity

Goal: Promote the development, maintenance, and connectivity of old-growth coniferous forest and/or associated habitat components (e.g. Snags, down wood, “wolf trees”, multistoried stands) for wildlife species that use old-growth habitat.

Species Association: Pileated Woodpecker, northern flying squirrel, marten, Larch Mountain salamander, northern spotted owl, and bald eagle.

Objective d: Within 5 years of Lewis River WHMP implementation, identify and evaluate specific mature conifer stands or other areas that could improve habitat connectivity between old-growth stands or increase number or size of old-growth patches, and develop a schedule to manage/protect these areas as appropriate. Complete the identification/evaluation process within 5 years of the acquisition of Interests in Land.

Criteria	Description	Points	Stand ID 154100 Score
Size	The stand is ≥ 10 acres	3	3 (44.86 acres in size)
	The stand is between ≥ 5 and ≤ 9.99 acres	2	
	The stand is between ≥ 1 and ≤ 4.99 acres	1	
Old-Growth Proximity	The stand is adjacent (i.e., $\leq 1,000$ ft.) to an old-growth stand on WHMP or USFS lands or within the SOSEA	3	3
	The stand is ≥ 1000 ft. and ≤ 0.25 miles from old-growth stand on WHMP or USFS lands or within the SOSEA	2	
	The stand is ≥ 0.25 and ≤ 0.5 miles from old-growth stand on WHMP or USFS lands or within the SOSEA	1	
Spotted Owl Habitat	Any portion of the stand is within Raptor Management Objective J lands (i.e., these are lands within the Siouxon SOSEA)	3	0
	Any portion of the stand that is within Raptor Management Objective I lands (i.e., These are lands, that unless separated by a reservoir, are within 2.0 miles of the Siouxon SOSEA)	2	
	Any portion of the stand that is within Raptor Management Objective H lands (i.e., These are lands, that unless separated by a reservoir, are within a spotted owl circle and greater than 2.0 miles of the Siouxon SOSEA)	1	
Protected Raptor Habitat	Any portion of the stand that is within a raptor nest buffer	2	0
	Any portion of the stand that is within a raptor roost buffer	1	
Riparian Buffer	Any portion of the stand that is within the Cougar/Panamaker Conservation Covenant	3	2
	Any portion of the stand that is within a Fish or Non-fish Perennial stream or shoreline buffer.	2	
	The stands only applicable buffer(s) is a non-fish seasonal or other stream buffer.	1	

Methods: Mature stands that are a priority to old-growth connectivity will include stands that are adjacent to and/or connected by forested buffers to old-growth stands. These priority mature stands will be evaluated in the field to determine if any management activities are required to develop old-growth habitat characteristics within the stand (i.e., snag development, thinning, large woody debris development). Evaluations and management recommendations will be documented and discussed with the TCC. Evaluations will follow the same procedures and use the same evaluation forms as used for the old-growth evaluations. The result of these stand evaluations will provide recommended management actions and will identify mature stands that may be developed into old-growth during the life of the licenses.

Future Management: Old-growth development can be achieved through snag development, thinning, and increasing large woody debris.

McCune, Kimberly

From: Diana MacDonald <dmacdonald@cowlitzpud.org>
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 1:49 PM
To: 'Nathan Reynolds'
Cc: Naylor, Kirk; McCune, Kimberly
Subject: RE: July update?

Nathan,

I would be happy to provide an update at the TCC meeting in July, but it won't include all of the info you requested. Here is the update:

We signed an Interlocal Agreement with Skamania County for weed control. They were expected to sign the agreement last week and I haven't heard whether they did. If so, weed control will commence according to their schedule and the scope I wrote.

2013 weed/access surveys are scheduled for mid-late June. I wanted to give Eileen lots of time to recover from her surgery and also hopefully get better/warmer weather so the weeds are more easily observed.

I do not have a schedule for laying out the patch cuts yet. Eileen and Jason are coordinating their schedules.

The squatter's cabin is alive and well. In early May hiked to it and observed freshly cut firewood. The main access route appears to be via boat.

Thanks,

Diana M. Gritten MacDonald
Manager Environmental and Regulatory Services
Cowlitz PUD
360-577-7585
dmacdonald@cowlitzpud.org

-----Original Message-----

From: Nathan Reynolds [<mailto:nreynolds@cowlitz.org>]
Sent: Friday, May 31, 2013 11:37 AM
To: Diana MacDonald
Cc: Naylor, Kirk; McCune, Kimberly
Subject: July update?

Hi Diana -- I hope you are well. I am also hoping Cowlitz PUD could provide a mid-year update to the TCC on work scoped in the 2013 WHMP? I see that much of the followup weed surveys are scheduled to be conducted in June. Do you think survey results and maybe an update on the 2013 patch cut planning could be prepared for the July TCC meeting?

I have CCed Kirk and Kim with the email for agenda/scheduling purposes.

Many Thanks,
Nathan

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Nathan Reynolds
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