

FINAL Meeting Notes
Lewis River License Implementation
Terrestrial Coordination Committee (TCC) Meeting
September 24, 2014
Conference Call
Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp closure

TCC Participants Present: (6)

Bill Richardson RMEF
LouEllyn Jones, USFWS
Peggy Miller, WDFW
Kimberly McCune, PacifiCorp Energy
Kirk Naylor, PacifiCorp Energy
Kendel Emmerson, PacifiCorp Energy

Opening, Review of Agenda and Meeting Notes

Kirk Naylor (PacifiCorp) called the meeting to order at 10:00am and requested input from the attendees if they are in agreement to allow use of the Cresap boat launch through the end of October 2014 while Speelyai Day Use Recreation area is under construction, in accordance with an email to the TCC dated September 16, 2014 ([Attachment A](#)).

Bill Richardson (RMEF) said he has no problem with keeping it open as requested by PacifiCorp.

LouEllyn Jones (USFWS) expressed that she too thinks its fine. The number of bull trout in Merwin Reservoir have been very small in recent years. Jones followed up with an email to the TCC ([Attachment B](#)) indicating her approval to keep Cresap boat launch open though the end of October 2014.

Kim McCune (PacifiCorp) indicated that she will update PacifiCorp's recreation public web pages and inform all appropriate PacifiCorp personnel.

Other

TCC comments received via email prior to today's meeting:

From: Miller, Peggy A (DFW)

Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 8:44 AM

To: McCune, Kimberly

Subject: RE: Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp Closure; Conference Call, 9/24/14; 10:00am

Per your correspondence, WDFW supports allowing Cresap Bay to remain open through October of 2014 only. This temporary divergence from the usual end of September through Memorial Day closure is acceptable due to the one-year need to make improvements to the Speelyai Recreation area and boat launch while still allowing the public to access Merwin Reservoir. Please contact me if you have questions regarding this correspondence.

Thank you,

Peggy Miller – Renewable Energy Biologist, Habitat
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North - Olympia WA 98501

From: Wainwright, Mitch -FS
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:22 PM
To: McCune, Kimberly
Subject: RE: Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp Closure; Conference Call, 9/24/14; 10:00am

I won't be able to call that day, but your proposal seems like a reasonable compromise.

Mitch Wainwright
South Zone Wildlife Biologist
Mt. Adams R.D.
Mt. St. Helens R.D.
42218 NE Yale Bridge Rd.
Amboy, WA 98601

From: john clapp
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2014 4:25 PM
To: McCune, Kimberly
Subject: Re: Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp Closure; Conference Call, 9/24/14; 10:00am

I don't see a problem with having some flexibility in access during construction and the fact that we have a late summer season. being on both sides of rec and tcc, I think it is good pr, and I don't really see a negative wildlife impact,

john clapp

Public Comment Opportunity

No public comment was provided.

Attachment A – Email to TCC regarding Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp Closure; Conference Call, dated September 16, 2014

Attachment B – Email from USFWS indicating approval of Cresap boat ramp through October 2014, dated September 24, 2014

Next Scheduled Meetings

October 8, 2014
TCC Meeting
Conference Call; 9:00am –10:30am

McCune, Kimberly

From: McCune, Kimberly
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2014 1:22 PM
To: '(brichardson@RMEF.org)'; '(ewhite@cowlitz.org)'; 'Bob Nelson (nelson338@aol.com)'; 'Diana MacDonald (dmacdonald@cowlitzpud.org)'; Emmerson, Kendel; 'Eric Holman (holmaewh@dfw.wa.gov)'; 'Fish First (j.malinowski@ieee.org)'; 'James H Malinowski (jim.malinowski@icloud.com)'; 'Joanna Meninick (joannam@yakama.com)'; 'John Clapp (jmcmaple@gmail.com)'; 'LouEllyn Jones'; 'Mariah Stoll-Smith Reese'; 'Michelle Day (michelle.day@noaa.gov)'; 'Mitch Wainwright'; 'Nathan Reynolds (nreynolds@cowlitz.org)'; Naylor, Kirk; Olson, Todd; 'Pam Johnson (johnson@co.skamania.wa.us)'; 'Patrick Lee (patrick.lee@clark.wa.gov)'; 'peggy.miller@dfw.wa.gov'; 'Ray Croswell (shedhunt@aol.com)'; 'Shannon E. Wills (biologist@cowlitz.org)'; 'Weinheimer, John (DFW)'
Subject: Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area; Boat Ramp Closure; Conference Call, 9/24/14; 10:00am
Importance: High

Attn: TCC Participants

PacifiCorp is in the process of enhancing the Speelyai Day Use Recreation Area on Merwin Reservoir as per a FERC license requirement. In order to accommodate the construction, the Speelyai boat ramp was closed as of September 1st and public boat launching was diverted to the Cresap Bay boat ramp. The continued construction at Speelyai will require the closure of that facility at least through mid-December.

PacifiCorp has received several inquiries from the public frustrated with PacifiCorp closing the Speelyai Boat Ramp while it is under construction and the fact that the alternative launch site at Cresap Bay Recreation Area will be closing at the end of September. Normally Speelyai is open year round. Boating use is typically light on Merwin after September, but it is weather related.

In our WHMP Standards and Guidelines document we reference the recreation season at Cresap Bay as Memorial Day to the end of September. The original concern from WDFW about the closure of Cresap Bay was displacement of elk. Further, we identified that the 23 acres of the Cresap Bay Recreation Area will be managed for wildlife except during the peak recreation season. Per the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion, the Cresap Bay Recreation Area would be closed to public vehicle access during the off-season with the intent to minimize disturbance to wildlife.

PacifiCorp would like to accommodate some of the requested boating access to Merwin by allowing Cresap Bay to remain open through October only. We respectfully request the TCC to consider this request. If approved, we will ask the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to provide their approval of the one month extended use of the Cresap Bay launch ramp.

In order to discuss the proposal, **a conference call is proposed for Wednesday, September 24th, 2014 at 10 a.m.** If you are unable to attend the conference call, please provide me your written comments for consideration prior to the conference call so I can discuss your comments with the rest of the TCC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kirk S. Naylor

Principal Scientist
PacifiCorp - Hydro Resources
825 NE Multnomah St. STE 1500
Portland, OR 97232-2598
503-813-6619 (W)
503-866-8750 (M)
Kirk.naylor@PacifiCorp.com

Join by Phone

+1 (503) 813-5252 [Portland, Ore.]
+1 (801) 220-5252 [Salt Lake City, Utah]
+1 (855) 499-5252 [Toll Free]

Conference ID: 39290138

McCune, Kimberly

From: Jones, LouEllyn <louellyn_jones@fws.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 10:50 AM
To: Naylor, Kirk
Subject: Speelyai Day Use improvements

Speelyai boat ramp has been closed while Pacificorp is doing improvements. The closure has concentrated boating access to Merwin at the Cresap Bay boat ramp.

Under the Settlement Agreement, Cresap Bay Recreational area is managed for recreation and wildlife. The ramp is closed after September 30 to minimize disturbance to wildlife. PacifiCorp is proposing to allow use of the Cresap Bay ramp until the end of October to accommodate boaters who would otherwise have no access to Merwin during that time.

The 2006 Biological Opinion concluded that activities in Cresap Recreation Area would be discountable to northern spotted owls and insignificant to bald eagles based on their limited use of this area. Bald Eagles have since been de-listed under the Endangered Species Act. Spotted owls do not occur in this area.

We therefore do not believe that extending the use of the ramp through the end of October will have significant effects on these species.

I will be the gladdest thing under the sun. I will touch a hundred flowers and not pick one.
- Edna St. Vincent Millay

Lou Ellyn Jones
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Washington Fish and Wildlife Office
510 Desmond Dr.
Lacey, WA 98503

phone 360-753-5822
Fax 360-753-9518